

MEETING:	COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE:	6TH DECEMBER 2010
TITLE OF REPORT:	REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT
PORTFOLIO AREA:	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To advise members of the committee of the revenue forecast outturn position for Community Services as at 30th September 2010 and the progress of the 2010/11 Capital Programme which falls within the portfolio for Community Services.

Key Decision

This is not a key decision.

Recommendation

THAT the report be noted.

Key Points Summary

- The current revenue forecast position for Community Services for 2010/11 is an under spend of £48k.
- The capital budget for Community Services is £13,845k and as at 30th September 2010 £1,485k has been spent.

Key Considerations

- 1 A detailed Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to 30th September 2010 is attached at Appendix 1 for Member's consideration.
- 2 The total Community Services Revenue budget for 2010/11 has decreased by £40k to £9,492k from the amount reported to the previous meeting, which was £9,532k. This relates to:
 - A transfer of budget from an under spend within Parks and Countryside, to Parking Services, which is outside the remit of this Scrutiny Committee. This budget transfer was to alleviate income pressures on car parking and part of the overall budget management of the Sustainable Communities Directorate.

- The summary position is set out in the table below and included in full in Appendix 1.

2010/11	Annual Budget	Projected Outturn	Under/-Over spend
<u>Service Area</u>	£000	£000	£000
Parks, Countryside and Leisure	3,163	3,163	0
Communities	785	785	0
Economy and Culture	5,020	5,020	0
Directorate Management and Support	524	476	48
Community Services Total	9,492	9,444	48

Parks and Countryside and Leisure

- 3 Following the transfer of £40k under spend reported at the last committee meeting, to Car Parking budgets, Parks and Countryside are now forecasting to come in within budget.

Communities

- 4 Communities expect to come in within budget this year. Community safety and Safer Roads Partnership funding is heavily reliant upon Area Based Grant funding. During October the Area Based Grant allocation was confirmed and although reduced in amount, to that previously expected, it is not anticipated that this will result in any forecast overspend and agreements to lower funding options has been agreed with partner organisations.
- 5 In the Comprehensive Spending Review in October it was announced that a number of specific and Area based grants will be moved into the formula grant over the review period, of which the Road Safety and Economic Assessment Duty grants, specifically relate to the Community Services portfolio. Although reductions are expected the impact for Herefordshire formula grant will not be known until December 2010.

Economy and Culture

- 6 Services within Economy and Culture are all forecasting to spend within budget. Library services have successfully addressed last years over spend of £96k, due to remodelling and better contract negotiation.

Directorate Management and Support

- 7 Following the freeze on recruitment and the secondment of a staff member to the Housing Services, Directorate Support Services are expected to under spend by £48k.

Recovery Plans

- 8 The savings forecast within Directorate Management and Support, will be used to mitigate overspends within other services that form part of the Sustainable Communities Directorate.
- 9 The Director of Resources has indicated that where possible Directorates should aim to under spend in order to contribute to the Council's overall forecast over spend position. Further work is being carried out to ascertain any further savings that can be made within

the Sustainable Communities Directorate and these will be reported to the next Community Services scrutiny meeting.

Capital Budget 2010/11

10 The Capital budgets for Community Services for 2010/11 are shown in appendix 2, on an individual scheme basis with funding arrangements indicated in overall terms. The total of the Capital Programme has decreased to £13,845k from £13,977k, being the budget figure reported at 31st July 2010 and the relevant virements have been completed. This is a net decrease of £132k and relates to:

- A reduction in the budgets for Belmont Pools of £78k. This budget has been re profiled to be spent in 2011/12 rather than this year.
- A reduction in the Free Swimming budgets of £54k. This has now transferred to Hereford Leisure pool, which is not within the Community Services Capital Programme.
- Since the September forecasts Ross Library scheme has been under review and it is expected that the budget for 2010/11 will significantly reduce. This detail will be reflected in the next update to Scrutiny.
- Ledbury Library continues to be under review and the latest forecasts available for October expect the budget for this year to be reduced to £100k until the review is complete. Confirmation of any budget changes will be shown in the next Scrutiny Committee reports.
- Although the spend to date at 30th September 2010 is only £1,485k , the remainder of the £13,845k budget ,allowing for likely reductions for Ross and Ledbury Library is all expected to be spent by 31st March 2010.

Financial Implications

11 These are contained in the body of the report.

Legal Implications

12 None.

Risk Management

13 The risks are set out in the body of the report.

Appendices

14 Appendix 1 – Summary Community Services Revenue Budget 2010/11

15 Appendix 2 – Summary Community Services Capital Programme Budget 2010/11

Background Papers

- None Identified.