

	Budget to date	Forecast	Actual to P6	Variance to date	Total Annual Forecast	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (<i>starred items</i>)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	Variance	
People & Places						
Domestic Abuse Duty	0	0	-24	-24	0 *	Home Office funding received in advance to support post salary and project budget.
Gypsy Sites	-3	17	-2	1	20	Predicted under recovery in rents from vacant plots. Work being undertaken to refurbish 3 pitches and award new tenancies by October 2023, recovering some of the rental income.
Homeless	341	325	412	71	-16 *	Underspend on vacant posts, which are currently being recruited to.
Housing Energy Retraining Options (HERO)	28	16	-18	-46	-12 *	Salary underspend due to vacant posts- HERO Housing Team Leader.
Homes for the Ukrainians	21	21	-718	-740	0 *	Funding received in advance from Kent County Council.
KCC- Household Support Fund	0	0	89	89	0 *	KCC allocated funding. Phase 4 of the Household Support Fund has been drawn down allocated to low-income households/pensioners to support the cost of living.
Leisure Contract	-152	-187	-190	-38	-35 *	Quarterly management fee for White Oak Leisure Centre invoiced in advance of profile.
Leisure Contract - Interim	0	1,338	311	311	1,338 *	Impact of the interim leisure contract (asset purchase, mobilisation costs funded in advance).
Police & Crime Commissioners (PCCs)	0	0	-27	-27	0 *	Funding received in advance from Police and Crime Commissioner.
Private Sector Housing	101	55	64	-36	-46 *	Salary underspend due to vacant posts- Private Sector Housing Team Leader and Housing Standards Officer.
Rough Sleepers Initiative 2022-25	22	22	-65	-86	0 *	Rough Sleepers Initiative funding - received in advance.
Rough Sleepers Programme	0	0	-63	-63	0 *	Funding received in advance from Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme.
One You - Kent Public Health	0	0	-28	-28	0 *	Funding received from Dartford, Gravesham & Swanley Health and Care Partnership pending new coding.
Housing and Health Project	12	12	0	-12	0 *	Externally funded project now subject to project evaluation and closure. Final costs to be determined as part of this work.
Homelessness Funding	-328	-328	-626	-297	0 *	Additional homelessness prevention grant funding received in advance towards temporary accommodation, staffing and prevention toolkit.

Future Issues/Risk Areas

Although new placements into Temporary and Emergency Accommodation continue to decrease, securing affordable move on accommodation in the district for existing placements, continues to impact the budget. The acquisition by Quercus Housing of Gladedale House in Westerham, 27-29 High Street and 11-13 High Street, Swanley has brought forward 41 new affordable homes in the the district. The Council has worked with the Heart Foundation to secure the lease of a rental property (Stay Green House) in the district. The Out of Area Placement Policy and revised Housing Allocation Scheme were approved by Council in 2022.

A future pressure on homelessness may be seen as host placements end as part Govt's Homes for Ukraine Scheme, alongside the Afghan Resettlement Scheme. Additional funding for homelessness pressures arising from the Homes for Ukraine Scheme has been allocated by KCC, which could potentially contribute to temporary accommodation costs. Capital funding has also be allocated by DLUHC to the Council for the delivery of affordable housing to support refugee schemes over the next 2 years.

As a result of closure order on the Hever Road Gypsy and Traveller site due to criminal damage, rents and HB reclaims has reduced due to x7 tenancy evictions. A new Allocations Policy is due to be approved in July and funding has been secured to bring x3 of the most damaged pitches and utility blocks back into use by late Autumn 2023.

The rising cost of living is impacting households in the district and we are starting to see homeless presentations from working households, who are unable to afford rising rental costs, utility and food costs. This is starting to impact our temporary and emergency accommodation placements, which rising after a period of stability.

	Budget to date	Forecast Outturn	Actual to P6	Variance to date	Total Annual Forecast Variance	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (<i>starred items</i>)
	<p>Although the council is predicting to come in on budget for this current financial year for emergency accommodation spend due to a combination of external funding, increased homelessness prevention and the delivery of new homes by Quercus Housing to alleviate homelessness pressures, it should continue to be highlighted as a potential risk, as the cost of living pressures continues to impact many households, resulting in increased homelessness and demand for emergency accommodation.</p>					
	<p>Impact of the interim leisure contract as part of an open book facility with Everyone Active continues to be monitored. A budget of £1.83m was agreed by Council in April 2023 for a 2 year period, which will need to be repaid. Currently £1.3m is the estimated cost for year 1, which has been forecast. It should be noted that in Quarter 1, the Council needed to negotiate the transfer of utilities (electricity and gas), following Sencio's administration. The utility provider held the Council on a standard tariff whilst it undertook the transfer of the utility contracts from Sencio, with this additional cost being borne by the Council.</p>					

	Budget to date	Forecast	Actual to P6	Variance to date	Total Annual	
	£'000	Outturn	£'000	£'000	Forecast	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (<i>starred items</i>)
		£'000		£'000	Variance	
Assistant Chief Executive						
Corporate Management	499	463	481	-18	-36 *	Underspend on salaries and external services
Corporate - Other	57	7	0	-57	-50 *	Additional savings generated from vacant posts exceeding budget.
Elections	47	47	277	230	0 *	Costs of the May 2023 elections to be partially recharged to Town & Parish Councils. District costs to be met from earmarked elections reserve
Register of Electors	134	134	111	-23	0 *	Underspend in relation to current spend on annual canvass.
Support - General Admin (Print Shop)	37	72	57	20	35 *	Underachieved income slightly offset by an underspend on vacant post and materials. Underachieved income from internal print charges off-set by corresponding underspends in service internal print budgets.

	Budget to date	Forecast Outturn	Actual to P6	Variance to date	Total Annual Forecast Variance	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (<i>starred items</i>)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Customer & Resources						
Asset Maintenance IT	140	140	95	-45	0	* As per long term asset maintenance plan.
Benefits Admin	112	91	119	7	-21	Salary underspend.
Dartford Rev&Ben Partnership Hub (SDC costs)	1,031	1,031	1,224	194	0	* Additional software costs to be covered by reserve. Additional resource to be partly funded by Dartford BC.
Land Charges	-22	19	-5	17	41	* Forecast underachievement on income of around £68k partially offset by a draw on previous grants received
Local Tax	-95	-93	-242	-148	1	* New Burdens funding ahead of spend for government new service implementation.
Administrative Expenses - Legal and Democratic	45	45	33	-12	0	* Forecast underspend on printing
Support - Contact Centre	426	375	395	-30	-51	* Underspend on salaries due to staff turnover
Support - Central Offices - Facilities	120	118	89	-31	-2	* Underspend due to invoices due from previous cleaning contract and currently vacant posts
Support - General Admin (Post/Scanning)	126	64	65	-60	-62	* Forecast EOY position due to underspend on salaries coupled with corporate economy of scale on postage

Future Issues/Risk Areas

Likely underachievement on enforcement income currently under review. Agreed currently as offset from reserves.

	Budget to date	Forecast Outturn	Actual to P6	Variance to date	Total Annual Forecast Variance	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (starred items)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Finance & Trading						
Asset Maintenance CCTV	10	-5	1	-9	-15	No further spend required on CCTV at the depot.
Car Parks	-859	-1,121	-940	-81	-262	* Day tickets charge income is exceeding budget. Utilities bills higher than budget.
CCTV	144	214	198	54	70	* Increased staffing costs to cover vacancies and training. Transmission cost savings not yet implemented due to market conditions. Cost review with BT (Supplier) underway.
Dartford Audit Partnership Hub (SDC Costs)	118	118	100	-18	0	* Underspend on salaries due to vacancy.
Car Parking - On Street	-245	-245	-257	-12	0	* On Street day tickets and penalties notices exceeding budget.
Refuse Collection	137	643	422	285	507	* High quantities of waste and recycling still continue. Increased agency and salary costs to cover sickness and annual leave.
Trade Waste	-96	107	46	142	203	* Income forecast lower than budget. Waste disposal charges per tonne have significantly increased.
Green Waste	-153	-39	-76	78	114	* Income expected to be lower than budget. Underspend on vacant posts due to be filled offset by agency costs.
Street Cleansing _ Operational	2	-88	-52	-55	-90	* Lower fixed transport costs and increased recharges for services, along with lower repair costs. A grant of £25k received for The Gum Project.
Transport Workshop	79	78	60	-20	-1	* Underspend on salaries due to vacancy.
Cesspool Emptying	-40	41	9	49	81	* Lower demand for service than budget assumption. Service making a loss.
Pest Control	-20	28	-3	17	48	* Lower demand for service than budget assumption. Service making a loss.
Fly Tipping	-23	9	2	24	32	* Service requiring major repairs to vehicles.
Fleet	-74	-82	-101	-26	-8	* Underspend due to a subsidised levy on testing HGV vehicles. This ended on 1st August 2023. Full costs are now being paid.
Depots	-34	28	-9	25	61	* Internal recharges relating to work orders from other departments lower than budget. Also income reduction.
Emergency - Operational	-14	-27	-22	-8	-13	Lower fixed transport costs due to keeping vehicle and equipment longer.
Emergency	41	30	36	-6	-11	Standby has been quiet through the summer, but we are entering winter preparedness which may see an increase in standby spend.
Parking Enforcement - Tandridge DC	0	-8	-21	-21	-8	* Work relating to 2022/23 still continuing for Tandridge DC for a fee. Income collected relating to 2022/23 to be paid over.
Markets	-231	-154	-193	38	78	* Contracts renewed in April 2023. Swanley Sunday market is not currently achieving target levels but being reviewed with the operator on a regular basis.
Members	246	232	232	-13	-14	* Underspends seen on members expenses and training.
Misc. Finance	605	585	589	-17	-20	* Underspend on Covid 19 related cleaning materials.
Off-Street Enforcement	30	-2	5	-25	-32	* Forecast to overachieve on penalty notice income.
Parks - Greensand Commons Project	0	0	26	26	0	* Externally funded project. Spend will be reclaimed.
Parks and Recreation Grounds	71	55	55	-16	-16	* Repairs and maintenance charges lower than budget.

	Budget to date	Forecast Outturn	Actual to P6	Variance to date	Total Annual Forecast Variance	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (<i>starred items</i>)
Parks - Rural	94	96	84	-10	2 *	Tree works on Oakhill Rd required due to the Development Management Committee refusal. (£20k) This is offset by an underspend on a vacant post.
Administrative Expenses - Finance	12	20	27	15	8 *	Additional expenditure on consultancy to assist with system enhancements.
Street Cleansing	784	810	793	8	25	Underachieved income.
Support - Audit Function	101	89	109	7	-13	SDC share of the combined partnership underspend.
Support - Exchequer and Procurement	115	104	106	-8	-11	Underspend on salaries.
Support - Direct Services	29	39	38	10	11	Higher postage costs and staff advertising for vacant posts attributed to adverse forecast.

Future Issues/Risk Areas

Government changes to refuse collection and funding 2024/25

	Budget to date	Forecast	Actual to P6	Variance to date	Total Annual Forecast	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (<i>starred items</i>)
	£'000	Outturn £'000	£'000	£'000	Variance	
Planning & Regulatory Services						
Building Control Non Fee	42	72	53	12	30 *	Forecast salary overspend to be offset by line below.
Building Control Fee	-110	-136	-119	-9	-26	Salary underspend due to staff vacancy. Fee inspection income slightly ahead of profile.
Environmental Health Services	398	418	385	-14	20 *	Hub expenditure currently behind budget profile. Forecast underachievement on Animal Licence Fees and forecast over expenditure on Air Quality Station maintenance and additional staffing costs.
Licensing Partnership Hub (Trading)	-0	-0	-14	-14	0 *	Hub expenditure currently behind budget profile.
Licensing Regime	31	17	19	-12	-14 *	Forecast salary underspend.
Local Development Plan	0	0	46	46	0 *	Spend to be funded from Local Development Plan reserve.
Planning - Appeals	119	236	189	70	116 *	Expenditure on Hearings and Public Inquiries, including significant spend on Oakhill Rd, a Member overturn of an Officer recommendation.
Planning - CIL Administration	25	45	26	1	20	Forecast unachievement on CIL Admin fees.
Planning - Development Management	-45	83	56	101	129 *	Additional software costs and increased staff costs.
Planning - Enforcement	157	206	220	63	50 *	Additional staffing costs due to contractors covering vacant posts.
Administrative Expenses - Planning Services	27	27	38	11	0 *	Recruitment advertising cost.

Future Issues/Risk Areas

There remains the risk that planning decisions and enforcement action will be challenged, either at appeal or through the Courts.
 Planning income is down on last year, reflecting pressures in the wider economy.

	Budget to date	Forecast Outturn	Actual to P6	Variance to date	Total Annual Forecast Variance	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (<i>starred items</i>)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Strategic Head Commercial and Property						
Asset Maintenance Leisure	99	99	11	-88	0	* Budget being treated as an emergency fund due to age of assets.
Asset Maintenance Support & Salaries	50	50	23	-27	0	* Spend currently behind profile.
Economic Development	31	31	20	-11	0	* Current underspend on services.
Swanley Meeting Point	30	51	61	31	21	* Overspend on salaries partly offset by underspends on services.
Economic Development Property	317	257	264	-54	-60	* Underspend on salaries due to be filled.
UK Share Prosperity Fund	0	0	-139	-139	0	* Grant received ahead of spend.
Estates Management - Buildings	16	66	39	23	50	* Overspend forecast due to sinkhole at Shurlock Avenue risk management.
Housing Other Income	-7	-42	-38	-31	-35	* Overachieved income.
Support - Central Offices	428	457	407	-21	29	* Forecast an overspend on utilities. Delay in receiving utilities invoices show a favourable variance against budget.
Tourism	8	8	-140	-147	0	* Grant received ahead of spend.
West Kent Enterprise Advisor Network	0	0	14	14	0	* Spend on website development and branding to be funded from reserves.

Future Issues/Risk Areas

	Budget to date £'000	Forecast Outturn £'000	Actual to P6 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (<i>starred items</i>)
Strategic Head Commercial and Property						
Property Investment Strategy	-1,127	-960	-991	136	167 *	Reduction in rent at 96 High St offset by rental income from Sackville House and The Premier Inn. Historic rental income levels are not achievable.

Future Issues/Risk Areas