

BUDGET MONITORING 2005/2006

Report By: Finance Manager

Wards Affected

County-wide.

Purpose

1. To report on the current budget position in Adult Social Care and Strategic Housing.

Financial Implications

2. As contained in the report.

Budget 2005/06

Social Care

3. The projected outturn for Adult Social Care is an overspend of £1,581,000 in year. Cabinet has approved the write off the carry forward overspend of 2004/05 of £714,000. Subject to agreement by Council, the current financial year overspend will be funded by corporate reserves. Details of the service area overspends are as follows:
 - Learning Disabilities - £987,000 overspend;
 - Mental Health - £350,000 overspend, £70,000 funded by Council;
 - Older People/Physical Disabilities - £634,000 overspend;
 - Other - £109,000 underspend.
4. The overspend may increase to £1.75 million if all identified risks materialise, but this is the worst case scenario.
5. There are Section 31 agreements for Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, and reciprocal risk sharing agreements are in place with the Primary Care Trust (PCT).
6. The total overspend for mental health is £350,000, but the PCT will fund the Council's overspend up to £280,000. The Council must fund £70,000, which is the amount greater than the risk sharing agreement.
7. With regards to the learning disabilities agreement any PCT overspend up to the agreed limit of £280,000 is funded by the Council. The current overspend on the PCT element is £84,000.

Strategic Housing

8. The projected outturn for Strategic Housing reported to Cabinet on 23rd February, 2006 indicated an overspend of £747,000. Since this report the projected overspend has reduced to £652,000. The main factor for overspending (£646,000) is the cost of temporary accommodation for homelessness. The total number of people in temporary accommodation is as follows:
 - End of October – 95;
 - End of November – 98;
 - End of December – 88;
 - End of January – 82;
 - Average – 90.75.
9. The projections reflect the decrease in the number of people presenting themselves as homeless. If the number of people increases to the previous highest level the overspend could rise to £662,000.
10. Two homelessness prevention officers have been in post since January. In this month the officers have prevented 15 cases going into temporary bed and breakfast accommodation.

RECOMMENDATION

- THAT (a) the report on Adult Social Care and Strategic Housing Performance and Budget be noted;**
- and**
- (b) areas of concern continue to be monitored.**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None identified