DISTRICT COUNCIL<br>Despatched: 04.11.13

# FINANCE AND RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE 

12 November 2013 at 7.00 pm Conference Room, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks

## AGENDA

Membership:<br>Chairman: Cllr. Ramsay Vice-Chairman: Cllr. McGarvey<br>Cllrs. Mrs. Bayley, Brookbank, Cooke, Mrs. Davison, Edwards-Winser, Scholey and Walshe

Pages
Contact

## Apologies for Absence

1. Minutes
To agree the Minutes of the meeting of the
Committee held on 29 August 2013, as a correct record
(Pages 1-6)
2. Declarations of Interest
Any interests not already registered
3. Actions from Previous Meeting
(Pages 7-8)
4. Update from Portfolio Holder

Councillor Brian
5. Referrals from Cabinet or the Audit Committee (if any)
None
6. Capita Asset Services

To discuss treasury management
7. Treasury Management Mid Year Update
8. 2014-15 Budget and Review of Service Plans
9. Members' IT Working Group - Feedback

Verbal update
(Pages 9-24)
(Pages 25-52)
0. Shared Services
11. Financial Results 2013/14 - to the end of September 2013

Ramsay

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Helen Martin
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# 12. Financial Performance Indicators 2013/14 - to the (Pages 83-86) <br> Helen Martin end of September 2013 

13. Work Plan

## EXEMPT ITEMS

(At the time of preparing this agenda there were no exempt items. During any such items which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public.)

To assist in the speedy and efficient despatch of business, Members wishing to obtain factual information on items included on the Agenda are asked to enquire of the appropriate Contact Officer named on a report prior to the day of the meeting.

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## Agenda Item 1

## FINANCE AND RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 August 2013 commencing at 7.00 pm
Present: Cllr. Ramsay (Chairman)
Cllr. McGarvey (Vice-Chairman)
Cllrs. Mrs. Bayley, Brookbank, Mrs. Davison and Scholey
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Cooke, Edwards-Winser and Walshe

Cllrs. Firth, Grint and Mrs. Sargeant were also present.
11. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Resources Advisory Committee held on 4 June 2013 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

## 12. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

## 13. Actions from Previous Meeting

The completed actions were noted.

## 14. Update from Portfolio Holder

The Chairman, who was the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources, updated the Committee on his work since the previous meeting of the Advisory Committee.

He had received regular financial updates and spending was on target. There was an item of underspend in Community Development on the maintenance of the Youth Bus contracted to Kent County Council. The Chairman had since suggested that the bus should no longer be provided for free.

Investment returns were still low. The Chairman had proposed that Sector attend the next meeting of the Committee. Financial Prospects would be considered under minute item 17 but the Chairman explained that the Cabinet had tried to give the best presumptions possible by taking a pessimistic approach. Although the 10-year budget showed a shortfall of $£ 0.667 \mathrm{~m}$ he considered this figure to be manageable.

There had been difficulties in the sale of 12 Knole Way to the tenant linked to the tenant also trying to purchase a related strip of land. The tenant had since abandoned this. The Chairman intended to amend the programme for reporting on the White Oak Leisure Centre, Swanley. The intention was now to make a first assessment for the cost of updating the present centre, including asset maintenance for ten years. The second
stage would be to use this cost as a benchmark to compare against the cost of a new leisure centre at one of the three sites identified. The item would not be brought before Members until costs had been independently assessed.

## 15. Referrals from Cabinet or the Audit Committee (if any)

There were none.

## 16. Annual Treasury Management Report 2012/13

The Principal Accountant introduced the item and advised it was being presented to Members in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice. The report set out the Council treasury's performance during the year 2012/13 and compared it to the strategy.

The previous year had been challenging. Consequently the Council had restricted the number of counterparties lent to and accepted lower rates of return. It was pleasing that the interest budget had been exceeded by approximately $£ 117,000$ and the percentage return exceeded the recognised benchmarks.

The Council had received 3 dividend payments for the recovery of monies from Landsbanki Islands hf, totalling 50\% of the outstanding sum. Recovery was continuing and it was expected the final return would be close to $100 \%$ of the Council's investment together with interest up to 22 April 2009. Small payments would be made to the Council as assets were realised, though there were moves from the administrators to renegotiate the date of bond repayments.

The Advisory Committee noted the average investment return for neighbouring authorities was higher than for Sevenoaks District Council. The Principal Accountant suggested that this could be explained through how the figures were compiled and through specific exceptional borrowing circumstances at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council.

Resolved: That Cabinet be asked to approve the Annual Treasury Management Report for 2012/13.

## 17. Financial Prospects and Budget Strategy 2014/15 and Beyond

It was the fourth year of the current Business and Financial Planning Strategy, which included the 10-year budget. The Group Manager - Financial Services considered that the strategy was successful and the Council's external auditors, Grant Thornton, had also reflected this view in their audit report.

Since it was agreed by the Council in February, a number of changes had been made to the 10-year budget and each change was explained. The existing 10-year budget had been rolled on a year. Pay inflation had reduced to 1\% in 2014/15 and 2015/16, 1.5\% in 2016/17 and 2017/18 and $2 \%$ in later years. Central Government had announced a reduction in Government Support of $10 \%$ in 2015/16, however the likely protection of education and adult social care meant the District Council could face cuts in its support of approximately $18 \%$ in $2015 / 16$. The New Homes Bonus was now expected to continue after 2016/17, however the Government had also announced that $40 \%$ of the fund would be utilised for the Single Local Growth Fund. The assumptions for council tax

## Agenda Item 1 Finance and Resources Advisory Committee - 29 August 2013

have reduced so that they were more in line with inflation though council tax levels were ultimately a Member decision..

In response to a question, the Chairman stated that there was contingency within the Action and Development Reserve for disasters. Officers added that this reserve could be replenished when the reserves were considered later in the budget process.

Staff pay increments would continue but following the review of staff terms and conditions two years ago they had reduced and were expected to diminish further. This had been taken account of in the savings. The reforms around the introduction of the Universal Benefit were still noted as a risk.

Concerns had been raised at comments from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government that the Council should seek to reduce income from car parking. It was clarified that the Secretary of State's concern was on-street parking, monies from which were tightly controlled. There was no risk to monies from car parks. In February 2013 the former Portfolio Holder for the Cleaner and Greener Environment had stated that on-street car parking costs in the district were neutral.

It was presumed that $£ 520,000$ would be contributed to fund a deficit in the Superannuation Fund following the triennial valuation to be held in November 2013. This presumption had been made prior to the adoption of new actuaries, Barnett Waddingham, who held their first valuation in November 2010. Although the last valuation was an improvement on previous ones, the Council had allowed the assumption of a $£ 520,000$ deficit to slip by 3 years in case the last valuation was exceptional. The Chairman was concerned that Gilt yields had been suppressed and the Kent County Council pension fund was becoming a more mature one.

## Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that there were no adverse equality impacts arising from the report.
Resolved: That Cabinet be advised on the Advisory Committee's views on the tenyear financial planning approach and principles set out in the report.

It was noted that 10-year budget strategies were recommended practice but other Local Authorities were still reluctant to adopt them. Such a strategy required cuts to be made earlier or else the budget would show a large deficit.

## 18. Financial Results 2013/14 - to the end of July 2013

The Finance Manager advised that there was an estimated favourable year-end forecast of $£ 80,000$ with a $£ 41,000$ favourable variance for investment income. As at the end of July 2013 the main income streams were achieving or exceeding budget, with the exception of car parking. Property related incomes were considered vulnerable and were being monitored. A staff pay rise in 2013/14 of 1\% had been approved and would be paid from October 2013 backdated to April.

The Head of Environmental and Operational Services confirmed that financial viability of the trading accounts was heavily affected by fuel costs. A recent fire at the Dunbrik waste transfer station meant that Direct Services vehicles would need to travel either to Pepper

Hill or North Farm, but any additional costs on time or fuel arising from the fire would be recoverable from Kent County Council.

It was expected that Grant Thornton would provide an unqualified opinion on the accounts.

Members asked that the risk areas be quantified and added to the reports in future.

## Action 1: That the Finance Manager quantify risk areas in future Budget Monitoring reports.

The $£ 42,000$ of unidentified income for the Licensing Partnership was proving difficult to achieve. Fees set nationally did not cover the full cost of delivering the service.

Savings had been made in operational services through the use of agency staff. The Head of Environmental and Operational Services considered agency staff to be cheaper than a pool of permanent floating staff. Agency staff were only used to cover leave and absence from sickness. Although Green Waste services had a positive variance, this was a matter of timing and was forecast to be negative by year-end. Pest control services had a good income of $£ 10,000$ in July 2013 alone, but they were still not expected to meet budget target. A report would be going to the Local Planning and Environment Advisory Committee on the future of the pest control service.

The Council was subject to additional costs of debit and credit card transactions as more customers paid using these. The Council was not passing the fees on as the Council sought to encourage payment from customers.

Car parking had experienced a reduced income in July 2013 but this was the first month below target this year and it was put down to seasonal factors. Due to the redevelopment in London Road the Council could no longer operate parts of the Pembroke Road and Bligh's car parks. If the parking from these sites was not absorbed elsewhere it would result in a loss to the Council of $£ 120,000$. Further parking data would be available once the live parking signage was introduced in November 2013. This data would help to inform the review of parking being undertaken by the Scrutiny Committee. Members noted that long term trends in online shopping and the cost of petrol could lead to a reduction in town centre parking.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

## 19. Financial Performance Indicators 2013/14 - to the end of July 2013

The Finance Indicators provided a snapshot of the key internally set performance indicators as at the end of July 2013. The report was corrected in that the target for Monthly Investment Balance should read as $£ 33,973,000$, with a variance of $8.7 \%$.

It was explained by the Group Manager - Financial Services that the target for Council Tax payers on Direct Debit had been reduced from $77 \%$ to $70 \%$ as there were a greater number of Council Tax payers since the introduction of Council Tax Support and it was expected that they would be less likely to pay by Direct Debit. This had not been realised.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

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## 20. Procurement Strategy Update

The Council's existing Procurement Strategy had been adopted in September 2013. The Council's Officer Procurement Group had since kept the Strategy under review and 3 principal changes had been proposed to ensure that it complied with relevant legislation, best practice and that it supported the Council in achieving its priorities.

The three adjustments were: to update the Council Vision and Promises in line with those adopted by Council; to add a Social Value principle to reflect The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012; and the introduction of an Effective Practice and Decision Making section, incorporating the content from the previous Procurement Principles section.

The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 required the Council to take account of how what was procured may improve the social, environmental and economic wellbeing of the District. It would apply to the largest, EU-level public services contracts and framework agreements. The revised Strategy would form part of the rules employed by Officers together with the Finance Procedure Rules and Contract Procedure rules.

The Head of Environmental and Operational Services advised that it was difficult to give these elements practical effect in most procurement exercises. The drive for austerity meant that the weighting given to cost was increasing from $60 \%$ to $70 \%$. For some matters, there was also only a limited number of suppliers.

In May 2013 the Audit Team had carried out an audit of procurement and the Council's processes were considered adequate, with the primary concern being the recruitment of agency staff. The Advisory Committee was informed that the Direct Services Team would use a range of agencies and they competed against each other. The Council did use Kent Top Temps, owned by Kent County Council, as one of the agencies. The Head of Environmental and Operational Services did not seek to use staff on zero-hour contracts.

Resolved: That Cabinet be recommended to adopt the updated Procurement Strategy
21. Work Plan

The Chairman of the Members' IT Working Group advised the meeting that the Group intended to bring the IT Disaster Recovery Plan before it in November 2013.

The Chairman suggested that Sector would be invited to the Advisory Committee either at its meeting in November or in January 2014.

Following the initial briefing, the White Oak Leisure Centre report could be delayed beyond January 2014 before it was presented to the Advisory Committee. No deadline would be set for it as the priority was to have the matter dealt with correctly. Members noted that new premises for the centre could lead to a reduction in running costs and therefore a reduced management fee. Members were directed to raise questions concerning the running of the centre to the Portfolio Holder for Economic and Community Development and the relevant Advisory Committee.

| ACTIONS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 29 AUGUST 2013 |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Action | Description | Status and last updated | Contact Officer |
| ACTION 1 | That the Finance Manager quantify risk areas in <br> future Budget Monitoring reports (Minute Item <br> 18) | The risk areas have been quantified and <br> are included in the report to the Advisory <br> Committee. | Helen Martin |

## TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR UPDATE

## Finance and Resources Advisory Committee - 12 November 2013

Report of the: Chief Finance Officer

Status: For Consideration

Also considered by: Cabinet - 5 December 2013

Key Decision: No

Executive Summary: Members approved the Investment Strategy as part of the budgetsetting process in February 2013. In considering that Strategy Members were advised that, given the current economic climate, the Strategy would need to be monitored and reviewed, where necessary, during the year.

This report gives details of treasury activity in the first half of the current financial year, recent developments in the financial markets and fulfils the reporting requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

In the light of falling investment rates, options for increasing the yield on the Council's investment portfolio are considered.

An update on the Council's Icelandic bank investment is also provided.

This report supports the Key Aim of Effective Management of Council Resources.

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Portfolio Holder Cllr. Ramsay
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Contact Officer Roy Parsons, Principal Accountant - Ext 7204

Recommendation to Finance and Resources Advisory Committee: That Cabinet be asked to approve the Treasury Management Mid-Year Update for 2013/14.

Recommendation to Cabinet: It be RESOLVED that the Treasury Management Mid-Year Update for 2013/14 be approved

Reason for recommendation: As required by both the Council's Financial Procedure Rules and the CIPFA Code, a mid-year report of treasury management activity is to be presented to Members for approval.

## Background

1 The Council is required through regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce an annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement, which

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includes the Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy, for the year ahead, a mid-year review report and an Annual Report covering activities during the previous year.

2 During 2013/14 the minimum reporting requirements are that the Council should receive the following reports:

- an annual treasury strategy in advance of the year (Council 19/2/2013).
- a mid year treasury update report (this report).
- an annual report following the year describing the activity compared to the strategy.

3 In addition, monthly reports from our treasury management advisors, Capita Asset Services (formerly known as Sector Treasury Services) are emailed to Members.

4 As requested at the previous meeting of this Committee, our Relationship Director at Capita Asset Services, Mr Richard Bason will be in attendance at this meeting to give a short presentation and to answer any questions Members may have relating to the Council's treasury management activities.

## Introduction

5 This mid-year update report has been prepared in compliance with CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management and covers:
(a) An economic update for the 2013/14 financial year to 30 September 2013;
(b) interest rate forecasts;
(c) a review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy;
(d) a review of the Council's investment portfolio for 2013/14;
(e) proposals for increasing yield; and
(f) an update on the Icelandic bank investment.

## Economic Update

6 During 2013/14 economic indicators suggested that the economy is recovering, albeit from a low level. After avoiding recession in the first quarter of 2013, with a $0.3 \%$ quarterly expansion the economy grew $0.7 \%$ in Q2. There have been signs of renewed vigour in household spending in the summer, with a further pick-up in retail sales, mortgages, house prices and new car registrations.
$7 \quad$ The strengthening in economic growth appears to have supported the labour market, with employment rising at a modest pace and strong enough to reduce the level of unemployment further. Pay growth also rebounded strongly in April, though this was mostly driven by high earners delaying bonuses until after April's cut in the top rate of income tax. Excluding bonuses, earnings rose by just 1.0\%
$\mathrm{y} / \mathrm{y}$, well below the rate of inflation at $2.7 \%$ in August, causing continuing pressure on household's disposable income.

8 The Bank of England extended its Funding for Lending Scheme (FLS) into 2015 and sharpened the incentives for banks to extend more business funding, particularly to small and medium size enterprises. To date, the mortgage market still appears to have been the biggest beneficiary from the scheme, with mortgage interest rates falling further to new lows. Together with the Government's Help to Buy scheme, which provides equity loans to credit-constrained borrowers, this is helping to boost demand in the housing market. Mortgage approvals by high street banks have risen as have house prices, although they are still well down from the boom years pre 2008.

9 Turning to the fiscal situation, the public borrowing figures continued to be distorted by a number of one-off factors. On an underlying basis, borrowing in Q2 started to come down, but only slowly, as Government expenditure cuts took effect and economic growth started to show through in a small increase in tax receipts. The 2013 Spending Review, covering only 2015/16, made no changes to the headline Government spending plan, and monetary policy was unchanged in advance of the new Bank of England Governor, Mark Carney, arriving. Bank Rate remained at $0.5 \%$ and quantitative easing (QE) also stayed at $£ 375$ bn. In August, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) provided forward guidance that Bank Rate is unlikely to change until unemployment first falls to $7 \%$, which was not expected until mid 2016. However, $7 \%$ is only a point at which the MPC will review Bank Rate, not necessarily take action to change it. The three month to July average rate was $7.7 \%$. CPI inflation (MPC target of 2.0\%), fell marginally from a peak of $2.9 \%$ in June to $2.7 \%$ in August. The Bank of England expects inflation to fall back to $2.0 \%$ in 2015.

10 Financial markets sold off sharply following comments from Ben Bernanke, the US Federal Reserve (Fed) chairman in June that suggested the Fed may 'taper' its asset purchases earlier than anticipated. The resulting rise in US Treasury yields was replicated in the UK. Equity prices fell initially too, as Fed purchasing of bonds has served to underpin investor moves into equities out of low yielding bonds. However, as the market moves to realign its expectations, bond yields and equities are likely to rise further in expectation of a continuing economic recovery. Increases in payroll figures have shown further improvement, helping to pull the unemployment rate down from a high of $8.1 \%$ to $7.3 \%$, and continuing house price rises have helped more households to escape from negative equity. In September, the Fed surprised financial markets by not starting tapering as it felt the run of economic data in recent months had been too weak to warrant taking early action. Bond yields fell sharply as a result, though it still only remains a matter of time until tapering does start.

11 Tensions in the Eurozone eased over the second quarter, but there remained a number of triggers for a renewed flare-up. Economic survey data improved consistently over the first half of the year, pointing to a return to growth in Q2, so ending six quarters of Eurozone recession.

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## Outlook for the next six months of 2013/14

12 Economic forecasting remains difficult with so many external influences weighing on the UK. Volatility in bond yields is likely during 2013/14 as investor fears and confidence ebb and flow between favouring more risky assets i.e. equities, and safer bonds. Downside risks to UK gilt yields and PWLB rates include:

- A return to weak economic growth in the US, UK and China causing major disappointment to investor and market expectations.
- The potential for a significant increase in negative reactions of populaces in Eurozone countries against austerity programmes, especially in countries with very high unemployment rates e.g. Greece and Spain, which face huge challenges in engineering economic growth to correct their budget deficits on a sustainable basis.
- The Italian political situation is frail and unstable: the coalition government fell on 29 September.
- Problems in other Eurozone heavily indebted countries (e.g. Cyprus and Portugal) which could also generate safe haven flows into UK gilts.
- Monetary policy action failing to stimulate sustainable growth in western economies, especially the Eurozone and Japan.
- Weak growth or recession in the UK's main trading partners - the EU and US, depressing economic recovery in the UK.
- Geopolitical risks e.g. Syria, Iran, North Korea, which could trigger safe haven flows back into bonds.

13 Upside risks to UK gilt yields and PWLB rates, especially for longer term PWLB rates include: -

- UK inflation being significantly higher than in the wider EU and US, causing an increase in the inflation premium inherent to gilt yields.
- Increased investor confidence that sustainable robust world economic growth is firmly expected, together with a reduction or end of QE operations in the US, causing a further flow of funds out of bonds into equities.
- A reversal of Sterling's safe-haven status on a sustainable improvement in financial stresses in the Eurozone.
- In the longer term - a reversal of QE in the UK; this could initially be implemented by allowing gilts held by the Bank to mature without reinvesting in new purchases, followed later by outright sale of gilts currently held.
- Further downgrading by credit rating agencies of the creditworthiness and credit rating of UK Government debt, consequent upon repeated failure to achieve fiscal correction targets and sustained recovery of economic growth,
causing the ratio of total Government debt to GDP to rise to levels that provoke major concern.

14 The overall balance of risks to economic recovery in the UK is now weighted to the upside after five months of robust good news on the economy. However, only time will tell just how long this period of strong economic growth will last, and it remains exposed to vulnerabilities in a number of key areas. The longer run trend is for gilt yields and PWLB rates to rise, due to the high volume of gilt issuance in the UK, and of bond issuance in other major western countries. Near-term, there is some residual risk of further QE if there is a dip in strong growth or if the MPC were to decide to take action to combat the market's expectations of an early first increase in Bank Rate. If the MPC does takes action to do more QE in order to reverse the rapid increase in market rates, especially in gilt yields and interest rates up to 10 years, such action could cause gilt yields and PWLB rates over the next year or two to significantly undershoot the forecasts in the table below. The tension in the US over passing a Federal budget for the new financial year starting on 1 October and raising the debt ceiling in mid October could also see bond yields temporarily dip until agreement is reached between the opposing Republican and Democrat sides. Conversely, the eventual start of tapering by the Fed will cause bond yields to rise.

## Interest rate forecasts



15 Expectations for the first change in Bank Rate in the UK are now dependent on how to forecast when unemployment is likely to fall to $7 \%$. Financial markets have taken a very contrary view to the MPC and have aggressively raised short term interest rates and gilt yields due to their view that the strength of economic recovery is now so rapid that unemployment will fall much faster than the Bank of England forecasts. They therefore expect the first increase in Bank Rate to be in quarter 4 of 2014. There is much latitude to disagree with this view as the economic downturn since 2008 was remarkable for the way in which unemployment did not rise to anywhere near the extent likely, unlike in previous recessions. This meant that labour was retained, productivity fell and now, as the MPC expects, there is major potential for unemployment to fall only slowly as existing labour levels are worked more intensively and productivity rises back up again. The size of the work force is also expected to increase relatively rapidly and there are many currently self employed or part time employed workers who are seeking full time employment. Capita Asset Services take the view that the unemployment rate is not likely to come down as quickly as the financial markets

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are currently expecting and that the MPC view is more realistic. The prospects for any increase in Bank Rate before 2016 are therefore seen as being limited. However, some forecasters are forecasting that even the Bank of England forecast is too optimistic as to when the $7 \%$ level will be reached and so do not expect the first increase in Bank Rate until spring 2017.

## Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy update

16 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) and Prudential Indicators for 2013/14 were approved by the Council on 19 February 2013. There are no policy changes to the TMSS thus far and the details in this report merely update the position in the light of updated economic data.

17 The same goes for the Council's Prudential Indicators, namely the Capital Financing Requirement, External Debt and the Operational Boundary and the Limits To Borrowing Activity.

## Investment portfolio for 2013/14

18 In accordance with the Code, it is the Council's priority to ensure security of capital and liquidity, and to obtain an appropriate level of return which is consistent with the Council's risk appetite. As described above, it is a very difficult investment market in terms of earning the level of interest rates commonly seen in previous decades as rates are very low and in line with the 0.5\% Bank Rate. Indeed, the introduction of the Funding for Lending scheme has reduced market investment rates even further. The potential for a prolonging of the Eurozone sovereign debt crisis, and its impact on banks, prompts a low risk and short term strategy. Given this risk environment, investment returns are likely to remain low.

19 The Council held $£ 35.058$ m of investments as at 30 September 2013, excluding the Icelandic bank investment ( $£ 26.856 \mathrm{~m}$ at 31 March 2013) and the investment portfolio yield for the first six months of the year was $0.82 \%$ against 7 Day and 3 Month LIBID benchmarks of $0.39 \%$ and $0.54 \%$ respectively. A list of investments as at 30 September 2013 appears at Appendix A.

20 The approved limits within the Annual Investment Strategy were breached just once during the first six months of 2013/14. At the end of April 2013, a large capital receipt was received late on a Friday afternoon. This caused the balance held in the Business Premium Account at Barclays to reach $£ 4.75 \mathrm{~m}$, which, together with $£ 2 \mathrm{~m}$ of fixed deposits, exceeded the $£ 6 \mathrm{~m}$ limit we had set. It was too late in the day to reinvest the money, but the position was corrected on the following Monday.

21 The Council's budgeted investment return for 2013/14 is $£ 260 \mathrm{k}$, and performance for the year to date is $£ 24 k$ above budget. At this stage, the year-end forecast is expected to be nearer $£ 17 \mathrm{k}$ above budget.

## Proposals for increasing yield

22 As mentioned above, we are in a low interest rate environment and this is likely to continue for the foreseeable future. A number of longer dated investments at interest rates over $2 \%$ have already, or are or due to, mature in 2013/14.

Reinvestment rates that fit with the current Investment Strategy are around 1\% at best. This has caused the overall rate of return on the portfolio to fall steadily since April 2013. The likelihood is that investment interest in 2014/15 will be somewhat lower than that achieved in 2013/14, thereby adding extra pressure to the Council's budget.

23 When the time comes to consider the Annual Investment Strategy for 2014/15, Members may wish to take account of the options for increasing yield listed in Appendix B. As always, there will be risks to the security and liquidity of investments by following this path and much depends on our appetite for accepting these risks.

24 The rates achievable in the longer end of the market do appear attractive, but can be volatile. At the time of writing this report, the rates quoted in Option C of Appendix B have moved down significantly, but equally they could rise again at short notice. At this point in time, longer term lending to other local authorities is very appealing. 3 year money is currently being dealt at $1.45 \%$ to $1.50 \%, 4$ year at $1.85 \%$ and 5 year at $2.20 \%$. There is also the possibility of negotiating on a semiannual rather than annual coupon, which would slightly improve the notional rate of return. An added attraction is the good credit quality of local authorities.

Members views on the suggested ways of increasing yield would be appreciated.

## Update on Icelandic bank investment

26 This authority currently has an investment of $£ 1 \mathrm{~m}$ frozen in Landsbanki Islands hf. The investment was placed on 25 June 2007 at $6.32 \%$, to mature on 25 June 2009.

27 The Icelandic Government has stated its intention to honour all its commitments as a result of their banks being placed into receivership. The UK Government, Administrators and other agencies continue to work with the Icelandic Government to help bring this about. The Local Government Association is coordinating the efforts of all UK authorities with Icelandic investments.

28 At the current time, the process of recovering assets is still ongoing with the Administrators. Following the successful outcome of legal test cases in the Icelandic Supreme Court in late 2011, the deposits made by local authorities now rank as priority claims. The Administrators have commenced the process of dividend payments and four such payments have been received amounting to approximately $54 \%$ of our claim. The latest assumption is that $100 \%$ of the Council's investment (and interest up to 22 April 2009) will be recovered in the period up to 2018.

29 One recent development is the resolution of the foreign exchange (FX) dispute in the Icelandic Supreme Court. Our claim was converted to Icelandic Kronur on 22 April 2009 and subsequent dividends have been paid in a basket of currencies including Euros, US Dollars, Sterling and Icelandic Kronur. Originally, the Administrators calculated the four partial payments by reference to the FX rates as at 22 April 2009 rather than the FX rates on the date of the relevant distribution. The Court held that the Administrators must apply the Central Bank of Iceland's official selling rate at the date of distribution when calculating the portion of the

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claim amount that is satisfied by each partial payment. The effect has been to very slightly reduce the percentage of the claim deemed to have been satisfied. This means that the amount (in Icelandic Kronur terms) we can expect to receive for the balance of our claim will be larger, but the actual amounts received will be dependent on FX rates as at the date of distribution.

## Key Implications

## Financial

30 The management of the Council's investment portfolio and cash-flow generated balances plays an important part in the financial planning of the authority. The security of its capital and liquidity of its investments is of paramount importance.

## Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

31 Under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Section 151 Officer has statutory duties in relation to the financial administration and stewardship of the authority, including securing effective arrangements for treasury management.

32 This annual review report fulfils the requirements of The Chartered Institute of Public Finance \& Accountancy's Code of Practice on Treasury Management 2009.

33 Treasury management has two main risks :

- Fluctuations in interest rates can result in a reduction in income from investments; and
- A counterparty to which the Council has lent money fails to repay the loan at the required time.

34 Consideration of risk is integral in our approach to treasury management. However, this particular report has no specific risk implications as it is not proposing any new actions, but merely reporting performance over the last six months.

Equality Impacts

| Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty: |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Question | Answer | Explanation / Evidence |
| a.Does the decision being <br> made or recommended <br> through this paper have <br> potential to disadvantage or <br> discriminate against <br> different groups in the <br> community? | No | The recommendation is concerned <br> with investment management and <br> does not directly impact upon a service <br> provided to the community. |
| b.Does the decision being <br> made or recommended <br> through this paper have the | No |  |


| Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty: |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Question | Answer | Explanation / Evidence |
| potential to promote <br> equality of opportunity? |  |  |
| c. What steps can be taken to |  |  |
| mitigate, reduce, avoid or |  |  |
| minimise the impacts |  |  |
| identified above? |  |  |

## Conclusions

35 The overall return on the Council's investments is exceeding the budget in $2013 / 14$ by approximately $£ 24,000$ as at the end of September 2013 , but this is expected to have reduced by the end of the financial year.

36 The economic situation both globally and within the Eurozone in particular remains volatile with inevitable consequences for the UK economy. Treasury management has been conducted against this background and with a cautious investment approach.

37 In order to maintain returns on the Council's investment portfolio, there are various options to increase yield that are worthy of consideration.

38 Recovery of the Icelandic deposit is ongoing and further updates will be provided as and when monies are received.

Appendices:

## Background Papers:

Adrian Rowbotham Chief Finance Officer

Appendix A - Investment portfolio at 30 September 2013
Appendix B - Alternative investment options to increase yield

Treasury Management Strategy for 2013/14 -
Council 19 February 2013

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|  | Reference | Name |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Santander UK plc (Business Reserve A/C) |
|  |  | Santander UK plc (Money Market A/C) |
|  |  | Clydesdale Bank plc (Base Tracker Plus - 15 Day) |
|  |  | Barclays Bank plc (Business Premium A/C) |
|  |  | National Westminster Bank plc (Liquidity Select) |
|  |  | National Westminster Bank plc (95 Day Notice) |
|  |  | Ignis Liquidity Fund (Money Market Fund) |
|  |  | Insight Liquidity Fund (Money Market Fund) |
|  | IP1092 | Bank of Scotland plc |
|  | IP1095 | Bank of Scotland plc |
|  | IP1124 | Barclays Bank plc |
|  | IP1117 | Coventry Building Society |
|  | IP1127 | Coventry Building Society |
|  | IP1123 | Leeds Building Society |
|  | IP1069 | Lloyds TSB Bank plc |
|  | IP1073 | Lloyds TSB Bank plc |
|  | IP1097 | Lloyds TSB Bank plc |
| 0 | IP1098 | Lloyds TSB Bank plc |
| (0) | IP1113 | Lloyds TSB Bank plc |
| (1) | IP1115 | Nationwide Building Society |
|  | IP1119 | Nationwide Building Society |
| (0) | IP1122 | Nationwide Building Society |
|  | IP1129 | Nationwide Building Society |
|  | IP1120 | Skipton Building Society |
|  | IP1128 | Skipton Building Society |
|  | IP1121 | Ulster Bank Ltd |
|  | IP1118 | Yorkshire Building Society |

Total Invested

## Matured Investment

Landsbanki Islands hf

## Other Loan

Sevenoaks Leisure Limited

List of Investments as at:- 30-Sep-13

| Rating | Country | Group | Amount | Start Date | Comm Rate | End Date | Curr Rate | Terms | Broker |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | U.K. | Santander | 0 | 01-Apr-99 |  |  | 0.50000\% | Variable | Direct |
| A | U.K. | Santander | 0 | 09-Oct-06 |  |  | 0.50000\% | Variable | Direct |
| A | U.K. | NAB | 0 | 10-Sep-10 |  |  | 0.65000\% | Variable | Direct |
| A | U.K. |  | 1,758,000 | 01-Oct-11 |  |  | 0.45000\% | Variable | Direct |
| A | U.K. | RBS | 4,000,000 | 07-Oct-11 |  |  | 0.50000\% | Variable | Direct |
| A | U.K. | RBS | 3,000,000 | 24-May-13 |  |  | 0.80000\% | Variable | Direct |
| AAA | U.K. |  | 4,000,000 | 11-May-12 |  |  |  | Variable | Direct |
| AAA | U.K. |  | 1,300,000 | 11-May-12 |  |  |  | Variable | Direct |
| A | U.K. | Lloyds/HBOS | 1,000,000 | 12-Feb-13 | 1.10000\% | 11-Feb-14 |  | 1 Year | Direct |
| A | U.K. | Lloyds/HBOS | 1,000,000 | 22-Feb-13 | 1.10000\% | 21-Feb-14 |  | 1 Year | Direct |
| A | U.K. |  | 1,000,000 | 07-Aug-13 | 0.45000\% | 07-Nov-13 |  | 3 Months | Direct |
| A | U.K. |  | 1,000,000 | 15-Jul-13 | 0.43000\% | 15-Oct-13 |  | 3 Months | R P Martin |
| A | U.K. |  | 1,000,000 | 29-Aug-13 | 0.45000\% | 29-Nov-13 |  | 3 Months | Sterling |
| A- | U.K. |  | 1,000,000 | 01-Aug-13 | 0.35000\% | 01-Nov-13 |  | 3 Months | Tradition |
| A | U.K. | Lloyds/HBOS | 1,000,000 | 31-Oct-12 | 2.25000\% | 30-Oct-13 |  | 1 Year | Direct |
| A | U.K. | Lloyds/HBOS | 1,000,000 | 05-Nov-12 | 2.25000\% | 04-Nov-13 |  | 1 Year | Direct |
| A | U.K. | Lloyds/HBOS | 1,000,000 | 08-Apr-13 | 0.80000\% | 08-Oct-13 |  | 6 Months | Direct |
| A | U.K. | Lloyds/HBOS | 1,000,000 | 08-Apr-13 | 1.10000\% | 08-Apr-14 |  | 1 Year | Direct |
| A | U.K. | Lloyds/HBOS | 1,000,000 | 04-Jul-13 | 1.01000\% | 03-Jul-14 |  | 1 Year | Direct |
| A+ | U.K. |  | 1,000,000 | 09-Jul-13 | 0.44000\% | 09-Oct-13 |  | 3 Months | Tradition |
| A+ | U.K. |  | 2,000,000 | 23-Jul-13 | 0.50000\% | 23-Jan-14 |  | 6 Months | Sterling |
| A+ | U.K. |  | 1,000,000 | 01-Aug-13 | 0.50000\% | 03-Feb-14 |  | 6 Months | Tradition |
| A+ | U.K. |  | 1,000,000 | 30-Aug-13 | 0.44000\% | 29-Nov-13 |  | 3 Months | R P Martin |
| BBB- | U.K. |  | 1,000,000 | 29-Jul-13 | 0.49000\% | 29-Oct-13 |  | 3 Months | Direct |
| BBB- | U.K. |  | 1,000,000 | 29-Aug-13 | 0.49000\% | 29-Nov-13 |  | 3 Months | Direct |
| A- | U.K. | RBS | 1,000,000 | 29-Jul-13 | 0.65000\% | 29-Jan-14 |  | 6 Months | R P Martin |
| BBB+ | U.K. |  | 2,000,000 | 18-Jul-13 | 0.40000\% | 18-Oct-13 |  | 3 Months | Sterling |
|  |  |  | 35,058,000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Iceland |  | 452,300 | 25-Jun-07 | 6.32000\% | 25-Jun-09 |  | 2 Years | R P Martin |
|  |  |  | 250,000 | 29-Apr-08 | 7.00000\% | 31-Mar-18 |  | 10 Years | Direct |

## Alternative investment options to increase yield

## Background

1. Owing to a flood of government money into the banking sector as a result of the Funding For Lending scheme, there has been a downward trend in investment rates over the last few months. We previously had significant sums invested in the one year period at various rates in excess of $1 \%$ and up to $3 \%$. These investments have started to mature and the equivalent 1 year rates are now at or below $1 \%$.
2. In order to maintain the interest receipts budget at its existing level going forward, consideration needs to be given to alternative options to increase yield.
3. The consideration of risk is important in local authority investment decisions and the overriding principles are security and liquidity before yield.
4. In considering the alternative options, it must be realised that additional risk will be inherent.
5. Our treasury management advisors (Capita Asset Services) produce a matrix of recommended counterparties and duration limits on a weekly basis. Whilst it is for the authority to make its own investment decisions, it should be recognised that some of the options would fall outside their recommended guidance.
6. Our current investment strategy is very cautious and largely follows the Capita model. Most changes put forward here would not be compatible and would hence require approval by Full Council.

## Options

A. Increase limits to existing counterparties

Currently, the limits are $£ 8 \mathrm{~m}$ for Lloyds and RBS, $£ 5 \mathrm{~m}$ (or $£ 6 \mathrm{~m}$ including call accounts) for others and $£ 2 \mathrm{~m}$ for the top five building societies (with the exception of Nationwide).

The value of the portfolio averages about $£ 30 \mathrm{~m}$ and there is a current limit of $25 \%$ of the total fund to any counterparty.

By increasing the limits, there would be scope to concentrate more money in the institutions paying better rates (mainly Lloyds \& RBS). However, it should be recognised that there is increased risk in the event of the institution's failure.
B. Add new counterparties

At present, the policy is to only lend to UK based institutions. The use of foreign banks could be considered as some are paying better rates. Examples are Santander (who were removed from the lending list because of perceived issues with its Spanish parent) and Svenska Handelsbanken who will shortly be opening a branch in Sevenoaks and whose offerings for instant access accounts at least match or even better those on offer from Barclays and RBS.

The Bank of China (London branch) is new into the sterling market. It is paying above the usual levels (3 months @ 0.55\%, 1 year @ 0.95\%)
C. Extend the duration of investments

The maximum duration currently allowed in our strategy is one year. Depending on the assessment in Capita's colour coding matrix, some counterparties have a maximum of 3 or 6 months duration imposed. These limits severely restrict potential yield, but are there to mitigate against the security and liquidity risks. We also have a self-imposed 3 month limit on Building Societies other than the Nationwide.

There is no doubt that an improvement in yield could be obtained by committing to longer dated investments. An analysis of the need to use reserves over the coming years would be needed before tying up money long term.

Other authorities already use longer dated investments, so we would not be unique here. Some examples of the rates available at 10/9/13 are:-

Lloyds - 2 years @ 1.10\%, 3 years @ 1.45\%, 4 years @ 1.96\% and 5 years @ 2.30\%
RBS - 18 mths @ $0.85 \%, 2$ years @ $1.27 \%, 3$ years @1.74\%, 4 years @ $2.08 \%$ and 5 years @ 2.37\%

Barclays - 2 years @ 1.03\%, 3 years @ 1.46\%, 4 years @ 1.94\% and 5 years @ 2.39\%

These rates are dependent on gilt yields which have been on the increase recently owing to so much good news on the UK economy. Swap rates are moving up, so cash rates have been improving all the time. However, they can be very volatile and decisions to place money need to be timed carefully in reaction to rapidly changing market conditions. The market thinks that base rates will need to rise before Mark Carney's goal of a reduction in unemployment to $7 \%$ is reached.

As far as the Building Societies are concerned, by extending the duration to 1 year, rates in the region of $0.85 \%$ to $0.87 \%$ can be achieved, compared with $0.45 \%$ to $0.50 \%$ in the 3 month period to which we are limited at the present time.
D. Enhanced Money Market Funds

These are becoming a popular alternative for many authorities as they struggle with shrinking counterparty lists and ever reducing yields. However, these funds operate in a very different way to the standard MMFs, even though both types have AAA ratings. EMMFs have a variable NAV and therefore a greater market risk exposure. There is a potential for loss of capital. They achieve better returns because they have a wider credit appetite and increased durational limits.

EMMFs are usually viewed with a minimum of a 6 months holding in order to even out potentially volatile month on month returns. However, should access to cash be
required, it is usually on a T+2 or T+3 basis (i.e. a redemption requested on Monday would be received on Wednesday or Thursday).

An example of an EMMF from one of our existing MMF providers, based on a 1 month annualised gross return and on $T+5$ access, is:

August 2013: 1.05\%
July 2013: 0.54\%
June 2013: 0.50\%
May 2013: 0.93\%
This compares with an almost static $0.43 \%$ to $0.44 \%$ return over the same period on their standard MMF.
E. Property Funds

These are pooled investment vehicles, investing in all types of commercial/industrial property. They have entry and exit fees and are typically viewed as long term investments over 5 years or more. They give indirect access to the property market, can be seen as another means of diversification and can provide stable returns and capital appreciation.

On the downside, they are illiquid and have inherent price volatility (whether due to a property market collapse or quality of tenants). Hence the need to take a longer term view. Additionally, exit timings can be difficult resulting in a long term lag on redemption.

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## 2014/15 BUDGET AND REVIEW OF SERVICE PLANS

Finance and Resources Advisory Committee - 12 November 2013

| Report of | Chief Finance Officer |
| :--- | :--- |
| Status: | For Decision |
| Also considered by: | Strategy and Performance Advisory Committee - 8 October 2013 <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br> October 2013 October 2013 20 |
|  | Local Planning and Environment Advisory Committee - 19 <br> November 2013 |

Key Decision: No
Executive Summary: This report sets out updates to the 2014/15 budget within the existing framework of the 10-year budget and 4 -year savings plan. The report presents proposals that have been identified by Portfolio Holders and these need to be considered, together with further suggestions made by the Advisory Committees, before finalising the budget for 2014/15.

This report supports the Key Aim of effective management of Council resources.
Portfolio Holder Cllr. Hogarth
Contact Officer(s) Adrian Rowbotham Ext. 7153
Helen Martin Ext. 7483

## Recommendation to each Advisory Committee:

(a) Advise Cabinet with views on the growth and savings proposals identified by the Portfolio Holder in Appendix C.
(b) Advise Cabinet with further suggestions for growth and savings for the services within the terms of reference of the Advisory Committee.

Reason for recommendation: It is important that the views of the Advisory Committees are taken into account in the budget process to ensure that the Council's resources are used in the most suitable manner.

## Agenda Item 8

## Introduction and Background

1 The Council's financial strategy over the past nine years has worked towards increasing financial sustainability and it has been successful through the use of a number of strategies including:

- implementing efficiency initiatives;
- significantly reducing the back office function;
- improved value for money;
- maximising external income;
- the movement of resources away from low priority services; and
- an emphasis on statutory rather than non-statutory services.

2 Over this period the Council has focused on delivering high quality services based on Members' priorities and consultation with residents and stakeholders through the Community Plan. In financial terms, the adoption of this strategy has to date allowed the Council to move away from its reliance on general fund reserves which has ensured that the general fund reserves have remained largely unchanged.

3 Due to the level of funding and other potential changes and uncertainties, it is increasingly difficult to anticipate with sufficient accuracy what the level of Government settlement is likely to be after 2014/15. However, using the data sources available to the Council, this report sets out a budget over the 10-year period but recognises that this is a constantly changing situation and more accurate data will become available in future months.

4 In setting its budget for 2011/12 onwards, the Council recognised the need to address both the planned reduction in Government funding as well as the longerterm need to reduce its reliance on reserves. The outcome was a 10-year budget, together with a four-year savings plan, that ensured the Council's finances were placed on a stable footing but that also allowed for flexibility between budget years.

5 The intention of this report is to provide Members of each Advisory Committee an opportunity to give their views on potential growth and savings items that could be included in the updated 10-year budget that will be presented to Council on 18 February 2014.

6 The 'Financial Prospects and Budget Strategy 2014/15 and Beyond’ report has been presented to Cabinet to start the budget setting process for 2014/15.
$7 \quad$ This report presents members with the following documents relating to the budget for 2014/15:

- Summary of Service Plans relating to the Advisory Committee (Appendix A);


## Agenda Item 8

- Summary of the Council's agreed 4 year savings plan and growth items (Appendix B);
- New growth and savings items proposed by the Portfolio Holders (Appendix C);
- $\quad$ Service Change Impact Assessment forms (SCIAs) for the new growth and savings items relating to the Advisory Committee (Appendix D);
- 10-year budget (Appendix E);
- Budget timetable (Appendix F).


## Summary of Service Plans

8 On an annual basis, Managers of each of the Council's services set out their objectives for the coming year within their Service Plans. The Service Plans, and the objectives Managers set, form the basis for decisions about performance indicators to be used to measure progress and an assessment of the operational risks that may prevent objectives being achieved. Service Plans are directly aligned to the Council's priorities and the resources available to deliver the service.

9 Appendix A is a summary of Service Plans for those services directly relevant to this Advisory Committee.

## 4 Year Savings Plan

10 Appendix B to this report sets out the 4 year savings plan, approved by Council in December 2010 and updated over the last two years, which is allowing the Council to deliver a 10 year balanced budget.

11 The savings plan requires a total of $£ 4.2$ million to be saved between 2011/12 and $2014 / 15$ which is an average saving of over $£ 1 \mathrm{~m}$ per annum. In the ten years from 2005/06, over $£ 10 \mathrm{~m}$ of savings will then have been made.

12 Further savings are scheduled to be made in later years as agreed by Council on 18 October 2011.

## Proposed Growth Items

13 Growth items are items that are in addition to non-service issues and risks, such as grant settlements, impacts of economic change and other pressures highlighted in the 'Financial Prospects and Budget Strategy 2014/15 and Beyond' report considered by Cabinet on 12 September 2013.

14 A list of the growth items proposed by the Portfolio Holders can be found in Appendix C and a summary by Advisory Committee is shown in the following table:

## Agenda Item 8

| Advisory Committee | $\mathbf{£ 0 0 0}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Economic and Community Development | 122 |
| Finance and Resources | 11 |
| Local Planning and Environment | 30 |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 6 3}$ |

## Proposed Savings Items

15 Portfolio Holders are also proposing a number of savings items which can also be found in Appendix C and a summary by Advisory Committee is shown in the following table:

| Advisory Committee | $\mathbf{£ 0 0 0}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Economic and Community Development | $(37)$ |
| Finance and Resources | $(118)$ |
| Housing and Community Safety | $(25)$ |
| Local Planning and Environment | $(120)$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{( 3 0 0 )}$ |

## Financial Summary

16 It is increasingly difficult to produce an accurate forecast at this early stage due to the level of uncertainty being greater than ever before, in particular for Government Support. The assumptions currently included take into account the latest information available but no doubt a number of assumptions may change before the final budget meeting in February 2014..

17 Since the 'Financial Prospects and Budget Strategy 2014/15 and Beyond’ report was presented to Cabinet on 12 September 2013, further information has been obtained concerning Government Support for 2014/15. The Government will be reducing the provisional amount announced in February 2013 by a further 1\% resulting in a $7.5 \%$ reduction instead of $6.5 \%$. This change has been included in the 10-year budget attached at Appendix E.

18 Interest receipts have also been reviewed taking in to account the latest interest rates forecasts together with investment balances.

## Agenda Item 8

19 The 10-year budget attached at Appendix E includes the changes in Government Support for 2014/15, interest receipts and the growth and savings proposals put forward by the Portfolio Holders.

20 It is proposed to put the remaining balance of $£ 70,000$ per year into the Financial Plan Reserve which would be able to fund year 11 (2024/25) of the budget, should it still be available when the budget is set in February, it will also provide further flexibility with the 10-year budget should it be needed.

21 Views of the Advisory Committees on the growth and savings items proposed by the Portfolio Holders together with any additional suggestions will be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 5 December 2013.

## Process and Timetable

22 This report is the second stage of the budget process as shown in the Budget Timetable (Appendix F).

23 It is possible that Advisory Committees may have to re-address service budgets in January if significant changes have taken place (including government support changes) leading to a large and unmanageable deficit.

## Key Implications

## Financial

All financial implications are covered elsewhere in this report.
Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.
There are no legal implications.
For the effective management of our resources and in order to achieve a sustainable budget it is essential that all service cost changes and risks are identified and considered.

Major service financial risks are included in the Service Plans, risk analysis and SCIAs. Financial risks will be reviewed again when the Cabinet publishes its proposals for the annual budget.

## Community Impact and Outcomes

The SCIAs set out the potential impact on the community of variations to the agreed budget.

## Equality Impacts

| Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty: |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Question | Answer | Explanation / Evidence |  |
| a.Does the decision being made <br> or recommended through this | Yes | Individual equalities assessments have |  |
| paper have potential to |  | been completed for all of the Service |  |
| disadvantage or discriminate |  | Change Impact Assessments (SCIAs) to |  |

## Agenda Item 8

| Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty: |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Question | Answer | Explanation / Evidence |
| against different groups in the <br> community? |  |  |
| b.Does the decision being made <br> or recommended through this <br> paper have the potential to <br> promote equality of <br> opportunity? No |  |  |
| c.What steps can be taken to <br> mitigate, reduce, avoid or <br> minimise the impacts <br> identified above? |  |  |

## Conclusions

Members' consideration and scrutiny of the relevant services is an essential and key element in the business and financial planning process. Any growth items agreed which are outside the existing 10-year budget will require additional savings, and subsequent service changes, to ensure a balanced budget position.

By incorporating the proposed growth and savings items into the 10-year budget, it will allow an annual contribution to be made to the Financial Plan Reserve which will help to fund the council into year $11(2024 / 25)$ and beyond.

## Appendices

Background Papers:

Appendix A - Summary of Service Plans relating to the Advisory Committee

Appendix B - Summary of the Council's agreed 4 year savings plan and growth items

Appendix C - New growth and savings items proposed by the Portfolio Holders

Appendix D - Service Change Impact Assessment forms (SCIAs) for the new growth and savings items relating to the Advisory Committee

Appendix E - 10-year budget
Appendix F - Budget timetable

Report to Council 19 February 2013 - Budget and Council Tax Setting 2013/14

Report to Cabinet 12 September 2013 - Financial Prospects and Budget Strategy 2014/15 and Beyond

Agenda Item 8

Adrian Rowbotham
Chief Finance Officer

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DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Summary of 2013/14 Service Plans

Finance \& Resources Advisory Committee

## Guidance Page



## Finance and Resources Advisory Committee Service Plan Summary 2013/14

## Part 1: Key Service Objectives

| Audit and Corporate Governance <br> Chief Finance Officer | To give an assurance on the overall governance and internal control processes of the Council <br> Deliver the risk based Annual Audit Plan for 2012/13, taking account of the Council's key priorities and relevant regulatory requirements. <br> Ensure compliance with new Internal Audit Standards <br> Liaise with External Audit as necessary in meeting the Council's assurance requirements. | Legal <br> Chief Officer Legal \& Governance | Establish close, effective working relationships with our client services <br> Ensure that client services are aware of and respond appropriately to significant new legislation/case law that applies to local authorities <br> Protecting the corporate interest and maintaining high standards of probity and ethical governance |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Budget and Financial Strategy <br> Chief Finance Officer | Monitor the 2013/14 budget and produce a balanced 2014/15 budget in conjunction with all services <br> - Manage the Council's investment portfolio and cash flow requirements in line with Treasury Management Policy Statement <br> - Provide expert financial advice and support to Officers and Members | Local Tax <br> Chief Finance Officer | Continue with implementation of the local council tax support scheme and ensure a successful first year of operation <br> To maximise the collection rate of council tax and business rates, whilst providing appropriate advice and support to those who cannot pay <br> Improve perception of the service, maximising customer satisfaction |
| Information Technology <br> Chief Officer Corporate Support | - Delivering the Council's IT Strategy <br> - Review and implement a sustainable IT Asset Maintenance programme <br> Deliver increased customer satisfaction through service redesign and self service | Property and Facilities Management <br> Chief Officer Corporate Support | - Provide first class Property \& FM support to all services, partnerships and shared services <br> ■ Provide a high quality design and print service to the Council and our external customers <br> - Delivery of the asset management action plan <br> - To ensure that all corporate property complies with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements |

## Part 2: Resources



Summary of the Council's Agreed 4-year Savings Plan and Growth Items


Appendix C
Agenda Item 8
New Growth and Savings Proposed by the Portfolio Holders

| Growth <br> SCIA <br> Year | No. |  | Description | Year | Ongoing | £000 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | Economic and Community Development |  |  |  |  |
| $2014 / 15$ | 1 | Admin. costs for external funding - e.g. Leader \& Business Support | $2014 / 15$ | yes | 10 |  |
| $2014 / 15$ | 2 | Broadband / Economic Development Reserve | $2014 / 15$ | 5 years | 50 |  |
| $2014 / 15$ | 3 | Swanley market - reduced income | $2014 / 15$ | yes | 62 |  |
|  | Finance and Resources |  |  |  |  |  |
| $2014 / 15$ | 4 | Treasury Management: increased cost of debit and credit cards | $2014 / 15$ | yes | 11 |  |
| $2014 / 15$ | 5 | Finance: improve financial resilience | $2014 / 15$ | yes | 28 |  |
|  |  | Local Planning and Environment |  |  |  |  |
| $2014 / 15$ | 6 | Loss of glass recycling at Sainsburys | $2014 / 15$ | yes | 30 |  |
|  | Total |  |  | $\mathbf{1 9 1}$ |  |  |


| Savings <br> SCIA <br> Year | No. |  | Description | Year | Ongoing |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | £000

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SCIA \# 4 (14/15)

| Service Area: | Treasury Management |
| :--- | :--- |
| Activity | Debit and credit card <br> fees |
|  |  |


|  |  |
| ---: | :--- |
| Service: | Finance |
| No. of Staff: | 0 fte |
|  |  |


| Activity Budget Change | $14 / 15$ <br> $£ 000$ | $15 / 16$ <br> $£ 000$ | $16 / 17$ <br> $£ 000$ | $17 / 08$ <br> $£ 000$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Increased cost of debit and credit <br> card transactions | 11 | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ |

Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Key Stakeholders Affected

Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

A fee is payable for each debit and credit card transaction. Use of these payment methods by council customers to pay for services continues to rise. This fee is not currently passed on to customers as we do not wish to discourage payment and it generally remains a cheaper option than paying by cash.

All customers who pay for council services.

No impact.

| Performance Indicators |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Code \& Description | Actual | Target |
| No applicable performance indicators |  |  |

SCIA \# 5 (14/15)

| Service Area: | Finance Function |  | Service: | Finance |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Activity | Finance Function |  | No. of Staff: | 9.2 fte |  |
| Activity Budget Reduction |  | $\begin{aligned} & 14 / 15 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15 / 16 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 16 / 17 \\ £ 000 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 17/08 } \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ |
| Strengthen fin | cial resilience | 28 | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ |

Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Due to changes in technology and the importance of high level financial expertise within the Council. It is important to ensure that ensure the Council continues to have a thorough understanding of the increasingly complex finance issues affecting local authorities.
As mentioned in the Financial Prospects report, the Council is continuing to face huge financial challenges and pressures. The Finance Team needs to play a lead role in steering the Council through these difficult times.
The net effect of this growth item together with the Finance efficiency review savings item will result in a net saving of $£ 12,000$.

## Key Stakeholders Affected

Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

Management Team, Members

Increased high level financial resilience within the Council.

| 2013/14 Budget | $£ 000$ | Performance Indicators |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operational Cost | 357 | Code \& Description | Actual | Target |
| Income | - | No applicable performance indicators |  |  |
| Net Cost | 357 |  |  |  |

SCIA \# 9 (14/15)

| Service Area: | Property and Facilities Management |  | Service: | Corporate Support |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Activity | Print Studio |  |  | 2.68 fte |  |
| Activity Budget Reduction |  | $\begin{aligned} & 14 / 15 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15 / 16 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 16 / 17 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 17 / 08 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ |
| Increase external print income |  | (10) | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ |

Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Key Stakeholders Affected

Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

During the course of 2013/14 the Print Studio Officer has reduced his working hours at his request. This post is now 0.68 FTE. To compensate for this, a Print Studio Assistant has been recruited. This provides continued resilience within the Print Studio which now totals 2.68 FTE staff and allows for a small amount of additional capacity to take on more external print work.

Internal and external Print Studio Customers

A positive impact as a result of additional income to the Council whilst not adversely affecting capacity within the Print Studio

| 2013/14 Budget | $£ 000$ | Performance Indicators |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operational Cost | 146 | Code \& Description | Actual | Target |
| Income | -194 | No applicable performance indicators |  |  |
| Net Cost | -48 |  |  |  |

SCIA \# 10 (14/15)

| Service Area: | Property and Facilities Management |  | Service: | Corporate Support |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Activity | Facilitie |  |  | 13.5 fte |  |
| Activity Budget Reduction |  | $\begin{aligned} & 14 / 15 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15 / 16 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 16 / 17 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 17 / 08 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ |
| Efficiency Review |  | (20) | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ |

Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Key Stakeholders Affected

Likely impacts and implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

Collective reductions in the costs of Postage, Cleaning and Telephones. In addition, reductions have been identified in the budget previously used for supporting microfilming equipment but more recently used to support corporate scanning equipment.

All Council staff and members

The main risks involved with this reduction are if there are any future increases in either postage or telephony charges, there will be no contingency within the relevant budgets to absorb the additional costs.

| 2013/14 Budget | £ 000 | Performance Indicators |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operational Cost | 614 | Code \& Description | Actual | Target |
| Income |  | No applicable performance indicators |  |  |
| Net Cost | 614 |  |  |  |

SCIA \# 11 (14/15)

| Service Area: | Miscellaneous Finance |
| :--- | :--- |
| Activity | 66 London Road - rent <br> and rates |
|  |  |


| Service: | Finance |
| ---: | :--- |
|  |  |
| No. of Staff: | 0 fte |
|  |  |


| Activity Budget Change | $14 / 15$ <br> $£ 000$ | $15 / 16$ <br> $£ 000$ | $16 / 17$ <br> $£ 000$ | $17 / 08$ <br> $£ 000$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sale of 66 London Road | $(76)$ | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ |

Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

Following the sale of 66 London Road as part of the Blighs Development, the council is no longer liable to pay the rent and rates on this property

Key Stakeholders Affected
None
implications of the change in service (include Risk Analysis)

No impact.

| Performance Indicators |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Code \& Description | Actual | Target |
| No applicable performance indicators |  |  |

SCIA \# 12 (14/15)

| Service Area: | Finance Function |  | Service: | Finance |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Activity | Finance Function |  | No. of Staff: | 9.2 fte |  |
| Activity Budget Change |  | $\begin{aligned} & 14 / 15 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15 / 16 \\ £ 000 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 16 / 17 \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 17/08 } \\ & £ 000 \end{aligned}$ |
| Efficiency review |  | (40) | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ | $\rightarrow$ |

Reasons for and explanation of proposed change in service

The following functions of the service will be reviewed, including how they are delivered across the whole council in a more efficient manner:

- Procure to Pay
- Cash till
- Debtors

The net effect of this savings item together with the financial resilience growth item will result in a net saving of $£ 12,000$.

Customers who pay cash at Argyle Road and Swanley Local Office, Suppliers, Staff

A more consistent approach to the functions listed above.

Internal customers of the Finance Team should see an improved service that better suits the changing requirements.

| 2013/14 Budget | $£ 000$ | Performance Indicators |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operational Cost | 357 | Code \& Description | Actual | Target |
| Income | - | No applicable performance indicators |  |  |
| Net Cost | 357 |  |  |  |

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## Ten Year Budget - Revenue

| Expenditure | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Budget } \\ 2013 / 14 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Plan } \\ 2014 / 15 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Plan } \\ 2015 / 16 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Plan } \\ 2016 / 17 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Plan } \\ 2017 / 18 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Plan } \\ 2018 / 19 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Plan } \\ 2019 / 20 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Plan } \\ 2020 / 21 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Plan } \\ 2021 / 22 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Plan } \\ 2022 / 23 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Plan } \\ 2023 / 24 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $£ 000$ | $£ 000$ | $£ 000$ | $£ 000$ | $£ 000$ | $£ 000$ | $£ 000$ | $£ 000$ | $£ 000$ | $£ 000$ | $£ 000$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net Service Expenditure c/f | 13,443 | 13,800 | 14,657 | 15,045 | 15,407 | 15,802 | 16,130 | 16,520 | 16,956 | 17,369 | 17,783 |
| Inflation | 621 | 488 | 533 | 555 | 558 | 629 | 626 | 623 | 413 | 414 | 416 |
| Superannuation Fund deficit: actuarial increase | 0 | 520 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net savings (approved in previous years) | (264) | (99) | (117) | (143) | (162) | (301) | (186) | (187) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New growth | 0 | 191 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (50) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New savings | 0 | (243) | (28) | (50) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net Service Expenditure b/f | 13,800 | 14,657 | 15,045 | 15,407 | 15,802 | 16,130 | 16,520 | 16,956 | 17,369 | 17,783 | 18,199 |
| Financing Sources |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Government Support (1) | $(3,788)$ | $(3,504)$ | $(2,873)$ | $(2,811)$ | $(2,784)$ | $(2,868)$ | $(2,954)$ | $(3,043)$ | $(3,134)$ | $(3,228)$ | $(3,325)$ |
| New Homes Bonus | (976) | $(1,276)$ | (946) | $(1,126)$ | $(1,126)$ | $(1,126)$ | $(1,126)$ | $(1,126)$ | $(1,126)$ | $(1,126)$ | $(1,126)$ |
| Govt Support - to be passed on to Towns/Parishe | (274) | (279) | (285) | (294) | (303) | (312) | (321) | (331) | (341) | (351) | (362) |
| Govt Support - passed on to Towns/Parishes | 274 | 279 | 285 | 294 | 303 | 312 | 321 | 331 | 341 | 351 | 362 |
| Qouncil Tax | $(8,728)$ | $(8,955)$ | $(9,188)$ | $(9,519)$ | $(9,861)$ | $(10,216)$ | $(10,582)$ | $(10,962)$ | $(11,355)$ | $(11,762)$ | $(12,183)$ |
| \%ouncil Tax Support grant | (734) | (749) | (764) | (747) | (740) | (762) | (785) | (809) | (833) | (858) | (884) |
| Dinterest Receipts | (229) | (255) | (386) | (406) | (382) | (349) | (318) | (293) | (272) | (255) | (247) |
| Eontributions to Reserves | 787 | 418 | 418 | 418 | 298 | 298 | 298 | 298 | 298 | 298 | 298 |
| Qontributions from Reserves | (795) | (510) | (510) | (510) | (510) | (510) | (510) | (510) | (510) | (335) | (335) |
| Total Financing | $(14,463)$ | $(14,831)$ | $(14,249)$ | $(14,701)$ | $(15,105)$ | $(15,533)$ | $(15,977)$ | $(16,445)$ | $(16,932)$ | $(17,266)$ | $(17,802)$ |
| Budget Gap (surplus)/deficit | (663) | (174) | 796 | 706 | 697 | 597 | 543 | 511 | 437 | 518 | 398 |
| Contribution to/(from) Stabilisation Reserve | 663 | 174 | (796) | (706) | (697) | (597) | (543) | (511) | (437) | (518) | (398) |
| Unfunded Budget Gap (surplus)/deficit | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Remaining balance / (shortfall) in Budget Stabilisation reserve: | 4,703 | 4,998 | 4,322 | 3,737 | 3,039 | 2,442 | 1,899 | 1,387 | 950 | 432 | 34 |



Appendix F
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2014/15 Budget Setting Timetable

|  | Date | Committee |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Stage 1 |  |  |
| Financial Prospects and Budget Strategy 2014/15 and Beyond | 29 August | Finance \& Resources AC |
|  | 12 September | Cabinet |
| $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Stage 2 |  |  |
| Review of Service Plans and Service Change Impact Assessments (SCIAs) | 8 October | Strategy \& Performance AC |
|  | 15 October | Housing \& Comm. Safety AC |
|  | 24 October | Economic \& Comm. Dev. AC |
|  | 12 November | Finance \& Resources AC |
|  | 19 November | Local Planning \& Env. AC |
| $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| Stage 3 |  |  |
| Budget Update (incl. Service Change Impact Assessments (SCIAs), feedback from Advisory Committees \& Other Consultation) | 5 December | Cabinet |
| $\square$ |  |  |
| Stage 4 |  |  |
| Budget Update and further review of Service Change Impact Assessments (if required) | January | Advisory Committees |
| $\square$ |  |  |
| Stage 5 |  |  |
| Budget Setting Meeting (Recommendations to Council) | 6 February | Cabinet |
| $\square$ |  |  |
| Stage 6 |  |  |
| Budget Setting Meeting (incl. Council Tax setting) | 18 February | Council |

Note: The Scrutiny Committee may ‘call in’ items concerning the budget setting process.

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## SHARED SERVICES - COSTS AND SAVINGS

Finance and Resources Advisory Committee - 11 November 2013
Report of Chief Finance Officer

Status: For Information

Key Decision: No

This report supports the Key Aim of effective management of Council resources.

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Ramsay

Contact Officer(s) Helen Martin Ext. 7483

Recommendation to Finance and Resources Advisory Committee: That the report be noted

## Introduction

1 On 24 January 2013 Members of the Finance Advisory Group were presented with a report on the implementation costs and savings for partnership working. Members asked for this report to be added to the forward programme.

## Current Partnerships in Place

2 Appendix A lists all of the shared services arrangements currently in place and also those that have ended.

## Changes in the last year

3 Since April 2013 we have entered into a new agreement for Tandridge to pay for IT to support the shared financial management system.

4 The arrangement for sharing a Building Control Manager with Tonbridge and Malling ended in October 2013.

## Future Partnerships

5 Officers continue to have discussions with other local authorities regarding future partnership opportunities.

## Key Implications

## Financial

This report is for information only and there are, therefore, no financial implications arising from this report. The listed partnership arrangements have been entered into by

## Agenda Item 10

the Council in order to achieve financial savings, deliver increased efficiencies and to improve resilience of service delivery.

## Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

There are no legal implications.
There are no new risks associated with this report. Each partnership proposal would include a risk assessment.

## Community Impact and Outcomes

The partnership working arrangements in Appendix A have delivered financial savings usually through reducing the cost of management or back office services, thus delivering a financial benefit to local residents whilst maintaining customer facing services.

Equality Impacts

| Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty: |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Question | Answer | Explanation / Evidence |
| a.Does the decision being made <br> or recommended through this <br> paper have potential to <br> disadvantage or discriminate <br> against different groups in the <br> community? | No |  |
| b.Does the decision being made <br> or recommended through this <br> paper have the potential to <br> promote equality of <br> opportunity? | No |  |
| c.What steps can be taken to <br> mitigate, reduce, avoid or <br> minimise the impacts <br> identified above? |  |  |

## Appendices

Background Papers:

Appendix A - Register of Shared Working Arrangements

Report to Finance Advisory Group Council 24 January 2013 Partnership Working - Costs and Savings

Adrian Rowbotham
Chief Finance Officer

Register of Shared Working Arrangements


| Description | Type | Start Date | Partner Organisation(s) | Implementation Costs | Annual Savings |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ended Shared Services |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shared Environmental Health Manager <br> (Replaced by Shared Service) | Shared Management | Sept 2008 to March 2011 | Dartford | n/a | n/a |
| Internal Audit <br> (Replaced by Shared Service) | Shared <br> Management | Oct 2008 to <br> Oct-10 | Dartford | n/a | n/a |
| Benefit Fraud <br> (Replaced by Shared Service) | Shared <br> Management | April 2009 to Oct-10 | Dartford | n/a | n/a |
| Democratic Services | Shared Management | Nov 2010 to Jan 2012 | Dartford | Nil | 20 |
| Legal Services | Shared Management | April 2009 to March 2011 | Tonbridge \& Malling | Nil | 25 |
| GIS Service | Contractual | Oct 2009 to Mar 2012 | Dartford | Nil | 15 |
| Maternity cover for Tonbridge \& Malling Community Safety Coordinator 0.4 FTE | Shared <br> Management | Jan-11 | Tonbridge and Malling | Nil | 15 |
| Shared Head of Development Services | Shared Management | Oct-08 | Tunbridge Wells | Nil | 20 |
| Shared Building Control Manager | Shared Management | Oct 2011 to Sept 2013 | Tonbridge \& Malling | Nil | 26 |

## FINANCIAL RESULTS 2013/14 - to the end of September 2013

## Finance and Resources Advisory Committee - 12 November 2013

Report of Group Manager Financial Services

Status: For consideration

Key Decision: No

This report supports the Key Aim of Effective Management of Council Resources

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Ramsey

Contact Officer(s) Helen Martin Ext. 7483

Recommendation to Finance and Resources Advisory Committee: That the report be noted.

## Introduction and Background

Overall Financial Position

1. Six months into the year the results to date show an overall favourable variance of $£ 444,000$. Reasons for this current favourable variance are explained in the individual commentaries from Chief Officers
2. The year-end position is forecast to be $£ 30,000$ better than budget.

## Key Issues for the year to date

3. Income - investment income is performing above target and is forecast to be better than budgeted at the year-end. This is due to higher than estimated balances and slightly higher rates being achieved during the year so far, and a favourable forecast is shown to reflect this position.
4. Income from on-street parking, land charges and development management are achieving or exceeding budget targets at the end of September.
5. Pay costs - the actual expenditure to date on SDC funded salaried staff is $£ 127,000$ below budget. An underspending of $£ 167,000$ relates to Direct Services and will be offset by agency staff costs held within the trading account. Additional resources are being used to address the Benefits workload and costs will be met by additional funding from both partners. The 1\% pay award will be paid in October.
6. Other - Direct Services' results show a positive variance of $£ 98,000$ compared to budget.

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7. Costs amounting to $£ 30,000$ were incurred in facilitating the sale of 66 London Road.

## Year End Forecast

8. The year-end position is forecast to be $£ 30,000$ better than budget.
9. Extra investment income is still a favourable variance, however interest rates are expected to remain low into the future. Income from council tax court costs is expected to be above budget for the year.
10. Following the sale of 66 London Road, there will be a saving on rent and rates at that site. Expenditure is forecast to be $£ 76,000$ below budget.
11. The contracts for markets at Sevenoaks and Swanley were re-tendered in $12 / 13$ following the voluntary liquidation of the previous operators. Income from these new contracts is forecast to be $£ 62,000$ worse than budget.
12. Car Parking income, mainly pay and display, is now expected to be $£ 70,000$ worse than budget.
13. Direct Services are forecasting a favourable variance of $£ 25,000$ for the year.
14. Planning Services are now predicting that Planning fee income will be $£ 95,000$ better than budget.
15. The review of the senior management structure did not take effect until 1 September and as a result the full salary saving will not be met in 2013/14 although this shortfall of $£ 48,000$ will be met from other Corporate savings. The full saving will be delivered in future years.

## Risk areas

16. The current economic situation continues to have a real and potential impact on the Council's finances:

- the investment strategy is constantly under review in light of the changing long term credit ratings which affects the number of organisations the Council can invest in. The annual budget for investment income is $£ 229,000$ and a reduction of $0.1 \%$ in the rate of interest we are able to achieve could reduce our income by $£ 28,000$;
- property related income such as Development Control (particularly preapplication fees and S106 monitoring), Building Control, Land Charges remain vulnerable. The income budget for these major items is $£ 1.294 \mathrm{~m}$ and the current predicted favourable variance of $£ 65 \mathrm{k}$ represents $5 \%$ of the budget;
- the Benefits workload is at a higher level than before the recession. Agency staff are being used to address the workload and to fill any vacancies due to uncertainties relating to Universal Credit;
- Council Tax collection rates, though currently in line with 2012/13 (in-year collection rate of $98.5 \%$ ), could be affected by increased unemployment and squeezed household incomes; and
- Changes in the price of diesel could have a significant impact on Direct Services. Annual fuel consumption is about 420,000 litres, and each 1 p per litre increase would result in increased costs of $£ 4,200$.

17. Planned savings through the generation of income, particularly from new partnership working, remain risk areas for the current and for future years.

## Key Implications

## Financial

The financial implications are set out elsewhere in this report.

## Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

Under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Section 151 officer has statutory duties in relation to the financial administration and stewardship of the authority.

Detailed budget monitoring is completed on a monthly basis where all variances are explained. Future risk items are also identified.

Equality Impacts

| Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Question | Answer | Explanation / Evidence |
| a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to disadvantage or discriminate against different groups in the community? | No | The recommendation is concerned with sound control of the Councils finances and does not directly impact on services provided to the community |
| b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have the potential to promote equality of opportunity? | No |  |
| c. What steps can be taken to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above? |  | No mitigating steps are required |

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Appendices Appendix - September Budget Monitoring Reports
Adrian Rowbotham
Group Manager Financial Services

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## Appendix A

| 3. Net Service Expenditure for each Chief Offi | - analy | by Bu | get ar |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Period | Period | Period | Period | Y-T-D | Y-T-D | Y-T-D | Y-T-D | Annual | Annual | Annual | 2012/13 |
| September 13 - Final | Budget | Actual | Variance | Variance | Budget | Actual | Variance | Variance | Budget | Forecast (including Accruals) | Variance | Actual |
| Corporate Support | $£^{\prime} 000$ | $£^{\prime} 000$ | $£^{\prime} 000$ | \% | £'000 | £'000 | $£^{\prime} 000$ | \% | £'000 | £'000 | $£^{\prime} 000$ | £'000 |
| Administrative Expenses - Corporate Support | 2 | 5 | -2 | - 113.5 | 15 | 12 | 3 | 19.5 | 30 | 30 | - | 23 |
| Administrative Expenses - Human Resources | 1 | 0 | 1 | 87.5 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 75.8 | 16 | 11 | 5 | 14 |
| Asset Maintenance Argyle Road | - | 1 | -1 | - | 20 | 22 | -2 | - 11.4 | 45 | 45 | - | 22 |
| Asset Maintenance Hever Road | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | 1 | 38.0 | 6 | 6 | - | - |
| Asset Maintenance IT | 98 | 97 | 1 | 0.5 | 149 | 149 | - 1 | -0.5 | 290 | 290 | - | 300 |
| Asset Maintenance Leisure | 11 | 13 | -2 | -19.4 | 55 | 58 | - 3 | -5.5 | 165 | 165 | - | 91 |
| Asset Maintenance Other Corporate Properties | - | - | - | - | 10 | 4 | 6 | 61.6 | 30 | 30 | - | 21 |
| Asset Maintenance Sewage Treatment Plants | - | 2 | -2 | - | 4 | 2 | 2 | 44.3 | 8 | 8 | - | - |
| Asset Maintenance Support \& Salaries | 8 | 7 | 1 | 14.8 | 47 | 50 | - 3 | -6.1 | 95 | 95 | - | 118 |
| Bus Station | - | 0 | - 0 | - | 9 | 5 | 4 | 46.7 | 14 | 14 | - | 9 |
| Estates Management - Buildings | - 8 | - 15 | 7 | 85.6 | -1 | 21 | -21 | - 3,995.7 | - 76 | -46 | -30 | -40 |
| Housing Premises | - 0 | -2 | 2 | - | -9 | -8 | -1 | - 15.3 | - 8 | - 8 | - | - 10 |
| Support - Central Offices | 30 | 22 | 7 | 25.1 | 313 | 307 | 7 | 2.1 | 405 | 405 | - | 385 |
| Support - Central Offices - Facilities | 21 | 17 | 4 | 17.6 | 116 | 100 | 16 | 14.0 | 261 | 261 | - | 239 |
| Support - Contact Centre | 35 | 35 | 0 | 1.1 | 200 | 185 | 14 | 7.1 | 414 | 414 | - | 379 |
| Support - General Admin | 11 | 20 | - 10 | -89.6 | 115 | 101 | 14 | 12.0 | 257 | 269 | -12 | 235 |
| Support - Human Resources | 22 | 20 | 1 | 5.9 | 122 | 121 | 1 | 0.5 | 251 | 256 | -5 | 209 |
| Support - IT | 55 | 20 | 35 | 63.7 | 454 | 427 | 27 | 5.9 | 778 | 778 | - | 685 |
| Support - Local Offices | 29 | 29 | 0 | 0.9 | 54 | 53 | 1 | 1.2 | 55 | 55 | - | 52 |
| Support - Nursery | - | 0 | - 0 | - | - | 1 | -1 | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Support - Property Function | 6 | 7 | -1 | -19.2 | 33 | 47 | -13 | -40.1 | 70 | 70 | - | 72 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Corporate Support | 320 | 279 | 41 | 12.8 | 1,714 | 1,661 | 53 | 3.1 | 3,103 | 3,145 | -42 | 2,808 |

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Appendix A


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## Agenda Item 11



Agenda Item 11

| 3. Net Service Expenditure for each Chief Officer - analysed by Budget area |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Period | Period | Period | Period | Y-T-D | Y-T-D | Y-T-D | Y-T-D | Annual | Annual | Annual | 2012/13 |
| September 13 - Final | Budget | Actual | Variance | Variance | Budget | Actual | Variance | Variance | Budget | Forecast (including Accruals) | Variance | Actual |
| Legal and Governance | £'000 | £'000 | $£^{\prime} 000$ | \% | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | \% | £'000 | $£^{\prime} 000$ | £'000 | £'000 |
| Administrative Expenses - Legal and Governance | 3 | 2 | 1 | 32.2 | 40 | 26 | 14 | 35.1 | 73 | 61 | 12 | 67 |
| Civic Expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 14 | 14 | 0 | 1.8 | 15 | 15 | - | 13 |
| Committee Admin | 9 | 9 | 0 | 4.8 | 52 | 50 | 2 | 3.7 | 106 | 106 | - | 93 |
| Elections | 7 | 1 | 7 | 92.0 | 79 | 78 | 2 | 2.2 | 71 | 71 | - | 65 |
| Register of Electors | 7 | 11 | - 5 | - 70.6 | 59 | 29 | 30 | 51.1 | 135 | 135 | - | 117 |
| Support - Legal Function | 18 | 15 | 3 | 15.8 | 108 | 103 | 5 | 4.7 | 216 | 216 | - | 237 |
| Total Legal and Governance | 44 | 38 | 7 | 14.7 | 353 | 299 | 53 | 15.1 | 616 | 604 | 12 | 593 |

Appendix A


DIRECT SERVICES SUMMARY

|  | PERIOD |  |  |  | Y-T-D |  |  |  | ANNUAL |  |  | Y-T-D NET VARIANCE |  |  | ANNUAL NET VARIANCE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sep-13 | Budget | Actual | Actual / Budget | Variance | Budget | Actual | Actual / <br> Budget | Variance | Budget | Forecast | Variance | Net Budget by Service | Net Actual by Service | Variance by Service | Net Budget by Service | Net Actual by Service | Variance by SDice |
|  | £'000 | £'000 | \% | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | \% | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | 200 |
| Income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (1) |
| Refuse | -184 | -184 | 0\% |  | -1,098 | -1,103 | 0\% | 4 | -2,197 | -2,197 |  | 27 | -13 | 39 | 53 | 3 | Q. 50 |
| Street Cleaning | -96 | -97 | 1\% | 1 | -578 | -580 | 0\% | 2 | -1,157 | -1,157 |  | 21 | 6 | 15 | 43 | 23 | 文 20 |
| Trade | -26 | -26 | -1\% |  | -208 | -208 | 0\% |  | -364 | -360 | -4 | -43 | -48 | 5 | -35 | -35 |  |
| Workshop | -44 | -64 | 45\% | 20 | -266 | -306 | 15\% | 40 | -531 | -570 | 39 | -5 | -31 | 26 | -10 | -10 |  |
| Green Waste | -48 | -32 | -33\% | -16 | -276 | -286 | 4\% | 11 | -408 | -440 | 32 | -100 | -110 | 10 | -70 | -70 |  |
| Premises Cleaning | -7 | -7 | 0\% |  | -66 | -66 | 1\% | 1 | -108 | -108 |  | -14 | -13 | -1 | -5 | 4 | -9 |
| Cesspools | -21 | -23 | 11\% | 2 | -125 | -126 | 1\% | 1 | -250 | -250 |  | -16 | -10 | -5 | -31 | -20 | -11 |
| Pest Control | -11 | -7 | -30\% | -3 | -57 | -42 | -25\% | -14 | -80 | -60 | -20 | -17 | -4 | -12 |  | 15 | -15 |
| Grounds | -10 | -11 | 5\% | 1 | -62 | -62 | 1\% | 1 | -126 | -126 |  | -1 | 11 | -12 | -11 | 6 | -17 |
| Fleet | -66 | -63 | -5\% | -3 | -397 | -385 | -3\% | -13 | -795 | -795 |  |  | -8 | 8 |  |  |  |
| Depot | -17 | -21 | 18\% | 3 | -111 | -130 | 17\% | 19 | -274 | -280 | 6 | 19 | -5 | 24 | 2 | -4 | 6 |
| Emergency | -4 | -4 | 0\% |  | -24 | -24 | 0\% |  | -48 | -48 |  | 1 | -2 | 3 | 2 |  | 2 |
| Total Income | -536 | -539 | 1\% | 4 | -3,268 | -3,319 | 2\% | 51 | -6,339 | -6,391 | 52 | -129 | -227 | 98 | -64 | -88 | 25 |
| Expenditure |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Refuse | 187 | 187 | 0\% | 1 | 1,125 | 1,090 | 3\% | 35 | 2,250 | 2,200 | 50 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Street Cdfaning | 100 | 97 | 3\% | 3 | 600 | 587 | 2\% | 13 | 1,200 | 1,180 | 20 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Trade | 27 | 24 | 13\% | 4 | 165 | 160 | 3\% | 5 | 329 | 325 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Worksh $\square^{\text {P }}$ | 43 | 52 | -19\% | -8 | 260 | 275 | -6\% | -15 | 521 | 560 | -39 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Green W\&apte | 36 | 28 | 21\% | 7 | 175 | 176 | 0\% | -1 | 338 | 370 | -32 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Premisesteleaning | 9 | 7 | 21\% | 2 | 52 | 53 | -3\% | -2 | 103 | 112 | -9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cesspools | 18 | 20 | -8\% | -2 | 109 | 116 | -6\% | -6 | 219 | 230 | -11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pest Control | 7 | 7 | 0\% |  | 40 | 38 | 5\% | 2 | 80 | 75 | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grounds | 10 | 12 | -17\% | -2 | 60 | 73 | -21\% | -13 | 114 | 132 | -18 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fleet | 66 | 55 | 17\% | 12 | 397 | 377 | 5\% | 20 | 795 | 795 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Depot | 20 | 16 | 21\% | 4 | 130 | 125 | 4\% | 5 | 276 | 276 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Emergency | 4 | 4 | 10\% |  | 25 | 22 | 13\% | 3 | 50 | 48 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | D |
| Total Expenditure | 528 | 508 | 4\% | 21 | 3,139 | 3,092 | 2\% | 47 | 6,275 | 6,303 | -28 |  |  |  |  |  | O |
| Net | -8 | -32 | 317\% | 24 | -129 | -227 | 76\% | 98 | -64 | -88 | 25 |  |  |  |  |  | ح |

Appendix A
Agenda Item 11
STAFFING STATISTICS

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | BDGT BOOK | STAFF | AGENCY | CASUAL | TOTAL | COMMENTS / VARIATIONS | AUGUST |
|  | FTE REV | FTE | STAFF | FTE |  |  | TOTALS |
| Communities and Business | 8.54 | 8.00 | 0.00 | 0.67 | 8.67 |  | 11.88 |
| Corporate Support | 58.03 | 56.12 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 56.12 | Now includes Contact Centre, Human Resources, Secretariat and Property | 38.07 , |
| Environmental \& Operational Services | 159.18 | 146.57 | 12.12 | 0.60 | 159.29 |  | 162.12 |
| Operational Services | 115.77 | 106.16 | 12.12 | 0.60 | 118.88 | Includes Grounds Maintenance, plus D.Boorman | 126.59 |
| Env Health | 12.57 | 12.57 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12.57 |  | 13.57 |
| Licensing | 8.81 | 7.81 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 7.81 |  | 9.35 |
| Parking | 12.61 | 12.61 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12.61 | Still includes R.Froud (Should be Op Services) | 12.61 |
| Surveying Services | 9.42 | 7.42 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 7.42 | Was Building Control, now includes Land Charges | 6.81 |
| Financial Services | 63.46 | 60.93 | 5.00 | 0.72 | 66.65 | Includes P.Ramewal, plus Transformation \& Strategy. No longer includes Human Resources, Contact Centre or Property. All now in Corporate Support | 64.65 |
| Housing | 11.89 | 12.24 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 12.24 | No longer includes Communications | 12.24 |
| Legal and Governance | 11.92 | 11.31 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 11.31 | No longer includes 'Policy' - now Fin Serv or 'Land Charges' - now Surveying Services | 14.73 |
| Planning Services | 47.19 | 48.07 | 2.00 | 0.00 | 50.07 |  | 51.10 |
| Posts Removed under SMT Review | 3.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SUB TOTAL | 363.21 | 343.24 | 19.12 | 1.99 | 364.35 |  | 378.12 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| EYTERNALLY FUNDED POSTS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6̧mmunities and Business | 2.54 | 3.54 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3.54 | Includes Graduate Trainee Economic Development Officer | 2.54 |
| (tousing | 6.00 | 4.49 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 4.49 | 1 post is part funded by SDC (see Housing permanent posts). | 4.49 |
| (1) SUB TOTAL | 8.54 | 8.03 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8.03 |  | 7.03 |
| UOTALS | 371.75 | 351.27 | 19.12 | 1.99 | 372.38 |  | 385.15 |
| Number of staff paid in September: 383 permanent, 8 casuals |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Reserves

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { 01/04/13 } \\ £ 000 \end{gathered}$ | Movement in month $£ 000$ | Cumulative to date $£ 000$ | Balance as at end September 13 $£ 000$ | 31/3/14 <br> budget <br> £000 | 31/3/14 forecast £000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Provisions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Edenbridge Relief Road Compensation | 0 |  |  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Accumulated Absences | 152 |  |  | 152 | 152 | 152 |
| Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI) | 305 |  |  | 305 | 211 | 305 |
| Others | 34 |  |  | 34 | 0 | 0 |
|  | 491 | 0 | 0 | 491 | 363 | 457 |
| Capital Receipts(Gross) | 1,693 | -6 | 2,172 | 3,865 | 2,915 | 3,567 |
| Note: this balance will reduce at year end as the receipts are used to finance capital expenditure |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Earmarked Reserves |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Financial Plan | 5,224 |  |  | 5,224 | 4,635 | 4,644 |
| Budget Stabilisation | 4,051 |  | 1 | 4,052 | 4,703 | 5,223 |
| New Homes Bonus | 594 |  |  | 594 | 406 | 259 |
| Housing Benefit subsidy | 1,021 |  |  | 1,021 | 1,161 | 1,020 |
| Asset Maintenance | 1,000 |  |  | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| First Time Sewerage | 915 |  |  | 915 | 715 | 915 |
| Vehicle Renewal | 508 |  |  | 508 | 292 | 309 |
| Reorganisation (previously Termination) | 386 |  |  | 386 | -21 | 486 |
| LDF | 520 |  |  | 520 | 456 | 597 |
| Community Development | 460 | -8 | -17 | 443 | 470 | 460 |
| Carry Forward Items | 144 | -19 | -81 | 63 | 222 | 63 |
| Action and Development | 395 |  |  | 395 | 295 | 395 |
| Vehicle Insurance | 277 |  |  | 277 | 287 | 277 |
| Pension Valuation | 810 |  |  | 810 | 1,018 | 1,200 |
| Big Community Fund | 110 |  |  | 110 | 0 | 0 |
| Rent Deposit Guarantees | 112 |  |  | 112 | 82 | 112 |
| Local Strategic Partnership | 76 |  |  | 76 | 82 | 76 |
| Homelessness Prevention | 197 |  | -20 | 177 | 134 | 197 |
| IT Asset Maintenance | 315 |  |  | 315 | 0 | 0 |
| Others | 516 | 1 | 9 | 525 | 432 | 625 |
|  | 17,631 | -26 | -108 | 17,523 | 16,369 | 17,858 |
| General Fund |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Required Minimum | 1,500 |  |  |  | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Available Balance | 2,213 |  |  |  | 2,213 | 2,213 |
|  | 3,713 |  |  |  | 3,713 | 3,713 |
| TOTAL | 23,528 |  |  |  | 23,360 | 25,595 |


| Period | Period Actual | Period Variance | Period | Y-T-D Budget | Y-T-D Actual | Y-T-D Variance | Y-T-D | Annual Budget | Annual Forecast (including Accruals) | Annual Variance |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| £'000 | $£^{\prime} 000$ | £'000 | \% | $£^{\prime} 000$ | £'000 | $£^{\prime} 000$ | \% | $£^{\prime} 000$ | £'000 | $£^{\prime} 000$ |
| - | 3 | - 3 | - | - | 25 | - 25 | - | - | - | - |
| 15 | - | 15 | 100.0 | 31 | - | 31 | 100.0 | 61 | 61 | - |
| 15 | - | 15 | 100.0 | 194 | 99 | 95 | 49.1 | 650 | 650 | - |
| 29 | 19 | 10 | 34.5 | 176 | 94 | 83 | 47.0 | 353 | 353 | - |
| 21 | 14 | 7 | 34.2 | 125 | 64 | 61 | 48.8 | 250 | 250 | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - 2 | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | 6 | - 6 | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | 24 | -24 | - | - | - | - |
| - | 125 | - 125 | - | - | 342 | - 342 | - | - | - | - |
| 81 | 160 | -80 | -99.3 | 526 | 656 | -130 | -24.7 | 1,314 | 1,314 | - |




10 Car Parks Graphs


CAR PARKS (CUMULATIVE)



Reports 10_On-Street Enforcement Graphs


ON-STREET PARKING (HWDCRIM / HWENFORC)

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ITEM 10

## Page 78



10 Land Charges Graphs

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10 Building Control Graphs


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## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2013/14 - TO THE END OF SEPTEMBER 2013

Finance and Resources Advisory Committee - 12 November 2013
Report of Group Manager Financial Services

Status: For consideration

Key Decision: No

This report supports the Key Aim of Effective Management of Council Resources

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Ramsey
Contact Officer(s) Helen Martin Ext. 7483

Recommendation to Finance and Resources Advisory Committee: That the report be noted.

## Introduction and Background

1. This report presents figures on seven internally set performance indicators covering activities that support information provided in the regular financial monitoring statements.
2. Information is provided on targets for the financial year, and figures for the previous year are given for comparison.
3. Use of these indicators assists management in highlighting areas where performance has an impact on financial outturn for the authority.

## Key Implications

## Financial

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

Under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Section 151 officer has statutory duties in relation to the financial administration and stewardship of the authority.

## Agenda Item 12

## Equality Impacts

Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty:

| Question | Answer | Explanation / Evidence |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| a.Does the decision being made <br> or recommended through this <br> paper have potential to <br> disadvantage or discriminate <br> against different groups in the <br> community? | No | The recommendation is concerned with <br> sound control of the Councils finances and <br> does not directly impact on services <br> provided to the community |
| b.Does the decision being made <br> or recommended through this <br> paper have the potential to <br> promote equality of <br> opportunity? | No |  |
| c.What steps can be taken to <br> mitigate, reduce, avoid or <br> minimise the impacts <br> identified above? |  | No mitigating steps are required |

## Appendices

Appendix A - Performance Indicators - September 2013

## Adrian Rowbotham

Chief Finance Officer

Finance \& Resources Advisory Committee Finance Indicators 2013/14 as at end September 2013







Graph 7 - Sundry debts over 61 days


Finance \& Resources Advisory Committee Work Plan 2013/14

| 12 November 2013 | 21 January 2014 | June 2014 | September 2014 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Capita Asset Services <br> Treasury Management Statutory Report <br> Review of Service Plans/SCIAs <br> Members' IT Working Group - <br> Feedback <br> Shared Services <br> Financial Performance Indicators 2013/14 - to the end of September 2013 <br> Financial Results 2013/14 - to the end of September 2013 | Treasury Management Strategy 2014/15 <br> White Oak Leisure Centre <br> Financial Performance Indicators 2013/14 - to the end of November 2013 <br> Financial Results 2013/14 - to the end of November 2013 | Provisional Outturn 2013/14 and Carry Forward Requests <br> White Oak Leisure Centre <br> Financial Performance Indicators 2013/14 - to the end of March 2014 <br> Provisional Outturn 2013/14 and Carry Forward Requests | Annual Treasury Management <br> Report 2012/13 <br> Financial Performance Indicators 2014/15 - to the end of July 2014 <br> Financial Results 2013/14 - to the end of July 2013 |

