

Appendix 1 - Revenue Monitoring Commentary Quarter 3 2023/24

Portfolio Number and Description	Cashlimit Number and Description	Current Budget £000	Actuals to date £000	Quarter 3 Published Forecast £000	Change from Previous Quarter Forecast Over / (Under) £000	2023/24 Outturn Variance Over / (Under) £000	Outturn Variance Analysis	Outturn Recovery Plan		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Leader of Council										
P04	Leader of Council	1112	Housing Delivery Vehicle	(1,000)	(936)	(1,000)	0	0	No material variance	Not applicable
P04	Leader of Council	1119	Emergency Planning	698	549	637	(49)	(61)	Vacancy management savings across the service and a favourable movement due to contract savings	Not applicable
P04	Leader of Council	1136	External Affairs & Partnerships	0	91	20	0	20	Key external subscriptions for Sustainable Communities and the Council (Key Cities and Western Gateway) where we have no budget.	Vacancy management and reduction in discretionary spend will be continue to be targeted across the Sustainable Communities department.
P04	Leader of Council			(302)	(296)	(343)	(49)	(41)		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel										
P27	Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel	1127	Environmental Monitoring (Air Pollution)	201	78	76	(14)	(125)	Favourable staffing variance due to vacancies and recovery of staff time charged to projects	Not applicable
P27	Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel	1135	Transport Planning, Policy and Sustainable Transport	403	1,103	403	0	0	No variance reported	Not applicable
P27	Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel	1137	Green Transformation	828	1,217	723	(73)	(105)	Delayed discretionary spend along with staffing underspends from late recruitment.	Not applicable
P27	Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel Total			1,432	2,398	1,202	(87)	(230)		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Council Priorities and Delivery										
P32	Council Priorities and Delivery	1047	Human Resources & Organisational Development	2,346	3,846	2,322	(40)	(24)	Underspends in corporate travel costs and vacancies held in the Health and Safety team.	Not applicable
P32	Council Priorities and Delivery	1130	Corporate Governance	1,905	1,502	1,957	8	52	The service has been at full staffing capacity throughout the year meaning the turnover saving is not expected to be delivered.	Staffing and running costs will continue to be monitored closely for the remainder of the year.
P32	Council Priorities and Delivery	1131	Corporate Strategy and Communications	4,304	1,411	4,248	(22)	(57)	Grant funding received to cover staff time working on the Homes For Ukraine Scheme.	Not applicable
P32	Council Priorities and Delivery	1132	Business Change	897	986	897	0	0	No variance reported	Not applicable
P32	Council Priorities and Delivery Total			9,452	7,744	9,423	(54)	(29)		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Resources										
P19	Resources	1032	Information Technology	5,528	5,568	5,418	(260)	(110)	Reduced telephone, licensing, server maintenance and software support spend and staffing costs.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1040	Finance	2,334	2,300	2,324	(19)	(10)	No material variance	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1041	Revenues & Benefits	2,063	3,424	2,001	(2)	(62)	Staff costs recovered through recharges to project work.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1042	Risk & Assurance Services	1,477	1,108	1,477	0	0	No variance reported	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1053	Council Solicitor & Democratic Services	2,834	2,458	2,960	(20)	126	Unmet savings target in Legal and Democratic Services.	The service will continue to mitigate the overspend through reduced external legal spend costs across Council services and staff vacancy management.
P19	Resources	1054	Hsg / Council Tax Benefits Subsidy	(195)	655	507	122	702	Ongoing budget pressure due to temporary accommodation being provided at a cost higher than the claimable subsidy.	Cost management actions to be implemented by Housing team to bring placement costs in line with subsidy.
P19	Resources	1055	Capital Financing / Interest	4,789	4,452	2,609	(1,070)	(2,180)	There is a £900k underbudget forecast on borrowing costs, mainly due to reprofiling of borrowing requirements throughout the year. In addition, there is a £970k underspend against the budget for MRP (Minimum Revenue Provision), following the final calculation of the 2023/24 charge. Income from investment interest is currently forecast to be £300k in excess of budgeted levels due to the further increases in interest rates since the budget was set. There is also a small under budget position on the Ex-Avon Debt repayments.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1056	Unfunded Pensions	1,388	903	1,388	0	0	No variance reported	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1057	Corporate Budgets including Capital, Audit and Bank Charges	(8,181)	(15,084)	(9,241)	(1,060)	(1,060)	There is additional income of £150k forecast for the Bath Spa profit share, along with £285k from a Business Rates Tariff Adjustment. Following on from allocating contingency budget to services for the 23/24 pay award, £500k remains unused and increases the underspend in this cash limit. There are higher than budgeted E-Payment costs of £30k due to the additional transactional fees and volume of transactions, and £15k on Apprenticeship Levy partially due to the higher than budgeted pay award. Other areas where lower than budgeted spend is forecast includes Audit Fees due to some of the additional work charged in 2022/23 not currently anticipated to be required in 2023/24.	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1058	Magistrates	12	5	12	0	0	No variance reported	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1059	Coroners	450	476	510	0	60	The over budget position is a result of inflationary pressures and increased costs in deceased transportation.	These costs are unavoidable and will be built into future years' budget planning
P19	Resources	1060	Environment Agency	258	258	258	0	0	No variance reported	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1061	West of England Combined Authority Levy	5,194	5,194	5,194	0	0	No variance reported	Not applicable
P19	Resources	1081	Commercial Estate	(12,619)	(13,880)	(11,886)	(121)	733	Increased fees and costs relating to the Commercial Estate (including an increase in Service Supported Borrowing costs) along with agency staff costs and unachieved income.	Service expenditure is being closely scrutinised to realise in year savings (including reduction in agency costs), whilst void properties will be readied for let as soon as possible.
P19	Resources	1118	Procurement & Commissioning	330	972	277	21	(53)	Staffing vacancies within the service.	Not applicable.
P19	Resources Total			5,662	(1,191)	3,808	(2,409)	(1,854)		

Appendix 1 - Revenue Monitoring Commentary Quarter 3 2023/24

Portfolio Number and Description	Cashlimit Number and Description	Current Budget £000	Actuals to date £000	Quarter 3 Published Forecast £000	Change from Previous Quarter Forecast Over / (Under) £000	2023/24 Outturn Variance Over / (Under) £000	Outturn Variance Analysis	Outturn Recovery Plan	
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development									
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1018	Heritage Services	(8,233)	(10,594)	(10,607)	(233)	(2,374)	Recovery from pandemic has been ahead of budget. The uplifted forecast for Roman Baths visitors from budget 888,000 to 1,000,000 remains unchanged since Quarter 2. Further improvement in the forecast at Quarter 3 is driven by the full release of revenue contingency and an increase in expired ticket revenue.	Not applicable
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1037	Property Services	612	1,403	625	35	13	No material variance	The service will continue to hold vacancies and reduce discretionary spend where possible.
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1038	Corporate Estate Including R&M	4,450	4,593	4,901	(48)	451	Ongoing un-let buildings along with an on-going target to reduce costs of £500k, and cleaning services costs are the main factors to the adverse financial position being reported. There are some small areas of underspend which mitigate the adverse position which include repairs and maintenance and improved energy costs owing to solar panel installations across the corporate office buildings.	Work is ongoing to identify potential opportunities to reduce running costs and also to attract prospective tenants into our estate.
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1039	Traded Services	0	(4)	0	0	0	No variance reported	Not applicable
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1052	Regeneration	(25)	1,499	340	337	365	The adverse forecast position is primarily relating to on-going running costs for the Old Post Office building, along with a predicted underachievement of income relating to staff recharges to projects. This is partially offset by a favourable income position on No.1 Bath Quays South.	Options with regards to funding the Old Post Office costs will be reviewed. The service will continue to reduce discretionary spend where possible and hold non-externally funded posts vacant.
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1109	World Heritage	124	111	110	(29)	(13)	No material variance	Not applicable
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1121	Events and Active Lifestyles	351	382	353	(8)	2	Pressures on events income budgets across the service. In part mitigated by stopping non essential spend	Staffing levels and expenditure being closely monitored and any savings opportunities will be realised.
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1126	Visit Bath	76	81	76	0	0	No variance reported	Not applicable
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development	1128	Business & Skills	404	645	436	22	32	Under recovery of staff time recharged to projects.	Staffing and running costs will continue to be monitored closely for the remainder of the year.
P33 Economic And Cultural Sustainable Development Total			(2,241)	(1,884)	(3,785)	74	(1,524)		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Adult Services									
P20 Adult Services	1019	Leisure	271	77	256	(218)	(15)	Footfall at leisure centres has improved allowing early repayment of covid loan by GLL.	Not applicable
P20 Adult Services	1036	Adults Substance Misuse (DAT)	69	(37)	99	30	30	Demand pressures for services and some additional staff costs.	Review of services offered and external funding sources.
P20 Adult Services	1073	Adults & Older People-Mental Health Commissioning	9,076	6,796	9,000	(76)	(76)	Small favourable balance resulting from various package movements	Not applicable
P20 Adult Services	1086	Adult Care Commissioning	1,165	504	1,066	(29)	(99)	One off savings linked to staff vacancies and impact of non essential spending freeze.	Not applicable
P20 Adult Services	1088	Older People & Physically Disabled Purchasing	12,405	8,624	12,405	0	0	No material variance	Not applicable
P20 Adult Services	1091	Learning Disabilities Commissioning	15,336	15,393	17,078	(1,273)	1,742	Continuation of significant cost increases have been experienced in Supported Living and Residential services resulting in an underlying adverse variance of £2.2m. The joint review of the funding sources within the Pooled arrangements had not delivered the expected outcome and the forecast adverse variance of £2.2m recognises this. In mitigation the budget has benefited from additional income from the Better Care Fund and MSIF (Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund) totalling 1.5m.	Supported Living schemes (w.e.f. March '24) continue to be progressed with the aim to offset expensive spot purchased packages. The Commissioning team continue to work closely with children's services reviewing expenditure on several transitions from Children's Services with the aim to drive down costs and avoid costly inappropriate placements.
P20 Adult Services	1093	Physical Disability, Hearing & Vision	3,499	2,202	3,443	21	(56)	Small favourable balance resulting from various package movements.	Not applicable
P20 Adult Services	1094	Public Health	0	1,791	0	0	0	Not applicable	Not applicable
P20 Adult Services	1110	Better Care Fund	6,781	20,482	6,782	0	0	No material variance	Not applicable
P20 Adult Services	1113	CCG B&NES CHC and FNC Payments	0	1,858	0	0	0	No material variance	Not applicable
P20 Adult Services	1114	Community Equipment	254	537	311	(25)	58	Demand pressures linked to hospital discharge are the underlying reason for budget pressure.	Application of tight control on issues and seeking external funding.
P20 Adult Services	1123	Safeguarding Adults	2,594	2,195	2,502	(92)	(92)	Small favourable balance resulting from various package movements	Not applicable
P20 Adult Services	1124	Community Resource Centres & Extra Care Income	9,162	6,055	9,075	(136)	(87)	Tight control on use of agency and strong focus on securing fee income has helped to create savings against budget.	A restructure of CRCs is underway to ensure provision of good quality services in an efficient and cost effective way.
P20 Adult Services Total			60,613	66,476	62,018	(1,798)	1,405		

Appendix 1 - Revenue Monitoring Commentary Quarter 3 2023/24

Portfolio Number and Description		Cashlimit Number and Description	Current Budget £000	Actuals to date £000	Quarter 3 Published Forecast £000	Change from Previous Quarter Forecast Over / (Under) £000	2023/24 Outturn Variance Over / (Under) £000	Outturn Variance Analysis	Outturn Recovery Plan	
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Children's Services										
P21	Children's Services	1076	Children, Young People & Families	17,748	28,811	20,897	(426)	3,149	£3.1m pressure across all demand led budget areas. This pressure occurs as follows; Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children care (UASC) £1m, Independent Foster Care £0.5m, Residential Care £0.9m . Disabled Children Care £0.7m and spend to support those not in care £0.8m, these overspends are reduced by £0.8m reduced spend versus our contingent budget for costs of the Joint Agency Pool (JAP) Care. These pressures are net of £1m in-year mitigations, and include the delivery of £1.2m budgeted transformation savings across the demand led budget areas. £1.9m demand led budget pressures continued from 22/23, due to ongoing increased demand and complexity of supporting our children and young people.	Detailed monitoring of UASC numbers and costs. Continued monitoring and scrutiny of high risk areas, predominantly demand led budgets, savings targets and agency spend. £1m in year recovery achieved in addition to £1.2m base budgeted transformation savings.
P21	Children's Services	1077	Inclusion & Prevention	2,803	1,615	2,700	(24)	(102)	Reduction in spend across the cash limit due to one off vacancies and delayed expenditure.	Not applicable.
P21	Children's Services	1078	Education Transformation	11,309	6,678	12,618	347	1,308	Main pressure £1.35m from Home to School Transport (HTST) costs; primarily due to inflationary increases.	HTST process is being reviewed end to end to ensure the most efficient and effective delivery of our statutory responsibility in a challenging market place; new routing software is being introduced. Longer term cost savings will be achieved when additional local education placements are available as part of the Safety Value Project (SEN Recovery Plan).
P21	Children's Services	1079	Schools Budgets	(1,703)	(6,736)	(1,703)	0	0	Although Dedicated School Grant (DSG) shows a balanced position, the deficit carried into this year on the balance sheet was £13.5m. The overspend of the DSG in year last year was £7.7m. This historical deficit and in year overspends are being address via the Safety Value project in conjunction with the Department for Education (DFE) over a 5 year period. In 2022/23 the first payment from the DFE of £7.68m was received and further payment in 2023/24 of £0.55m have been received. The DFE have requested a revised plan before any further payments are made as monitoring is showing an overspend greater than planned. The current in year forecast for the DSG is an overspend of £8.7m, which exceeds our planned safety valve programme position by £4.7m.	A revised Safety Valve Plan is being prepared (by March 24) and will be monitored by Department for Education, alongside B&NES.
P21	Children's Services	1116	Integrated Commissioning - CYP	2,689	2,358	2,807	(12)	118	Increased contract costs to ensure statutory services are provided.	Review of all contract and departmental costs ongoing.
P21	Children's Services	1117	Safeguarding - CYP	90	5	85	(0)	(6)	Reduction in training spend.	Not applicable.
P21	Children's Services Total			32,937	32,732	37,404	(115)	4,468		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Highways										
P34	Highways	1103	Transport & Parking Services - Parking	(8,504)	(7,732)	(9,308)	(67)	(804)	Income levels for on street and off street parking are exceeding budget across the majority of locations (£1,168k), we are seeing pressures on Bus Lane income and Penalty Charge Notice income of £301k, however this is partly mitigated by staff savings of £296k, due to vacancy Management. Overall this favourable position has been reduced due to the repayment of borrowing costs (£210k) and an under recovery of Financial Assistance Scheme Framework Income (£312k).	Not applicable
P34	Highways	1104	Public & Passenger Transport	331	3,409	36	(116)	(294)	Vacancy Management saving within passenger transport, and a small saving on rental costs and other expenditure across the service	Not applicable
P34	Highways	1129	Clean Air Zone	0	(2,580)	0	0	0	Income levels are slightly exceeding budgeted levels in part due to increased level of penalty charge notice derived income and debt recovery. Entry charge income is slightly down on original budgets but remaining fairly consistent. There is projected downturn with increased vehicle compliance, although this is less favourable to budget it is offset by increased levels of penalty charge notice income and recoveries through debt enforcement.	Not applicable
P34	Highways	1133	Network & Traffic Management	829	286	423	(92)	(406)	Forecast underspend due to staff vacancies, and increased streetworks income.	Not applicable
P34	Highways	1134	Highway Maintenance	6,488	4,190	6,554	93	66	Increased costs of winter reactive maintenance, mitigated in part due to staff vacancies.	Staffing levels and expenditure being closely monitored and any savings opportunities will be realised.
P34	Highways Total			(857)	(2,428)	(2,295)	(181)	(1,438)		

Appendix 1 - Revenue Monitoring Commentary Quarter 3 2023/24

Portfolio Number and Description	Cashlimit Number and Description	Current Budget £000	Actuals to date £000	Quarter 3 Published Forecast £000	Change from Previous Quarter Forecast Over / (Under) £000	2023/24 Outturn Variance Over / (Under) £000	Outturn Variance Analysis	Outturn Recovery Plan		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Neighbourhood Services										
P05	Neighbourhood Services	1089	Community Safety	198	167	202	(1)	4	No material variance	All discretionary spend stopped.
P05	Neighbourhood Services	1101	Neighbourhoods & Environment - Waste & Fleet Services	19,893	(137,121)	20,019	(318)	126	In year borrowing costs for Pixash Recycling Hub were under budget and in-year service expenditure savings have been delivered to partially mitigate pressures on staffing budgets, and a small pressure on recycles income due to changes in current market conditions.	Staffing levels being closely monitored and any opportunity for holding staffing posts vacant or reducing discretionary expenditure will be pursued. Planned relocation to the Pixash Depot during February should have a favourable impact on running costs, although quantification of this won't be known until the facility is occupied.
P05	Neighbourhood Services	1102	Neighbourhoods & Environment - Parks & Bereavement Services	1,869	2,002	1,997	101	128	Adverse movement for income in bereavement services due to a reduction in the death rate. Also a pressure on gas costs, this has been slightly reduced through vacancy management and in year savings. Minor movements across other areas.	Staffing levels and expenditure being closely monitored and any savings opportunities will be realised.
P05	Neighbourhood Services	1115	Registrars Service	(58)	(238)	(37)	17	22	Income targets not met as expected	All spending stopped to mitigate the reduction in forecast income
P05	Neighbourhood Services	1122	Customer Services (Including Libraries)	2,978	2,046	3,015	(24)	37	The service has been at full staffing capacity throughout the year meaning the turnover saving is not expected to be delivered.	Staffing and running costs will continue to be monitored closely for the remainder of the year.
P05	Neighbourhood Services	1139	Public Protection	1,180	953	1,372	16	192	The adverse position on Public Protection is due to the underachievement of Pest Control, Dog Warden and Licensing income.	Limited scope to find savings within the service. Expenditure being closely monitored and any savings opportunities will be realised.
P05	Neighbourhood Services Total			26,060	(132,192)	26,568	(208)	508		
Detailed Analysis of Budgets for Built Environment and Sustainable Development										
P35	Built Environment and Sustainable Development	1029	Housing	1,355	1,088	1,397	(10)	42	The adverse financial position reflects an underachievement of income in relation to homeseach fees, a write off in relation to Homefinders Scheme and borrowing costs.	The service is mitigating the adverse position by reviewing utilisation of grant income and spend closely.
P35	Built Environment and Sustainable Development	1106	Development Management	1,336	2,276	1,591	90	255	The adverse forecast position is mainly due to the underachievement of Planning income which has been partly offset by vacancy management.	Continued in year mitigations are planned including new income streams and vacancy management, while the national increase in planning fees may have a favourable impact.
P35	Built Environment and Sustainable Development	1138	Building Control	53	227	333	83	280	Pressures on Building Control and Land charges income due to current market conditions, slightly reduced due to reduction in expenditure.	Limited scope to find savings within the service. Expenditure being closely monitored and any savings opportunities will be realised.
P35	Built Environment and Sustainable Development Total			2,743	3,591	3,320	164	577		
Council Total				135,500	(25,048)	137,341	(4,663)	1,841		