

People and Places	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of January 24 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Domestic Abuse Duty	0	-11	-11	0	Home Office funding received in advance to support post salary and project budget. Post recently became vacant and has since been recruited to, with the postholder starting on 19 February 2024. Part of this funding will support increased temporary accommodation as a result of domestic abuse.
Leisure Contract	-250	-302	-52	-188	Quarterly management fee for White Oak Leisure Centre Quarters 1 and 2 paid, Quarter 3 raised and to be paid. Funding received in advance from successful bid to Swimming Pool Support Fund (Revenue) to support utility costs.
Leisure Contract - Interim	0	931	931	1,338	Impact of the interim leisure contract (Asset purchase, mobilisation, quarterly management fee and utilities).
Police & Crime Commissioners (PCCs)	0	-44	-44	0	Funding received in advance from Police and Crime Commissioner. On track to spend in full.
Tourism	26	-113	-139	0	Grant received ahead of spend.
Future Issues/Risk Areas					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.

Development and Conservation	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of January 24 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Building Control Non Fee	58	83	26	32	Forecast salary overspend due to pay award.
Building Control Fee	-183	-134	49	49	Forecast overspend due to the above and agency staff required due to staff vacancies.
Local Development Plan	0	188	188	0	Spend to be funded from Local Development Plan reserve.
Planning - Appeals	172	310	138	139	Expenditure on Hearings and Public Inquiries, including significant spend following an appeal hearing on Oakhill Rd
Planning - CIL Administration	-17	-10	7	20	Forecast unachievement on CIL Admin fees.
Planning - Development Management	-76	3	80	132	Incremental expenditure on software subscriptions for delivery of the service. Planning income behind budgeted profile.
Planning - Enforcement	271	392	120	120	Additional staffing costs due to contractors covering vacant posts.
Administrative Expenses - Planning Services	44	81	38	39	Recruitment advertising cost and training costs.
Future Issues/Risk Areas					There remains the risk that planning decisions and enforcement action will be challenged, either at appeal or through the Courts. Recruiting to vacant posts continues to be difficult.

Finance and Investment	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of January 24 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Asset Maintenance CCTV	16	4	-12	-15	No further spend required on CCTV at the depot.
Dartford Rev&Ben Partnership Hub (SDC costs)	1,719	1,829	109	0	Additional software costs to be covered by reserve. Additional resource to be partly funded by Dartford BC.
Dartford Audit Partnership Hub (SDC Costs)	196	157	-39	0	Underspend on salaries due to vacancy.
Local Tax	-41	-185	-143	-63	New Burdens funding ahead of spend for government new service implementation.
Misc. Finance	1,061	1,003	-58	-56	Balance of carry forwards not utilised in 2023/24. Also underspend on Covid 19 related cleaning materials.
Administrative Expenses - Finance	15	30	15	14	Additional expenditure on consultancy to implement Direct Debits
Support - Legal Function	243	271	28	21	Forecast overspend due to cost of specialist advice
Future Issues/Risk Areas					

Cleaner and Greener	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of January 24 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Asset Maintenance Argyle Road	68	35	-34	0	Spend currently behind profile.
Asset Maintenance Leisure	165	94	-70	0	Budget being treated as an emergency fund due to age of assets.
Asset Maintenance Support & Salaries	83	39	-44	4	Spend currently behind profile.
Car Parks	-1,680	-1,893	-213	-251	Day tickets charge income is exceeding budget but season tickets income is underachieving. Utilities bills higher than budget.
CCTV	245	320	74	81	Increased staffing costs to cover vacancies and training. Transmission cost savings not yet implemented due to market conditions. Cost review with BT (Supplier) underway.
Car Parking - On Street	-408	-446	-38	0	On Street day tickets exceeding budget.
Refuse Collection - Operational	218	703	485	560	High quantities of waste and recycling still continue. Increased agency and salary costs to cover sickness and annual leave, along with the 2023/24 pay award effect.
Trade Waste	-131	142	274	316	Income forecast lower than budget. Waste disposal charges per tonne have significantly increased.
Green Waste	-63	66	130	156	Income expected to be lower than budget. Underspend on vacant posts, offset by agency costs.
Street Cleansing - Operational	7	-24	-32	-43	Lower transport costs and increased recharges for services, along with lower repair costs.
Transport Workshop	53	80	27	43	Reduced income on repairs due to investment of new vehicles, offset by reduced expenditure across the services.
Cesspool Emptying	-77	4	80	90	Lower demand for service than budget assumption. Service making a loss.
Pest Control	-39	5	43	49	Lower demand for service than budget assumption. Service making a loss.
Fly Tipping	-38	-6	32	36	Service requiring major repairs to vehicles.
Fleet	-124	-158	-34	-44	Underspend due to a subsidised levy on testing HGV vehicles. This ended on 1st August 2023. Full costs are now being paid. Fleet servicing recharge lower due to the leasing of new vehicles.
Depots	-57	0	57	60	Internal recharges relating to work orders from other departments lower than budget. Also income reduction.
Emergency - Operational	-23	-37	-14	-14	Lower transport costs due to keeping vehicle and equipment longer.
Emergency	69	60	-9	-12	Standby has been quieter than usual this year so far.
Parking Enforcement - Tandridge DC	-1	-38	-37	-8	Work relating to 2022/23 still continuing for Tandridge DC for a fee. Income collected relating to 2022/23 to be paid over.
Housing Other Income	-12	-41	-29	-27	Overachieved income.
Markets	-380	-322	58	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.
Off-Street Enforcement	51	14	-36	-48	Forecast for higher penalty notice income.
Parks - Greensand Commons Project	0	26	26	0	Externally funded project. Spend will be reclaimed.

Cleaner and Greener	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of January 24 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Parks and Recreation Grounds	118	103	-15	-15	Repairs and maintenance charges lower than budget.
Parks - Rural	157	187	29	34	Tree works on Oakhill Rd required due to extended SDC ownership following the Development Management Committee refusal. (£20k). Works to Mill Pond also contributing to the adverse forecast.
Refuse Collection	2,394	2,382	-11	-10	Income expected to exceed budgets.
Street Cleansing	1,307	1,323	16	21	Underachieved income.
Support - Central Offices - Facilities	199	174	-25	-23	Underspend due to invoices due from previous cleaning contract and current vacant posts
Support - General Admin (Post/Scanning)	201	131	-70	-50	Forecast EOY position due to underspend on salaries coupled with corporate economy of scale on postage
Future Issues/Risk Areas					Government changes to refuse collection and funding. Waste and recycling weight levels.

Housing and Health	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of January 24 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Homeless	569	591	23	-16	Increased demand on temporary accommodation, with less than 30% Housing Benefit able to be claimed.
Housing Energy Retraining Options (HERO)	50	-3	-53	-24	Salary underspend due to vacant posts - HERO Housing Team Leader current vacant, but an external appointment from existing staff is currently covering this post.
Homes for the Ukrainians	35	-574	-609	0	Funding received in advance from Kent County Council with property checks, housing and staffing resource in place. KCC has confirmed that any underspend can be carried forward into the new financial year to support the growing pressure on our homelessness services as a result of the Homes for Ukraine scheme.
KCC- Household Support Fund	0	201	201	0	KCC allocated funding. Phase 4 of the Household Support Fund has been drawn down and allocated to low-income households/pensioners to support the cost of living.
Private Sector Housing	181	152	-28	-56	Home Upgrade Grant salary cost received in advance. Salary underspend due to vacant posts - two Senior Private Sector Housing Officers since recruited to.
Rough Sleepers Initiative 2022-25	36	-144	-180	0	Rough Sleepers Initiative funding - received in advance. On track to spend in full.
Rough Sleepers Programme	0	-85	-85	0	Funding received in advance from Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme and supporting staffing, customer support and accommodation support at Vine Court Road and Orchard Close.
One You - Kent Public Health	-20	13	33	0	Funding received from Dartford, Gravesham & Swanley Health and Care Partnership to support a recently recruited community and health projects officer. Post recruited to.
Housing and Health Project	20	0	-20	0	Externally funded project now evaluated and closed.
Homelessness Funding	-241	-228	13	0	Although demand for our homelessness services remains high, due to our approach to supporting the customer, preventing homelessness and utilising committed external funding, a zero forecast variance is expected.
Future Issues/Risk Areas					New placements into Temporary and Emergency Accommodation has started to increase as a result of the impacts of the cost of living, increased Domestic Abuse approaches and increasing rents in the private rented sector. 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 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.
					An ongoing pressure on homelessness and temporary accommodation is being seen as host placements end as part of Govt's Homes for Ukraine Scheme. Alongside pressures from other resettlement schemes, including the Afghan Resettlement Scheme is only serving to increase the pressure on homelessness and budget resources. The Council has received funding to support some costs associated with Homes for Ukraine, but this support ends on 31 March 2024. Capital funding secured by Quercus Housing via the Local Authority Housing Fund will also secure the acquisition of affordable housing to support refugee schemes - however, all funding must be spent by 31 March 2024.
					As a result of closure order on the Hever Road Gypsy and Traveller site due to criminal damage, rents and HB reclaiming has reduced due to x7 tenancy evictions. A new Allocations Policy was approved in July and funding was secured to bring x3 of the most damaged pitches and utility blocks back into use, with works being completed in November 2023 and the pitches allocated.
					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.
					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.

Improvement and Innovation	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to January 24 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Asset Maintenance IT	233	139	-94	-100	Spend as per long term asset maintenance plan incorporating 100k one off saving contribution
Corporate Management	861	851	-10	-11	Underspend on consultants services.
Corporate - Other	88	0	-88	-90	Additional savings generated from vacant posts exceeding budget.
Swanley Meeting Point	50	97	47	60	Overspend on salaries and agency costs. Underachieving income.
Economic Development Property	529	464	-65	-79	Underspend on salaries.
UK Share Prosperity Fund	0	-101	-101	0	Grant received ahead of spend.
Elections	120	308	188	3	Costs of the May 2023 elections to be partially recharged to Town & Parish Councils. District costs to be met from earmarked elections reserve
External Communications	194	209	14	13	Costs to produce and distribute quarterly InShape Magazine higher than budget.
Land Charges	-41	9	50	45	Forecast underachievement on income of around £68k partially offset by a draw on previous grants received
Register of Electors	189	189	1	26	Forecast adverse variance at year-end related to costs of postage for household notification letter, to be met from earmarked reserve
Administrative Expenses - Legal and Democratic	63	45	-18	-19	Forecast underspend due to reduction in printing and Publications
Support - Contact Centre	639	620	-19	-27	Underspend on salaries due to staff turnover
Support - General Admin (Print Shop)	44	79	36	49	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.
Support - IT	1,011	1,038	28	0	Overall end of year position forecast due to confirmation of 2023/24 contract prices
Support - Human Resources	505	480	-24	-23	Current variance due to review of training spend
Future Issues/Risk Areas					