

## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

**Report to: Executive**

**Date: 29 April 2013**

**Report for: Information**

**Report of: The Executive Member for Finance and the Director of Finance**

### **Report Title:**

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2012/13 – Period 11 (April 2012 to February 2013 inclusive).

### **Summary:**

At month eleven, the projected revenue outturn is £153.985m compared to the budget of £155.395m (summary tables by Directorate & Portfolio at paragraph 1), a favourable variance of £(1.410)m, or (0.9)%. This is a favourable movement of £(0.450)m on the previously reported position.

Excluding Council-Wide budgets, the service expenditure outturn is £(0.860)m less than budgeted, or (0.7)%.

This period's forecast includes favourable movements relating to costs of staffing and client numbers, and also additional income, across some services:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Movement</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Social Services clients & need	1.1	(0.1)
Suppressed income	0.2	(0.1)
Street lighting electricity costs	0.2	-
Vacancy & running cost management	(2.1)	(0.2)
Treasury Management	(0.4)	-
New grant & rephased projects	(0.4)	-
<b>Forecasted outturn</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>	<b>(0.4)</b>
LD Pool (Annex 2, Section 5)	0.8	(0.1)

The Council has also recently been notified by the DfE of an increase in the level of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) of £(1.518)m, which will increase the level of DSG Reserve. Consideration on how this additional income will be used to the benefit of Schools in the future will be made in consultation with the Schools Funding Forum.

The budgeted savings target of £12.2m is forecasted to be achieved, with 99% of original projects delivered on target and the remaining element made good with new and/or amended projects or management action.

The combined effect of the underspending position and in-year commitments, will reduce Directorates' service reserves from £(2.6)m to £(2.3)m. Some Directorates will have a combined debit balance on their service reserve of £0.1m, which will be expected to be addressed by in-year or future years' savings.

The forecast level of General Reserve at year end is £(9.8)m. Taking into account transfers and commitments as approved by Council in the 2013/14 budget, the long term forecasted uncommitted balance is £(6.6)m, £(0.6)m above the minimum level of £(6.0)m.

The forecasted Council Tax surplus as at 31 March 2013 has improved marginally since last period and is estimated to be £(0.195)m.

**Recommendation(s)**

**It is recommended that:**

- a) the latest forecast and planned actions be noted and agreed.

**Contact person for access to background papers and further information:**

Head of Financial Management                      Extension: 4302

Background Papers: None

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	Value for Money
Financial	Revenue expenditure to be been contained within available resources in 2012/13.
Legal Implications:	None arising out of this report
Equality/Diversity Implications	None arising out of this report
Sustainability Implications	None arising out of this report
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	Not applicable
Risk Management Implications	Not applicable
Health and Safety Implications	Not applicable

Finance Officer Clearance .....ID

Legal Officer Clearance .....JLF

Director of Finance Signature : APPENDED IN HARD COPY.

## Budget Monitoring - Financial Results

1. Based on the budget monitoring for the first 11 months of the year, the overall forecast for the year is for an underspend of £(1.410)m, (0.9)%. Included within this total is a net service underspend of £(0.860)m, (0.7)%, and underspends in Council-Wide budgets of £(0.550)m or (2.2)% of the relevant budget. The details of service variances can be found in Annexes 1 to 5, and for Council-Wide, Annex 6.

<b>Table 1: Budget Monitoring results by Directorate</b>	<b>Year end Forecast (£000's)</b>	<b>Percent-age %</b>	<b>Period Movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Annex</b>
Children & Young People	(400)	(1.6)%	(284)	1
Communities & Wellbeing	275	0.6%	(20)	2
Environment, Transport & Operations	47	0.2%	(8)	3
Economic Growth & Prosperity	(99)	(3.0)%	(69)	4
Transformation & Resources	(683)	(3.5)%	(69)	5
<b>Total Service Variances</b>	<b>(860)</b>	<b>(0.7)%</b>	<b>(450)</b>	
Council-wide budgets	(550)	(2.2)%	-	6
<b>Estimated outturn variance (period 11)</b>	<b>(1,410)</b>	<b>(0.9)%</b>	<b>(450)</b>	

<b>Table 2: Budget Monitoring results by Executive Portfolio Holder</b>	<b>Year end Forecast (£000's)</b>	<b>Percent-age %</b>	<b>Period Movement (£000's)</b>
Supporting Children & Families	(336)	(1.5)%	(263)
Education	(64)	(2.0)%	(21)
Adult Care, Health & Wellbeing	275	0.6%	(20)
Highways & Environmental	(30)	(0.1)%	(3)
Safe, Strong Communities	77	3.1%	(5)
Economic Growth & Prosperity	(99)	(3.0)%	(69)
Transformation & Resources	(597)	(3.7)%	(27)
Finance	(636)	(2.2)%	(42)
<b>Estimated outturn variance (period 11)</b>	<b>(1,410)</b>	<b>(0.9)%</b>	<b>(450)</b>

### Key Month on Month Variations

2. The key variances contributing to the period movement of a favourable £(0.450)m are:
  - a) £(0.168)m – additional savings in staffing, £(0.108)m and placement costs £(0.060)m, within Children's Social Care;
  - b) £(0.065)m – further savings identified within Children's Centre projects and running costs;
  - c) £(0.041)m – income from backdated rent reviews relating to investment properties on Plymouth Road , £(0.022)m and Chester Road, £(0.019)m;
  - d) £(0.074)m – relating to staff vacancies, £(0.045)m and other income, £(0.029)m across the T&R Directorate;
  - e) Other minor net movements across all other services of £(0.102)m.

## MTFP Savings and increased income

3. The Budget included for £(12.2)m of savings and increased income and it is currently forecast that all of these will be achieved . Further details of the achievements against the savings target for each Directorate are shown in Annexes 1 to 6 below.

## Council Tax

4. The surplus on the Collection Fund relating to the Council at 31 March 2012 was £(0.294)m of which £0.200m is planned to support the 2012/13 budget. Pro-active management of the Council Tax base and the award of discounts and exemptions is estimated to generate an in-year surplus of £(0.343)m. However, after adjusting for backdated valuation office changes of £0.242m the estimated closing balance at 31 March 2013 will be reduced to £(0.195)m. The cost of these revaluations has increased over the last few years as shown in Table 3 below and is now having a significant impact on the level of surplus going forward. The impact of this is being considered as part of the 2013/14 and future budget plans.

<b>Table 3: Backdated Council Tax Valuations</b>	<b>(£000's)</b>
2008/09	265
2009/10	201
2010/11	175
2011/12	178
2012/13	242

## Reserves

5. The table below shows the forecast balance on the General Reserve at 31 March 2013 and also includes for the transfers and future commitments agreed by Council on 20 February as part of the 2013/14 Budget. The forecasted balance at year end is £(9.8)m which includes for a transfer from the insurance reserve of £(2.6)m, after taking into account future commitments the uncommitted future balance is £(6.6)m, £(0.6)m above the agreed minimum level of £(6.0)m.

<b>Table 4: General Reserve Movements</b>	<b>(£000's)</b>
<b>Balance brought forward 1 April 2012</b>	<b>(9,802)</b>
<b>General base budget support 2012-13:</b>	
- Approved by Council February 2012	994
<b>Planned in-year transactions 2012-13:</b>	
- Reversal of PCT support in 2011/12 for LD Pool	(400)
- Planned use for one-off projects in 2012/13	1,548
- Apprenticeship programme (second year)	50
- Maximising Community Infrastructure Levy	140
- Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCIDSS)	40
- Pathology & Mortuary contract transition	22
- Biomass Appeal expenditure (Executive 30 July 2012)	160
- Waste Service Improvements	100
- Catering Services Investment	60
- Increase Equal Pay Provision	500
Council-wide budgets underspend (forecast)	(550)
- Transfer from Insurance Reserve	(2,646)
<b>Forecast balance 31 March 2013</b>	<b>(9,784)</b>
<b>Commitments 2013/14:</b>	
Planned base budget support 2013/14	850
Further planned support (one-off schemes):	
- Reablement Community and Wellbeing	200
- Waterside Investment	50
- Enforcement Review	60
<b>Forecast balance 31 March 2014</b>	<b>(8,624)</b>
<b>Commitments 2014/15:</b>	
Planned base budget support 2014/15	2,000
<b>Forecast after commitments</b>	<b>(6,624)</b>

There are also a number of potential claims or commitments against the General Reserve balance not included in the above table, such as the overspend position of some Directorates, the overspend on the LD Pooled Fund (see Annex 2 Section 5) and the potential need to invest in order to achieve future savings to help towards future budgets.

6. Service balances brought forward from 2011/12 were a net £(2.633)m. After planned movements, and the estimated outturn for the year, there is a projected net surplus of £(2.321)m to be carried forward to 2013/14 (Table 5).

<b>Table 5: Service balances</b>	<b>B/f April 2012 (£000's)</b>	<b>Forecast Movement in-year (£000's)</b>	<b>Forecast Balance (£000's)</b>
Children & Young People	(1,210)	127	(1,083)
Communities & Wellbeing	(135)	275	140
Environment, Transport & Operations	(200)	192	(8)
Economic Growth & Prosperity	(79)	(20)	(99)
Transformation & Resources	(1,009)	(262)	(1,271)
<b>Total All Services (Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>(2,633)</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>(2,321)</b>

### Recommendations

7. It is recommended that:
- (a) the latest forecast and planned actions be noted and agreed

## TRAFFORD MBC

**Report to:** CYP – Directorate Management Team  
**Date:** 21st March 2013  
**Report for:** Information  
**Report author:** Finance Manager for CYPS

Report Title

<b>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2012/13 – Period 11 (April 2012 to February 2013 inclusive)</b>
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**1. Outturn Forecast**

- 1.1 The current approved revenue budget for the year is £25.576m, net of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which totals £128m. The outturn forecast is £25.176m which is £(0.400)m under the approved budget. This is a favourable movement of £(0.284)m compared to last month.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 details by both department and variance area the projected outturn as compared to the approved revenue budget. The main outturn variances are:
- A predicted overspend within the Children’s Social Care service of £192k comprising of staffing budgets £14k, placement budgets £468k, additional Intensive Fostering grant income £(187)k and other minor variations totalling £(103)k. These variances include budgets for Children with Complex and Additional Needs;
  - Education Early Years services £(503)k underspend, as a result of delays in staff appointments in Children’s Centre’s and savings on specific projects;
  - Youth Offending Service; a projected saving of £(64)k which relates directly to remand placements.

**2. Service carry-forward reserve**

- 2.1 At the beginning of April 2012 the Directorate had accumulated balances of £(1.210)m carried forward from the previous financial year’s underspend. The Directorate plans to use these balances to support the general revenue budget. The table below shows the movements in the reserve this year:

<b>Table 1: Utilisation of Carry forward Reserve 2012/13</b>	<b>(£000's)</b>
Balance brought forward 1 April 2012	(1,210)
Specific expenditure assigned against the reserve re: invest to save	200
Specific expenditure delayed in 2011/12 and committed from 2012/13	327
P11 Forecast Outturn	(400)
<b>Projected Balance at 31 March 2013</b>	<b>(1,083)</b>

2.2 Any use of the reserve will be managed to ensure that it has a positive impact on the following year's budget e.g. invest to save initiatives.

### **3 MTFP Savings and increased income**

3.1 The Budget included £(12.2)m of savings and increased income, of which £(2.550)m relates to the CYPs Directorate. The table below summarises the current forecast of this savings target:

	<b>Budget target (£000's)</b>	<b>End of Year Forecast (£000's)</b>	<b>Variance (£000's)</b>
Increased and new income	0	0	0
Transformation savings	(1,660)	(1,660)	0
Other savings	(890)	(890)	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>(2,550)</b>	<b>(2,550)</b>	<b>0</b>

3.2 The Transformation savings of £(1.660)m are monitored closely by the Transformation Board and are reported on separately.

3.3 It is currently forecast that the remaining £(0.890)m savings target will be delivered. At present, there are no risks which could affect the forecast.

### **4 Management Action to control expenditure and achieve a balanced budget**

4.1 The budget will be monitored and managed to ensure that pressures will be managed effectively. This involves a continuous review of all placements to ensure the most effective provision is provided.

### **5 Performance Progress**

5.1 The Ofsted 2011 Assessment of Children's Services within Trafford rated us as 'Performs Excellently' the highest grading available. This maintains the position that was achieved in 2010. The rating takes into account the totality of services for children in Trafford bringing together external scrutiny and performance measures for social care, health and educational services.

5.2 April 2010 Ofsted/CQC Inspection of safeguarding and Looked after Children's Services. Of 33 grades awarded 29 were good, 1 outstanding and 3 adequate. The inspection highlighted the effectiveness of the multi-agency service, the quality of support provided for children, young people and families, ambitious,



effective, committed leadership and management and good involvement and engagement with young people and partners. Overall our services were judged good with good capacity to improve. An unannounced inspection of referral and assessment services in April 2011 provided positive assurance with 12 strengths, only 3 areas for development and no areas for priority action.

5.3 An important objective in CYPS is to continue to improve educational outcomes as, in our increasingly knowledge based society, this provides young people with the best chance of taking up the wide range of further and higher education, and employment opportunities available. The results from Summer 2012 maintained, and surpassed, the high standards set in previous years at every age level and represent Trafford's best ever set of results:

- 75% of children at Early Years Foundation Stage achieved the measured standard – up from 70% the previous year – compared to 64% nationally.
- At age 11, over 86% of pupils achieved Level 4 or above in English and Mathematics, up from 84% the previous year ;
- At 16, 71.9% of pupils in Trafford achieved 5 x A\* - C grades at GCSE including English and Mathematics, up from 69.4%, significantly higher than the national level of 58.3%. The Trafford increase is all the more notable when seen against a backdrop of plateauing of pass rates nationally.

5.4 Trafford's DSG rate per pupil is relatively low compared to authorities nationally but Trafford does delegate 91.4% of the gross DSG to schools. This is the highest percentage amongst Trafford's statistical neighbours

## Appendix 1

### Period 11 Forecasted Outturn revenue expenditure and income variances and movements from Period 10 monitoring report

The following tables detail the main variances from the revenue budget to the forecasted outturn, and the movements since the last monitoring report in both Management Accounts (“Budget Book”) format and by cause or area of impact of the variance.

Budget Book Format (Objective analysis)	Full Year Budget (£000's)	P11 Forecast Outturn (£000's)	P11 Outturn variance (£000's)	P10 Outturn variance (£000's)	P10 to P11 movement (£000's)	Ref
<b>Supporting Children &amp; Families Portfolio</b>						
Children's Social Services	14,705	14,940	235	402	(167)	CYPS 3
Children with Complex & Additional Needs	2,206	2,163	(43)	(33)	(10)	CYPS 3
Support Services to CYP	6,953	7,021	68	124	(56)	CYPS 8
Commissioning & Multi Agency Referral & Assessment Service (MARAS)	3,128	3,099	(29)	(68)	39	CYPS 5
Youth Offending Service	744	680	(64)	(60)	(4)	CYPS 6
Children's Centres	3,948	3,445	(503)	(438)	(65)	CYPS 7
Early Intervention Grant	(9,288)	(9,288)	0	0	0	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>22,396</b>	<b>22,060</b>	<b>(336)</b>	<b>(73)</b>	<b>(263)</b>	
<b>Education Portfolio</b>						
Dedicated Schools Grant	0	(1,757)	(1,757)	(284)	(1,473)	CYPS1,2
Transfer to Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve	0	1,757	1,757	284	1,473	
Education Early Years' Service	2,236	2,172	(64)	(43)	(21)	CYPS 4
Connexions Service	944	944	0	0	0	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>3,180</b>	<b>3,116</b>	<b>(64)</b>	<b>(43)</b>	<b>(21)</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,576</b>	<b>25,176</b>	<b>(400)</b>	<b>(116)</b>	<b>(284)</b>	

<b>Business Reason / Area (Subjective analysis)</b>	<b>P11 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 to P11 movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Ref</b>
<b>DSG Reserve B/Fwd.</b>	<b>(171)</b>	<b>(171)</b>	<b>0</b>	
Increase in DSG Income	(1,548)	(30)	(1,518)	CYPS1
School In Year Adjustments	(250)	(250)	0	CYPS2
Redundancies & Maternity	(150)	(106)	(44)	CYPS2
SEN	108	134	(26)	CYPS2
Other minor variances	83	(32)	115	CYPS2
<b>DSG projected Underspend</b>	<b>(1,928)</b>	<b>(455)</b>	<b>(1,473)</b>	
<b>Transfer to DSG Reserve</b>	<b>1,928</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>1,473</b>	

<b>Business Reason / Area (Subjective analysis)</b>	<b>P11 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 to P11 movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Ref</b>
<b>Non DSG</b>				
Social Care staffing pressures due to cover arrangements	14	122	(108)	CYPS 3
Additional Grant Funding	(187)	(187)	0	CYPS 3
Placements Budget	468	528	(60)	CYPS 3,6
Sale West Development Centre	35	33	2	CYPS 8
Delays in appointments of staff	(246)	(237)	(9)	CYPS 7
Savings in Children's Centre Projects	(233)	(168)	(65)	CYPS 7
Serious Case Review	20	20	0	CYPS 5
Other staffing variances	(65)	(36)	(29)	CYPS 4,5
Other minor variances	(206)	(191)	(15)	CYPS 3,4,5,7,8
<b>Total Net Underspend Non DSG</b>	<b>(400)</b>	<b>(116)</b>	<b>(284)</b>	

## **NOTES ON PROJECTED VARIANCES**

### **Variations within the DSG.**

#### **CYPS1 – Increase in DSG £(1,548)k (favourable)**

The Council was made aware of the final DSG allocation for 2012/13 on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2012 which resulted in additional income of £(30)k; the pupil numbers being funded was 7 higher than originally anticipated.

DSG income is continually adjusted during the year to reflect Academy schools. The DfE has given a refund to the Council of £(1,518)k and this comprises 80% of the Rates (NNDR) bill for these schools £(1,020)k and an amount equivalent to their insurance cost of £(498)k. The reasons for these amounts being paid is not documented in the DfE explanations of the recoupment calculation but checks with the DfE have confirmed our entitlement to this refund. This is a one-off adjustment.

#### **CYPS2 – Other Variations £(380)k (favourable)**

The position on DSG budgets has become more accurate following the October census. DSG budgets such as Early Years places and SEN placements are demand led and difficult to predict. A balance needs to be struck when setting DSG budgets in attempting to delegate as much money as possible to schools, whilst also having enough central resources in order to meet demand for these items.

#### **– DSG Reserve b/fwd.**

The overall projected variances of £(1,757)k will increase the DSG reserve to a net projected underspend of £(1,928)k at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013. This underspend will be carried forward to 2013/14. The Schools Funding Forum consider that there should be a working balance of £(0.5)m to meet increase in demand for certain budgets. Clearly this reserve exceeds what would be considered to be a working balance and consideration will be given on how to use this for the benefit of schools in the future. In considering this the Forum will have to be consulted prior to a final decision being made.

### **Non-DSG Variations.**

#### **CYPS3 – Children’s Social Care £192k (adverse) (Includes Children with Complex & Additional Needs)**

The projected overspend of £192k comprises of placement costs £468k, staffing budgets £14k, minor variances £(103)k and additional grant income of £(187)k relating to Intensive Fostering.

#### **CYPS4 – Early Years £(64)k (favourable)**

This saving is mainly as a result of staff posts being held vacant through the year £(36)k, and additional training income received £(7)k and slippage on projects £(21)k

#### **CYPS5 – Commissioning & MARAS £(29)k (favourable)**

The majority of this underspend is due to salaries.

**CYPS6 – Youth Offending Service £(64)k (favourable)**

This underspend relates to a projected saving on remand placements.

**CYPS7 – Children’s Centres £(503)k (favourable)**

A full review of the Children’s Centre service has been carried out and the savings found are as a result of delays in appointing staff to vacant posts totalling £(246)k, a planned saving of £(131)k on specific commissioned projects and other variations across the service totalling £(126)k.

**CYPS8 – Support Services to CYP £68k (adverse)**

The overspend in Support Services is partly due to a projected shortfall in income at Sale West Development Centre of £35k. This is as a result of new projections based on expected schools usage of the centre in this academic year and reflects schools having fewer resources to spend on training, etc. Other movements within this area include an overspend in statutory retirement costs of £41k as a result of an above inflation increase in pension costs. Other minor variations across the service amount to a £(8)k underspend.

## TRAFFORD MBC

**Report to:** C&WB Directorate Management Team  
**Date:** 21st March 2013  
**Report for:** Discussion  
**Report author:** C&WB Finance Manager

**Report Title**

**Revenue Budget Monitoring 2012/13 – Period 11**  
**(April 2012 to February 2013 inclusive)**

**1. Outturn Forecast**

- 1.1 The approved revenue budget for the year is £49.092m. The projected outturn is £49.367m which is £0.275m over the approved budget, a net £(0.020)m favourable movement since January's forecast which is due to minor variances across the Directorate. Appendix 1 details, by department and variance area, the projected outturn as compared to the approved revenue budget.
- 1.2 Demand for services above budgeted levels especially in residential and home care was a major concern in 2011/12; indications are that this trend has continued in 2012/13. Robust management action is in place and focused on containing demand and cost which is vital as the December to February period is historically the time of peak demand.
- 1.3 Section 5 below discusses the situation in the Learning Disabilities Pooled Fund and lists management action to address this which has reduced the forecasted end of year position to £0.844m. Action is planned into following years such that the LD Pool will be brought back into balance within two years.

**2 Department of Health additional support funding for Social Care**

- 2.1 On the 20th December 2012 the Department of Health announced the release of £25m to the NHS North of England, for local health and care services (paid initially to Primary Care Trusts) to spend this financial year on front line services. This additional resource has arrived near the very end of the financial year. The extra money has been spent on helping people to leave hospital more quickly, get settled back at home with the support they need, and to prevent unnecessary admissions to hospital. This money has been passed on to Social Services authorities, Trafford's allocation is £0.319m.

### 3 MTFP Savings and increased income

- 3.1 The Budget included for £(12.2)m of savings and increased income, of which £(4.978)m related to this directorate. All budget options put forward for delivery in 2012/13 are expected to achieve their targets by the year end. The Learning Disabilities Supported Living: New Models of Service option is expected to achieve an additional £(0.014)m. The table below summarises the current forecast of this savings target:

	<b>Budget target (£000's)</b>	<b>End of Year Forecast (£000's)</b>	<b>Variance (£000's)</b>
Transformation savings	(3,706)	(3,720)	(14)
Other business changes	(1,272)	(1,272)	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>(4,978)</b>	<b>(4,992)</b>	<b>(14)</b>

### 4 Service carry-forward reserve

- 4.1 At the beginning of April 2012 the Communities and Wellbeing Directorate had accumulated balances of £(0.135)m carried forward from previous financial years underspends.
- 4.2 The remaining carry-forward balance at the end of the year after taking into account the outturn position is:

<b>Table 1: Utilisation of Carry forward Reserve 2012/13</b>	<b>(£000's)</b>
Balance brought forward 1 April 2012	(135)
P11 Forecast outturn	275
<b>Balance carried forward at 31 March 2013</b>	<b>140</b>

- 4.3 In addition to the above there will be a carry forward balance on the Learning Disabilities Pooled Fund, currently forecasted at £0.844m, matched by a specific management action plan to reduce this to £nil over a two year period or sooner.

### 5 Learning Disabilities Pooled Fund

- 5.1 Trafford has operated a pooled fund for Learning Disability Services in conjunction with Trafford Primary Care Trust (PCT) since 1 April 2003. Over the last few years the LD Pooled fund has moved from an underspending position to an overspending position. A plan to reduce the pressure in the fund has been produced and agreed by the Directorate's management team. The focus will be on delivering efficiencies, in the sum of £(1.779)m in-year:

- Block contracts – a programme to retender (£0.404m);

- Continuing Health Care funding (£0.404m);
- Residential services – development of existing service (£0.356m);
- Additional PCT contribution, subject to agreement, (£0.287m);
- Housing and void management agreements (£0.256m);
- Maximising use of new Respite services (£0.072m).

5.2 The above reflects the current position, however, it is hoped that there will be further additions to the plan which will provide further savings and/or earlier delivery to reduce the adverse balance sooner. The current plan is forecasted to bring the LD Pool into balance within two years.

## **6 Management Action**

6.1 The Adult Social Care budget is a volatile demand led service and any increase in demand above that estimated for will cause budget pressures. The Directorate has built on and strengthened the current robust budget management process and introduced the following actions:

- A strategy to manage and reduce the pressure in the Learning Disability Pooled budget has been agreed,
- A prioritised rolling programme of case reviews across all service user disciplines to ensure consistency and fairness of treatment in the allocation of resources, these reviews are operating within existing national and council assessment policies.;
- All service provider requests for increases in existing home care packages are received and responded to by the Commissioning Section;
- All increases in home care packages are “signed off” by the Resource Panel and overseen by the Review Team;
- Service users have the opportunity to be assessed with the ‘Just Checking’ Telecare prior to their final care package being agreed;
- Robust resource panel process for approving residential placements, including an updated legal advice framework
- A prioritised programme of reviews of Continuing Health Care (CHC) funded Older Peoples service residential placements to ensure consistency and fairness of treatment in the allocation of resources between the Council and the NHS;
- A programme of introducing the use of pre-paid cards for direct payments delivering efficiencies in the allocation of resources and recycling of unspent funds.

## **7. Performance progress**

7.1 In July 2012, the Government published the white paper ‘Caring for our future: reforming care and support’. The two core principals of this report are:



- that we should do everything we can – as individuals, as communities and as a Government – to prevent, postpone and minimise people’s need for formal care and support. The system should be built around the simple notion of promoting people’s independence and wellbeing;
- that people should be in control of their own care and support. Things like personal budgets and direct payments, backed by clear, comparable information and advice, will empower individuals and their carers to make the choices that are right for them.

In 2012/13 the Directorate’s vision is for services that are innovative, flexible and focused on the needs of the individual, their carers and families enabling people to have more choice and control over the support they receive and provide quality services that encourage people to lead healthy lives. The three key approaches to the future are:

- **Personalisation:** we have already developed the use of personal budgets. This means people can have more choice and control over the support they receive. We intend to extend this further, in order to have as many people as possible with their own personal budgets;
- **Promoting independence:** we are committed to working with people to support them to be as independent as possible. We have developed reablement services, short term support to help people maintain or increase their independence. We continue to promote the use of telecare to help people remain in their own home. We are also continuing to develop the range of support we offer people with very complex needs. Promoting independence continues to be a key part of the support people receive;
- **Integration:** We are committed to creating integrated health and social care across Trafford. By continuing to work with local health services we can provide a more effective, efficient way of meeting needs, creating innovative services to support people to live independently in their community.

As a result, the Directorate has developed a range of targeted Performance Indicators linked to Directorate’s local business model to ensure value for money. Some of those measures include:

- % of eligible service users / carers to receive Personal Budgets in year (ASCOF 1Ci - Local);
- % of people receiving no on-going service following reablement intervention;
- Percentage of clients who have received a review;
- Proportion of adults with learning disabilities in employment (ASCOF 1E);
- Social Care related Quality of Life (composite user experience measure ASCOF 1A) – Survey.

### Period 11 Projected Outturn revenue expenditure and income variances, and movements from Period 10 monitoring report

The following tables detail the main variances from the revenue budget to the forecasted outturn, and the movements since the last monitoring report in both Management Accounts (“Budget Book”) format and by cause or area of impact of the variance.

Budget Book Format (Objective analysis)	Full Year Budget (£000's)	P11 Forecast Outturn (£000's)	P11 Outturn variance (£000's)	P10 Outturn variance (£000's)	P10 – P11 movement (£000's)	Ref
<b>Adult Care, Health &amp; Wellbeing Portfolio</b>						
Older People	22,750	22,848	98	96	2	C&W1
Physical Disabilities	3,162	3,355	193	164	29	C&W2
Equipment & Adaptations	1,084	1,024	(60)	(42)	(18)	C&W3
Mental Health	3,426	3,458	32	50	(18)	C&W4
Other Adult Services	960	986	26	28	(2)	C&W5
Support Services	1,027	1,039	12	20	(8)	C&W6
Adaptations	(69)	(69)	0	0	0	
Housing Services	2,661	2,661	0	0	0	
Drugs and Alcohol Service	290	290	0	0	0	
Equalities & Diversity	134	108	(26)	(21)	(5)	C&W7
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,425</b>	<b>35,700</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>(20)</b>	

Budget Book Format (Objective analysis)	Full Year Budget (£000's)	P11 Forecast Outturn (£000's)	P11 Outturn variance (£000's)	P109 Outturn variance (£000's)	P10– P11 movement (£000's)	Ref
Learning Disabilities Pool	13,667	14,511	844	912	(68)	C&W8
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,667</b>	<b>14,511</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>(68)</b>	

<b>Adult Care, Health &amp; Wellbeing Portfolio</b>	<b>P11 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 – P11 movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Ref</b>
<b>Older People</b>				
Care management/assessment	(292)	(358)	66	C&W1
Residential and nursing care	248	363	(115)	C&W1
Home Care	416	364	52	C&W1
Day Care	(363)	(367)	4	C&W1
Direct Payments	89	94	(5)	C&W1
<b>Physical Disabilities</b>				
Care management/assessment	6	16	(10)	C&W2
Residential and nursing care	124	85	39	C&W2
Home Care	35	40	(5)	C&W2
Day Care	(7)	(7)	0	C&W2
Direct Payments	35	30	5	C&W2
<b>Equipment &amp; Adaptations</b>				
Lift repairs & maintenance	(60)	(42)	(18)	C&W3
<b>Mental Health</b>				
Care management/assessment	(59)	(51)	(8)	C&W4
Residential and nursing care	74	81	(7)	C&W4
Home Care	(4)	(1)	(3)	C&W4
Direct Payments	21	21	0	C&W4
<b>Other Adult Services</b>				
Other Services	26	28	(2)	C&W5
<b>Support Services</b>				
Social Worker clerical support	0	0	0	C&W6
Financial Services	12	20	(8)	C&W6
<b>Equalities &amp; Diversity</b>				
Equalities Team	(26)	(21)	(5)	C&W7
<b>Total</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>(20)</b>	

<b>Learning Disabilities Pool</b>	<b>P11 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10– P11 movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Ref</b>
Care management/assessment	13	3	10	C&W8
Residential and nursing care	8	18	(10)	C&W8
Home Care	657	787	(130)	C&W8
Day Care	(73)	(34)	(39)	C&W8
Direct Payments	239	138	101	C&W8
<b>Total</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>(68)</b>	

## NOTES ON VARIANCES AND PERIOD MOVEMENTS

### Adult Care, Health & Wellbeing Portfolio £275k adverse

#### **C&W1 – Older People - £98k adverse**

- **Residential and Nursing Care/Home Care/Day Care/Direct Payments - £390k adverse**

Two of the four key service provision budgets are showing increased demand. Residential care is 12 service users higher than budgeted and homecare is 11 service users higher than budgeted.

- **Care Management and Assessment - £(292)k favourable**

Managed vacancies in the Screening, Assessment and Community Mental Health Teams.

#### **C&W2 – Physical Disabilities - £193k adverse**

- **Residential and Nursing Care/Home Care/Direct Payments - £187k adverse**

Two of the three key service provision budgets are showing increased demand. The demand for residential care is one service user higher than budgeted, one service user for home care and one for direct payments.

#### **C&W3 – Equipment & Adaptations - £(60)k favourable**

- **Lift Repairs & Maintenance - £(19)k favourable**

The new contract for repair call out is projected to deliver efficiencies that will offset the increased number of call outs.

- **Equipment - £(41)k favourable**

The volume of equipment recycled at the One Stop Resource Centre was higher than expected in period 11.

#### **C&W4 – Mental Health - £32k adverse**

- **Care Management and Assessment £(59)k favourable**

Underspend due to vacancy management in the Community Mental Health Team.

- **Residential and Nursing Care/Home Care/Direct Payments £91k adverse**

There are three residential service users higher than budgeted.

#### **C&W5 – Other Adult Services - £26k adverse**

- Due to additional costs incurred as part of the set-up of the Healthwatch service.

**C&W6 - Support Services - £12k adverse**

- **Financial Services £12k adverse**  
Adverse movement due to additional costs in dealing with clients finances.

**C&W7 - Equalities & Diversity - £(26)k favourable**

- **Equalities Team £(26)k favourable**  
Managed efficiencies in the Equalities Team's translation fees budget.

**C&W8 – Learning Disabilities Pooled - £844k adverse**

**Cost of care packages - £831k adverse**

Long term care packages, are running at higher than budgeted levels due to additional service users and higher cost of care than planned for:

- Residential, additional 7 service users, total additional costs £369k;
- Homecare, additional 9 service users, total additional costs £579k;
- Day Care, additional 5 service users, total additional costs £87k;
- and Direct Payments, additional 8 service users, total additional costs £275k, to be off-set by year end recovery of unused contingency estimated at £(479)k.

**Care Management/Assessment £13k adverse**

Additional costs in the Assessment Team.

## TRAFFORD MBC

Report to: ETO Directorate Management Team  
 Date: 20 March 2012  
 Report for: Discussion  
 Report author: ETO/EGP Finance Manager

Report Title

**Revenue Budget Monitoring 2012/13 – Period 11 (April 2012 to February 2013)**

**1. Outturn Forecast**

- 1.1 The current approved revenue budget for the year is £32.299m. The forecast outturn is £32.346m, which is £0.047m above the approved budget, and is £(0.008)m less than the last report. This overspend is fully mitigated from available balances carried forward from previous financial years.
- 1.2 The forecast outturn includes the results of management action to contain projected overspends within the overall Directorate budget for the year. Management action has achieved savings of £(0.627)m since first initiated in period 4, including an increase of £(0.056)m this month. This has been offset by additional adverse variances identified of £0.215m, including £0.019m this month. The management action implemented is summarised in section 3, with details of all variances included in Appendix 1.
- 1.3 In addition to the above, there is also £0.020m relating to the Biomass Public Inquiry, which the Executive have previously approved from the General Reserve.

**2. Explanation of Variance and Movements**

- 2.1 The forecast outturn for the year is an overspend of £0.047m, which is fully covered by balances from prior years, and is £(0.008)m less than previously reported.
- 2.2 This includes adverse variances of £0.457m where medium to long term action plans are underway, a favourable movement of £(0.029)m since last reported:
- Street lighting energy costs £0.217m – a £(0.004)m favourable movement this month;
  - Car park income shortfall £0.021m, which is unchanged;
  - Open Space reserve funding shortfall £0.058m;
  - Commercial Waste income shortfall £0.010m, a favourable movement of £(0.020)m this month;
  - Planning fee regulation changes income shortfall £0.050m;

- Crime and Disorder income shortfall – fixed penalty notices £0.091m, which is an increase of £0.005m. This is partly mitigated by staff vacancies and running cost underspends of £(0.015)m, which is a favourable movement of £(0.010)m;
- Sale Watersports Centre/Deckers contract saving £0.025m.

2.3 Management action already implemented and other variances give a forecast underspend of £(0.410)m to part mitigate the above pressures this year, a favourable net movement of £(0.008)m this month:

- Highways and Transportation – additional fee income of £(0.180)m, with management action to reduce running costs £(0.042)m, unchanged from last month's projection;
- School Crossing Patrols – underspend of £(0.042)m relating to slippage in the filling of supervisory and operational staff vacancies, an increase of £(0.002)m this month;
- Car parking - rates bills are a £(0.030)m less than budgeted due to the effect of rate revaluations, plus there is an underspend of £(0.019) from staff vacancies and contract costs. These are unchanged from last month;
- Groundforce – supplies, services and overtime costs £0.047m above budget, which is £0.012m higher than last month;
- Bereavement Services income is expected to be £(0.010)m above budget;
- Sustainability & Greenspace – underspend of £(0.035)m from a vacant post plus management action to control running costs, a favourable movement of £(0.002)m this month;
- Waste management – previously reported underspends of £(0.050)m on contract costs, plus £(0.041)m from management action to reduce other supplies costs, including depots. Bulky waste income is also £(0.015)m higher than budgeted, which is also unchanged.
- Public Protection:
  - £0.056m shortfall in licences fee income;
  - Management action of £(0.046)m from delays in filling vacancies, an adverse movement of £0.002m this month;
  - Shortfall in pest control income £0.025m;
  - One-off ICT costs of £0.020m as part of the project to amalgamate business systems and, hence, deliver on-going efficiency savings.
- Culture & Sport:
  - Sport and leisure projected running cost underspend £(0.014)m;
  - Sale Waterside Arts Centre income is expected to exceed budget target by £(0.010)m for the year.

2.4 The Directorate has successfully implemented its action plan to mitigate adverse variances predicted early in the financial year (see paragraph 3 below), which includes the use of the remaining £(0.055)m of accumulated balances from previous years. The amount of future management action required in the last report of £(0.029)m has been implemented. Action will continue in order to both achieve savings and mitigate new budget pressures as they arise.

### 3. Management Action Plan 2012/13

3.1 Many of the adverse variances above have continued from 2011/12 and management action is hence already underway to mitigate the impact on the future budget and potential further cost pressures. Proactive management action has and will be taken throughout the year to contain all budget pressures within the approved budget as follows:

- Only necessary spending on supplies and services to be approved;
- Reduced use and greater control of overtime;
- Monitoring and evaluation of existing and potential new income streams;
- Analysis of rechargeable work for both revenue and capital schemes;
- On-going business reconstruction work in ETO to identify other savings and efficiency options that may be brought forward to assist in the delivery of services within current and future budgets.

3.2 Performance against these actions is monitored alongside the existing Directorate budget, including feeding back opportunities to mitigate pressures and/or deliver savings through the Medium Term Financial Plan.

### 4. Reserves

4.1 At the end of 2011/12 the Directorate had a surplus on accumulated balances of £(0.200)m, which has been carried forward to 2012/13.

<b>Utilisation of Carry forward Reserve 2012/13</b>	<b>(£000's)</b>
Surplus balance brought forward at 1 April 2012	(200)
Committed in 2012/13	145
Period 11 adverse variances with medium/long term action plans	457
Period 11 underlying projected underspend	(410)
<b>Surplus Balance after outturn/commitments</b>	<b>(8)</b>

4.2 The 2011/12 outturn report included commitments relating to car parking £0.105m and traded services £0.040m which are funded from the £(0.200)m surplus balance carried forward. The remaining reserve balance of £(0.055)m plus the implemented and expected management actions leaves a forecast surplus balance of £(0.008)m to be carried forward at the end of this financial year.

4.3 There are also additional costs of £0.020m relating to air quality monitoring as part of the Biomass Public Inquiry which the Executive have previously approved from the General Reserve.



## 5. Savings

- 5.1 The Council Budget included for £(12.2)m of savings and increased income, of which £(1.734)m related to ETO Directorate. The table below summarises the current forecast of this savings target, which is unchanged from last month:

	<b>Budget target (£000's)</b>	<b>Outturn (£000's)</b>	<b>Variance (£000's)</b>
Increased and new income	(132)	(82)	50
Transformation savings	(1,084)	(1,084)	0
Other savings	(518)	(493)	25
Mitigating action across ETO	0	(75)	(75)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(1,734)</b>	<b>(1,734)</b>	<b>0</b>

- 5.2 There are £0.075m planned savings which have not delivered some or all of their entire target. These are listed below and one-off mitigation has been identified in 2012/13 while medium to long term management action plans are developed:

- ETO 21 – “Changes in the law will allow the Council to charge for the reasonable cost of processing planning applications” **£0.050m**. This income will not be achieved as the expected changes in national regulations for the setting of planning fees have been delayed indefinitely.
- CWB 19 – “Review of sport and leisure contracts (Deckers; Sale Watersports Centre and Trafford Community Leisure Trust)” **£0.075m**. The saving includes **£0.025m** from the Sale Watersports Centre/Deckers contract which will not be achieved.

## 6. Recommendations

- 6.1 It is recommended that:

- The net forecast overspend for 2012/13 of £0.047m be noted;
- Management action and use of balances to fully mitigate forecast overspends in 2012/13 be noted, which results in a projected year end surplus of £(0.008)m to be carried forward.

**Period 11 Forecast revenue expenditure and income variances, and movements from Period 10 monitoring report.**

The following tables detail the main variances from the revenue budget to the forecasted outturn, and the movements since the last monitoring report in both Management Accounts (“Budget Book”) format and by cause or area of impact of the variance.

<b>Budget Book Format (Objective analysis)</b>	<b>Full Year Budget (£000's)</b>	<b>P11 Forecast Outturn (£000's)</b>	<b>P11 Outturn Variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 Outturn Variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 – P11 Movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Ref</b>
<b>Highways &amp; Environment Portfolio</b>						
Highway and Network Management, incl. Traffic & Transportation	5,439	5,434	(5)	(1)	(4)	ETO 1
School Crossing Patrols	503	461	(42)	(40)	(2)	ETO 2
Parking Services	(391)	(419)	(28)	(28)	0	ETO 3
Groundforce	4,712	4,817	105	93	12	ETO 4
Bereavement Services	(911)	(921)	(10)	(10)	0	ETO 5
Sustainability & Greenspace	487	452	(35)	(33)	(2)	ETO 6
Waste Management (incl. WDA levy)	18,763	18,667	(96)	(76)	(20)	ETO 7
Public Protection	1,072	1,177	105	103	2	ETO 8
Directorate Strategy & Business Support	443	419	(24)	(6)	(18)	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>30,117</b>	<b>30,087</b>	<b>(30)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>(32)</b>	
<b>Safe &amp; Strong Communities Portfolio</b>						
Crime and Disorder	289	365	76	81	(5)	ETO 9
Culture and Sport	2,222	2,223	1	1	0	ETO10
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>2,588</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>(5)</b>	
<b>Operational Services for Education</b>	<b>(329)</b>	<b>(329)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Future Management Action Plan</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(29)</b>	<b>29</b>	ETO11
<b>Total Forecast Period 11</b>	<b>32,299</b>	<b>32,346</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>(8)</b>	

<b>ETO Business Reason / Area (Subjective analysis)</b>	<b>P11 Outturn Variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 Outturn Variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 – P11 Movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Ref</b>
<b>Highway and Network Management, incl. Traffic &amp; Transportation</b>				
Fee income	(180)	(180)	0	
Street lighting energy costs	217	221	(4)	
Supplies and services costs	(42)	(42)	0	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>(5)</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>(4)</b>	ETO 1
<b>School Crossing Patrols - vacancies</b>	<b>(42)</b>	<b>(40)</b>	<b>(2)</b>	ETO 2
<b>Parking Services</b>				
Car Parking income shortfall	126	126	0	
Car Parking business rates refund (c/f from 2011/12)	(105)	(105)	0	
Current year business rates	(30)	(30)	0	
Staffing and running costs	(19)	(19)	0	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>(28)</b>	<b>(28)</b>	<b>0</b>	ETO 3
<b>Groundforce</b>				
Supplies, services, overtime costs – slippage in reorganisation	47	35	12	
Open space reserve commitments – funding shortfall	58	58	0	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>12</b>	ETO 4
<b>Bereavement Services</b>				
Projected Income above budgeted	(10)	(10)	0	ETO 5
<b>Sustainability and Greenspace – vacancy, supplies &amp; services</b>	<b>(35)</b>	<b>(33)</b>	<b>(2)</b>	ETO 6
<b>Waste Management</b>				
Commercial Waste income shortfall	10	30	(20)	
Contract costs	(50)	(50)	0	
Running costs – depot and others	(41)	(41)	0	
Bulky waste income	(15)	(15)	0	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>(96)</b>	<b>(76)</b>	<b>(20)</b>	ETO 7

ETO Business Reason / Area (Subjective analysis)	P11 Outturn Variance (£000's)	P10 Outturn Variance (£000's)	P10 – P11 Movement (£000's)	Ref
<b>Public Protection</b>				
Planning fee income – savings shortfall	50	50	0	
Licensing income shortfall	56	56	0	
Pest Control income shortfall	25	25	0	
ICT one-off costs	20	20	0	
Mitigating Action – delay filling vacancies	(46)	(48)	2	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>2</b>	ETO 8
<b>Crime and Disorder</b>				
Income shortfall – penalty notices	90	86	4	
Staff vacancies and running costs	(14)	(5)	(9)	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>(5)</b>	ETO 9
<b>Culture and Sport</b>				
Contract saving shortfall	25	25	0	
Sport and Leisure running costs	(14)	(14)	0	
Sale Waterside Arts Centre income	(10)	(10)	0	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	ETO10
<b>Directorate Strategy &amp; Business Support</b>				
Supplies and services	(24)	(6)	(18)	
<b>Future Management Action across ETO</b>				
Additional income	0	0	0	
Accelerated Savings	0	0	0	
Controls over running costs	0	(29)	29	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(29)</b>	<b>29</b>	ETO11
<b>Total Forecast Period 11</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>(8)</b>	

## **NOTES ON FORECAST OUTTURN VARIANCES (PERIOD 11)**

### **ETO 1 – Highways & Network Management - £(0.005)m (favourable)**

Fee income in Highways and Transportation is £(0.180)m more than expected compared to the budget. This includes fees which can be capitalised due to the continual review of revenue and capital projects throughout the year. Income from outdoor media site advertising also continues to exceed expectations, following on from 2011/12, and is also reflected in the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Street lighting energy costs exceed budget by £0.217m as a result of external market conditions, a favourable movement of £(0.004)m this month. This includes £0.050m relating to industry changes in calculating energy usage, plus the on-going cumulative effect of inflationary increases in prices from 2011/12, and forecast for 2012/13 based on the latest contract and usage volumes.

A review of street lighting is well-developed with a number of options being considered to reduce energy and maintenance costs over the medium to long term. This will likely require capital investment and the timing and nature of this investment will be critical in terms of taking the most efficient advantage of new technologies. This will be taken forward in the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Management action in controlling running costs is projected to produce an underspend of £(0.042)m by year end.

### **ETO 2 – School Crossing Patrols – £(0.042)m (favourable)**

There is a forecast underspend on staffing of £(0.042)m due to difficulties in the filling of vacancies, which has continued from 2011/12 – a favourable movement of £(0.002)m this month. Successful recruitment days have been held in recent months and adverts placed to fill vacant positions as they arise.

### **ETO 3 – Parking Services – £(0.028)m (favourable)**

There is an overall shortfall in parking income of £0.126m due to economic conditions affecting the number and length of visits. This has been partly mitigated through the use of £(0.105)m of business rate refunds carried forward in the ETO reserve from 2011/12, giving a net shortfall of £0.021m.

Car parking is also under review, alongside a Council-wide review of all enforcement activity, with a view to providing a sustainable solution from 2013/14. This has been taken forward in the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Business rates are £(0.030)m less than expected as rate revaluations agreed in 2011/12 are reflected in the current year bills.

Action to control general running costs is generating a projected underspend of £(0.015)m, with staffing expected to be £(0.004)m underspent, as reported previously.

**ETO 4 – Groundforce - £0.105m (adverse)**

Supplies, services and overtime costs are forecast to be £0.047m above budget due to slippage in staff re-organisations, plus fuel and material cost increases – an adverse movement of £0.012m this month.

There is a budget commitment of £0.106m funded from the Open Space reserve. This reserve only had £(0.048)m remaining at the start of year and an exit strategy is being formulated over the medium term to bring activity in line with available funding.

**ETO 5 – Bereavement Services £(0.010)m (favourable)**

Projected income levels for the year are expected to exceed the budget by £(0.010)m.

**ETO 6 – Sustainability and Greenspace £(0.035)m (favourable)**

Management action to control running costs, plus a vacant post, has resulted in a projected underspend of £(0.035)m. This is a favourable movement of £(0.002)m from last month.

**ETO 7 – Waste Management – £(0.096)m (favourable)**

Commercial waste income is £0.010m less than budgeted, which is a favourable movement of £(0.020)m from last reported based on latest information. The cost of disposing of commercial waste through the GM Waste Disposal Authority has made this service increasingly uncompetitive with private sector providers, and is leading to an on-going loss of business. A review of this service is underway, with options also being evaluated when the waste collection contract is re-tendered in 2014. This has been taken forward in the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Management action to control contract and general running costs has resulted in a projected underspend of £(0.091)m. This includes £(0.050)m relating to the waste collection contract as reported previously, plus an additional £(0.041)m from general running costs, including depots.

Income from bulky waste removal is expected to be £(0.015)m above previous expectations, as reported last month.

**ETO 8 – Public Protection - £0.105m (adverse)**

Planning fee regulation changes - income shortfall £0.050m: this budget saving will not be achieved as the expected national changes in planning regulations have now been delayed indefinitely based on recent ministerial announcements. This has been taken forward in the Medium Term Financial Plan.

There is a projected shortfall in licence fee income of £0.056m resulting from a reduction in applications and also due to delays in implementing staff re-organisations.

Pest control income from domestic and commercial properties is expected to be £0.025m less than budgeted. This is due to the weather conditions over the summer and autumn.

One-off ICT costs of £0.020m related to the project to amalgamate business systems and, hence, deliver a sustainable efficiency saving from 2013/14.

These shortfalls are partly mitigated through management action to delay filling vacancies and controlling running costs of £(0.048)m, an adverse movement of £0.002m this month.

**ETO 9 – Crime and Disorder £0.076m (adverse)**

There is a £0.090m shortfall in income from fixed penalty notices, which is £0.004m higher than previously reported. This is partly mitigated in-year by £(0.014)m of staffing and running costs underspends, which is a favourable movement of £(0.009)m this month. The income targets and operational model of this service is included in the Council-wide enforcement review alongside Parking Services, as mentioned in ETO 3 above.

**ETO 10 – Sport and Leisure £0.001m (adverse)**

The budget includes a £0.025m saving from the contract with Sale Watersports Centre/Deckers, based on discussions with the provider during 2011 and early 2012. This saving will not be realised this financial year.

Management action to control running costs in Sport and Leisure are expected to produce an underspend on £(0.014)k.

Projections of income at Sale Waterside Arts Centre show that the budget target is expected to be exceeded by £(0.010)m.

**ETO 11 – Future Management Action Plan across ETO**

The Directorate has agreed and implemented a range of measures to bring the forecast overspend in period 3 in line with the approved budget (see section 3). These measures have delivered £(0.627)m since first initiated in period 4, including £(0.056)m this month. This has been offset by additional adverse variances identified of £0.215m, with £0.019m this month.

Savings from management action are reflected in the individual service projections as they are delivered and the future savings plan updated each month. The previously reported requirement for future planned action of £0.029m has been achieved in full this month. The reported overspend of £0.047m for the Directorate can be fully covered by the balance of £(0.055)m carried forward from last financial year.

## TRAFFORD MBC

Report to: EGP Directorate Management Team  
 Date: 20 March 2013  
 Report for: Discussion  
 Report author: EGP/ETO Finance Manager

Report Title

**Revenue Budget Monitoring 2012/13 – Period 11 (April 2012 to February 2013)**

**1. Outturn Forecast**

- 1.1 The current approved revenue budget for the year is £3.307m. The forecast outturn is £3.208m, which is an underspend of £(0.099)m for the year. There is a favourable movement of £(0.069)m this month. This is largely due to additional investment property income recently received from backdated rent reviews, and also from minor staffing and running cost savings.
- 1.2 There are still underlying pressures on the Directorate budget due to adverse external influences on budgeted levels of income relating to investment properties (see paragraph 2 below). These have been taken forward in the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- 1.3 In addition to the above, the July 2012 Executive approved that costs directly associated with the Biomass Public Inquiry be funded from the General Reserve. Based on latest information, including invoices received, the overall cost is expected to be £0.140m, as reported last month.

**2. Explanation of Variance**

- 2.1 The projected variances at period 11 and movements from period 10 are summarised as follows, with more detail at Appendix 1:
- Shortfall in investment property income £0.197m due to the on-going adverse effect of the economy primarily on town centre rents, unchanged from the last report;
  - The determination of the rent review of the Sale Tesco store was confirmed by the arbitrators in August, and income of £(0.134)m was receivable as a one-off, backdated to October 2009. Fees payable to the arbitrators of £0.009m are incorporated in this total.
  - Confirmation of the final 2011/12 rental income from Stretford Arndale by the agents of the owners was received in August, at £(0.077)m higher than had been anticipated.
  - Income from backdated rent reviews in relation to Plymouth Road and Chester Road has been received this month of £(0.041)m;



- Minor variances in Asset Management running costs and income are £(0.049)m, which is a favourable movement of £(0.008)m this month.
- Planning Application fees income shortfall of £0.052m, which is unchanged, and includes for the 15% increase in planning fees effective from 22 November 2012 reported previously.
- Fee income from housing improvement capital schemes is expected to be £0.018m less than budget due to a reduced volume of property sales, and is unchanged.
- Other favourable variances of £(0.075)m from staffing vacancies and running costs, in particular relating to the management review undertaken this financial year. This is an increase of £(0.020)m from last month due to management posts remaining vacant longer than had been predicted.

2.2 The adverse variances relating to property income have continued from 2011/12, and the Directorate was able to fully mitigate this pressure last year from a variety of cost reduction and income generating measures. This mitigating action has continued into 2012/13, with new opportunities also explored and implemented to bring the overall forecast overspend for the Directorate in line with the approved budget. Planning income also continues to be monitored on a weekly basis.

### 3. Reserves

3.1 At the end of 2011/12 the Directorate had (£0.079)m from previous years which is fully committed on rephased projects, per the 2011/12 outturn report. There is a forecast surplus balance of £(0.099)m at the end of this financial year, which will be carried forward to support on-going project work.

<b>Utilisation of Carry forward Reserve 2012/13</b>	<b>(£000's)</b>
Surplus balance brought forward at 1 April 2012	(79)
Rephased projects committed from 2011/12	79
Period 11 variance	(99)
<b>(Surplus) Balance after outturn/commitments</b>	<b>(99)</b>

3.2 The Directorate has a number of project related budgets for which commitments and phasing can straddle financial year end (e.g. Housing Growth). In such cases, the budget relating to the outstanding commitment will also be carried forward in the above reserve and earmarked accordingly. This will be detailed in the year-end outturn report as appropriate.

3.3 In July 2012, the Executive approved that costs directly associated with the Biomass Public Inquiry be funded from the General Reserve. These were estimated at the time to be approximately £0.100m. Based on latest information, including from invoices received, overall costs are predicted to be £0.140m, as reported last month.

### 4. Savings

4.1 The Council Budget included for £(12.2)m of savings and increased income, of which £(0.591)m related to EGP Directorate. The table below summarises the current forecast of this savings target:

	<b>Budget target (£000's)</b>	<b>Outturn (£000's)</b>	<b>Variance (£000's)</b>
Increased and new income	(111)	(59)	52
Transformation savings	(120)	(120)	0
Other savings	(360)	(360)	0
Mitigating one-off savings	0	(52)	(52)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(591)</b>	<b>(591)</b>	<b>0</b>

4.2 There is £0.052m of planned savings which have not delivered some of their target. This is listed below. The shortfall has been fully mitigated by one-off savings achieved across the EGP budget.

- EGP 12 & 13 – “Additional income from locally determined application fees” **£0.111m**. This income will not be achieved in full due to indefinite delays in changes in regulations for the setting of planning fees. The adverse variance is part mitigated by £(0.020)m to reflect the implementation of a national 15% increase in fees from 22 November 2012. The full year effect of the 15% increase will mitigate the saving in full from 2013/14. The current year shortfall is further mitigated by an additional £(0.010)m forecast from pre-application fees introduced in July this year. In-year performance to date is also above expectations by £(0.029)m, as previously reported. The overall savings shortfall is unchanged from the previous report.

## 5. Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that:

- The forecast underspend from the 2012/13 budget be noted.

**Period 11 Forecast revenue expenditure and income variances, and movements from Period 10 monitoring report.**

The following tables detail the main variances from the revenue budget to the forecasted outturn, and the movements since the last monitoring report in both Management Accounts (“Budget Book”) format and by cause or area of impact of the variance.

<b>Budget Book Format (Objective analysis)</b>	<b>Full Year Budget (£000's)</b>	<b>P11 Forecast Outturn (£000's)</b>	<b>P11 Outturn Variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 Outturn Variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 – P11 Movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Ref</b>
<b>Economic Growth &amp; Prosperity Portfolio</b>						
Asset Management	1,074	980	(94)	(45)	(49)	EGP1
Planning & Building Control	173	200	27	27	0	EGP2
Strategic Planning & Development	659	684	25	25	0	EGP2
Economic Development and Regeneration	603	587	(16)	(16)	0	EGP4
Housing Strategy	613	623	10	10	0	EGP3
Directorate Strategy & Business Support	185	134	(51)	(31)	(20)	EGP4
<b>Total Forecast Period 11</b>	<b>3,307</b>	<b>3,208</b>	<b>(99)</b>	<b>(30)</b>	<b>(69)</b>	

EGP	P11 Outturn Variance (£000's)	P10 Outturn Variance (£000's)	P10 – P11 Movement (£000's)	Ref
<b>Business Reason / Area (Subjective analysis)</b>				
<b>Asset Management</b>				
Investment Property Rental Income:				
- Stretford Arndale - shortfall	77	77	0	
- Stretford Arndale – backdated re 2011/12	(77)	(77)	0	
- Sale Tesco – backdated rent review	(134)	(134)	0	
- Stamford Centre - shortfall	35	35	0	
- Airport - shortfall	25	25	0	
- Market Street - shortfall	29	29	0	
- Other properties - shortfall	31	31	0	
- Plymouth Rd & Chester Rd – backdated rent	(41)	0	(41)	
Surplus property costs	10	10	0	
Minor running cost savings and income – Facilities Management	(49)	(41)	(8)	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>(94)</b>	<b>(45)</b>	<b>(49)</b>	EGP1
<b>Planning &amp; Building Control</b>				
Delay in implementing new planning regulations	27	27	0	EGP2
<b>Strategic Planning &amp; Development</b>				
Delay in implementing new planning regulations	25	25	0	EGP2
<b>Economic Development and Regeneration</b>				
Staffing vacancies	(16)	(16)	0	EGP4
<b>Housing Strategy</b>				
Housing improvements capital fee income	18	18	0	EGP3
Minor running cost savings	(8)	(8)	0	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Directorate Strategy &amp; Business Support</b>				
Staffing vacancies - management	(51)	(31)	(20)	EGP4
<b>Total Forecast Period 11</b>	<b>(99)</b>	<b>(30)</b>	<b>(69)</b>	

## NOTES ON FORECAST OUTTURN VARIANCES (PERIOD 11)

### **EGP 1 – Asset Management – Investment properties - £(0.094)m (favourable)**

This includes backdated income above expectations of £(0.077)m relating to Stretford Arndale and £(0.134)m from Sale Tesco, as reported in period 5.

For Stretford Arndale, the Agents for the owners have managed to make a number of short term lettings to ensure the number of vacant units is minimised and this has held up gross rental income despite rent reductions on the bigger units of around 40% upon lease renewals. The year-end rental payment notified during August is hence £(0.077)m higher than the £(0.055)m expected.

However, there has still been a decline in gross rent of 12% over the whole Mall in the last 2 years and there is an underlying pressure of £0.077m going forward. The overall shortfall is due to assumptions regarding leases expiring in the Mall and a continuing difficult retail economy, and includes for the effects of the continuing volatile nature of the retail sector. The situation will continue to be monitored as information is received from the managing agents and updates provided.

The determination of the rent review of the Sale Tesco store was also confirmed by the arbitrators in August, and income of £(0.134)m is receivable above expectations. This is a one-off amount backdated to October 2009. Fees of £0.009m to the arbitrators are included within this figure.

The effect of the economy is adversely affecting other rents across the property portfolio, including Stamford Centre £0.035m, Market Street £0.029m, Airport £0.025m and others £0.031m. This is included in the EGP Medium Term Financial Plan.

Income from backdated rent reviews has been received this month relating to Plymouth Road £(0.022)m and Chester Road £(0.019)m.

There are a number of minor staffing and running cost underspends plus additional SLA income totalling £(0.049)m across Facilities Management, a favourable movement of £(0.008)m this month.

### **EGP 2 – Planning application fees – income shortfall £0.052m (adverse)**

The approved 2012/13 budget included additional income of £(0.111)m across the Directorate based on proposed national changes to planning regulations. These changes have been delayed indefinitely which puts the whole amount of saving at risk. The Government has taken this into account, and implemented a national increase in fees of 15% to bring in line with current prices, effective from 22 November 2012. This was earlier than previously anticipated and helps mitigate the current-year shortfall by a £(0.020)m, and will fully mitigate the shortfall in 2013/14.

Monitoring of planning fee income has shown that performance for the year to date has been higher than expected by £(0.029)m, as reported previously. Pre application fees were introduced in July this year for which £(0.010)m income is reported.

Planning and building control fees continue to be monitored on a weekly basis throughout the year.

**EGP3 – Housing Strategy – Housing Improvement fee income £0.018m (adverse)**

The cost of housing improvement work is recouped when properties are sold in the future, and the sale proceeds are reinvested in new works to top up the existing capital programme. Where new improvement works are carried out, this generates fee income for the service to recover the Council's management and administration costs. There has been a reduction in the number of property sales due to the adverse economic climate and this has reduced the availability of capital funds for new works. Fee income has, hence, reduced compared to that expected in the revenue budget.

**EGP4 – Management staff underspends £(0.067)m (favourable)**

The Directorate has undergone a complete senior management restructure during the financial year and the timing of staff changes has given rise to an underspend of £(0.067)m. This includes an additional £(0.020)m this month from on-going management vacancies which have taken longer than expected to be filled.

## TRAFFORD MBC

Report to: Transformation & Resources Directorate Management Team  
Date: 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013  
Report for: Discussion  
Report author: Finance Manager

**Revenue Budget Monitoring 2012/13 – Period 11  
(April 2012 – February 2013 inclusive)**

**1. Outturn Forecast**

- 1.1 The current approved revenue budget for the year is £19.735m. The outturn forecast is £19.052m which is £(0.683)m below approved budget. This is a £(0.069)m favourable variance since last month.
- 1.2 The net favourable movement in the month is a result of:

**£(45)k** favourable: a number of vacancies, particularly in ICT and Finance, are being held as a consequence of future savings proposals or recent staff restructures.

**£(23)k** favourable; adjustment due to receipt of DWP Welfare Reform Grant.

**£(1)k** favourable; net minor movements in running costs and income.

**2. MTFP Savings and increased income**

- 2.1 The council's overall budget includes £(12.161)m of savings and increased income, of which £(2.027)m relates to T&R. The table below summarises the current forecast of this savings target:

	<b>Budget target (£000's)</b>	<b>End of Year Forecast (£000's)</b>	<b>Variance (£000's)</b>
Increased and new income	(146)	(146)	0
Transformation savings*	(560)	(510)	50
Financial Management review	(368)	(368)	0
ICT review	(120)	(120)	0
Reduction in ICT contracts	(214)	(214)	0
Reduction in specialist training	(100)	(100)	0
Reduce Community Action Pots	(150)	(150)	0
Reduction in various goods & services	(172)	(172)	0
Other savings	(197)	(247)	(50)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(2,027)</b>	<b>(2,027)</b>	<b>0</b>

\* Transformation savings have an additional governance arrangement and are monitored in greater detail monthly by the Transformation Board.

- 2.2 The CCTV budgeted increased income of £(60)k in 2012/13 will only be partly achieved in-year leaving a £50k shortfall. The shortfall will be obviated by other savings across T&R which have already been identified.

### 3. Service carry-forward reserve

- 3.1 The Directorate has accumulated balances of £(1.009)m brought forward from 2011/12. Over 2012/13 and future years the surplus balance will be used to ensure that the Directorate can meet and sustain the challenges of the future, particularly ensuring support for the Transformation Programme:

<b>Table 1: Utilisation of Carry Forward Reserve 2012/13</b>	<b>£000's</b>
Balance b/f 1 April 2012	(1,009)
<b>Planned use in 2012/13:</b>	
EDRM and Storage Support	115
Library Management System	102
Local Support scheme for Council Tax	90
Transformation support	79
E-Readers, Postal Identifiers, CCTV Marketing	20
Disaster Recovery Contact Centre	15
P11 Forecasted Outturn	(683)
<b>Remaining Balance at 31 March 2013</b>	<b>(1,271)</b>



**Annual Delivery Plan 2012/13 (this section of the dashboard details the measures for which the portfolio holder / Corporate Director is responsible which specifically support the delivery of corporate objectives)**

Corporate Priority		Low Council Tax & Value for Money							
<p>To ensure that the Council can demonstrate it provides efficient effective and economical, value for money services to the people of Trafford, by undertaking the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver the Council's Transformation Programme;</li> <li>• Continue to provide effective use of resources;</li> <li>• Continue to manage the reputation of the Council and the borough as a whole.</li> </ul>									
Key Performance Measure	Outturn 2011/12	Performance Status & Direction of Travel							
		November		December (Q3)		January		February	
		Current	Target	Current	Target	Current	Target	Current	Target
<b>Deliver the Council's Transformation Programme</b>									
Minimum reserve level (LCT 15)	£9.21m G	£7.715m ↔	£6m G	£7.703m ↓	£6m G	£7.799m ↑	£6m G	*£6.624m ↓	£6m G
Delivery of efficiency and other savings (NI179)	£21.3m G			£12.18m ↑	£12.16m G				

\* Includes all future known commitments identified in the Council Budget Report 20 February 2013.

Continue to provide effective use of resources									
Reduce the level of sickness absence (council-wide excluding schools) (Days) (BV12i)	9.93 R	10.01 ↓	9 R	9.72 ↑	9 R	10.18 ↓	9 R		
Achieving a higher investment rate than the national average (7 day cash LIBID) (LCT 20)	0.55% G	0.52% ↓	0.1% G	0.51% ↓	0.1% G	0.5% ↓	0.1% G	0.5% ↔	0.1% G
Land Sales Programme (FM 10)	£5.5m R			£2.05m ↓	£2m G				
Continue to manage the reputation of the Council and the borough as a whole									
% collected for year - council tax (BV 9)	97.82% G	78.04% ↑	77.85% G	87.58% ↑	87.06% G	96.57% ↓	96.11% G	96.57% ↓	97.28% G
% collected for year - business rates (BV 10)	97.4% A	78.19% ↑	77.82% G	87.2% ↓	87.38% A	95.93% ↓	95.73% G	97% ↓	96.95% G
Average days to recover external debts (LCT 02)	85 R	47 ↑	56 G	53 ↓	56 G	33 ↑	56 G	33 ↑	56 G
Increase the % of all calls that will be answered within 20 seconds (LCT09)	81% G	92% ↔	80% G	89% ↓	80% G	92% ↑	80% G	91% ↓	80% G

Reduce the % of lost calls to the Access Trafford contact centre (LCT 10)	6% G	<b>1%</b> ↑	5% G	<b>4%</b> ↓	5% G	<b>1%</b> ↑	5% G	<b>1%</b> ↔	5% G
Percentage of Housing Benefit Overpayments collected (LCT 16)	63.1% A	<b>69.76%</b> ↓	70% A	<b>68.74%</b> ↓	70% A	<b>66.15%</b> ↓	70% A	<b>68.72%</b> ↑	70% A
<p>Our performance has exceeded our target of 70% for in month collection (achieved 113%). As a result cumulative performance has increased from 66.15% to 68.72%. Cumulative collection this time last year was 61.32%, which demonstrates we are improving.</p> <p>The 70% in year collection target remains very challenging. There is a full recovery program planned for the remainder of the financial year and proactive recovery will continue in order to assist us to achieve our target.</p> <p>The budgeted income from the recovery of overpaid Housing Benefit is £954k in 2012/13. We have collected £1.2m consequently there will be no effect on the Council's financial resource.</p> <p>The recovery program will be adhered to and we are undertaking proceedings each month against debtors. Additionally close monitoring of the debt raised will take place to ensure that the level of overpayments is minimised in the first place. This will assist with the overall collection performance.</p> <p>This work will be carried out using current resource levels.</p>									
To actively investigate allegations of benefit fraud and ensure where suitable that sanctions and/or prosecutions are enforced (LCT 17)	79 G			<b>54</b> ↓	56 A				
Conduct and conclude investigations into alleged benefit fraud that identify more serious abuses (i.e. high yield) of the benefits system (total overpayments £) (LCT 18)	£619,052 G			<b>£463,470</b> ↑	£450k G				
Average time to process Housing /Council Tax Benefit new claims and change events (Days) (NI 181)	7.16 G	<b>6.99</b> ↓	7.5 G	<b>7.12</b> ↓	7.5 G	<b>7.3</b> ↓	7.5 G	<b>6.91</b> ↑	7.5 G

## Appendix 1

### Period 11 Forecast Outturn revenue expenditure and income variances, and movements from Period 10 monitoring report

The following tables detail the main variances from the revenue budget to the forecasted outturn, and the movements since the last monitoring report, in both Management Accounts (“Budget Book”) format and by cause or area of impact of the variance.

Budget Book Format (Objective analysis)	Full Year Budget (£000's)	P11 Forecast Outturn (£000's)	P11 Outturn variance (£000's)	P10 Outturn variance (£000's)	P10 to P11 movement (£000's)	Note ref
<b>Transformation and Resources Portfolio</b>						
Legal & Democratic	1,943	2,059	116	105	11	T&R1, 2, 5
Communications & Customer Services	7,598	7,171	(427)	(389)	(38)	T&R1, 2, 5
Partnerships & Performance	2,960	2,993	33	23	10	T&R1, 3
Strategic Human Resources	3,023	2,877	(146)	(136)	(10)	T&R1, 2, 5
Corporate Leadership and Support	401	228	(173)	(173)		T&R1
<b>sub-total</b>	<b>15,925</b>	<b>15,328</b>	<b>(597)</b>	<b>(570)</b>	<b>(27)</b>	
<b>Finance Portfolio</b>						
Finance Services	3,810	3,724	(86)	(44)	(42)	T&R1, 2, 4, 5
<b>sub-total</b>	<b>3,810</b>	<b>3,724</b>	<b>(86)</b>	<b>(44)</b>	<b>(42)</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,735</b>	<b>19,052</b>	<b>(683)</b>	<b>(614)</b>	<b>(69)</b>	

<b>Business Reason / Area (Subjective analysis)</b>	<b>P11 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 to P11 movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Note ref</b>
Management of vacancies	(669)	(624)	(45)	T&R1
Running costs	(88)	(93)	5	T&R2
CCTV – Projected shortfall in income	89	92	(3)	T&R3
Proceeds of Crime income	196	193	3	T&R4
Other Income	(211)	(182)	(29)	T&R5
<b>Total</b>	<b>(683)</b>	<b>(614)</b>	<b>(69)</b>	

## **NOTES ON PROJECTED VARIANCES**

### **T&R1**

There are a number of posts which were held vacant whilst staffing structures were being reviewed. Favourable movement in the month reflects vacancies and reductions in agency staff in ICT and Finance.

### **T&R2**

Running costs variances for deferred expenditure are shown below

Communications £(46)k

Access Trafford £(65)k

There are also minor variances in running costs across other Directorate services including ICT contracts, legal fees, postages, HR software and contracts costs.

### **T&R3**

Operational issues have delayed the development and marketing of the new CCTV Control Room products. £50k of the new anticipated income stream of £(60)k will not be achieved until 2013/2014.

### **T&R4**

The expected receipt date for a Proceeds of Crime case has been reviewed and a further £3k of income will now not be received in 2012/13.

### **T&R5**

Management action has generated increased income from;

- Activity with education sector e.g. schools, £(72)k
- A legal services arrangement with the Probation Service, £(18)k
- Collaborative arrangements £(42)k
- Libraries fees and charges income £(33)k
- Land Charges income £(22)k
- Other minor income variations across the Directorate £(24)k.

## TRAFFORD MBC

Report to: Director of Finance  
 Date: 21 March 2013  
 Report for: Information  
 Report author: Head of Financial Management

**Report Title**

**Revenue Budget Monitoring 2012/13 – Period 11 - Council-Wide Budgets  
 (April 2012 to February 2013 inclusive)**

**1 Outturn Forecast**

1.1 The current approved revenue budget for the year is £25.384m. The outturn forecast is £24.834m, which is £(0.550)m under the budget, the same as last month.

1.2 Appendix 1 details by variance area the projected outturn as compared to the approved revenue budget, with the main variances being;

Treasury Management – savings in debt interest repayments £(0.337)m and increased investment interest £(0.106)m;

External audit fees £(0.106)m, relating mainly to a reduction in the standard audit fee ;

Eight Right-To-Buy sales of ex-Council Houses, £(0.080)m;

AGMA projects re-prioritised, resulting in additional costs to the Council, £0.047m;

Reduced Housing Benefit subsidy £0.020m, relating to the use of bed and breakfast accommodation for homeless people;

Other minor variances of £0.012m.

## 2 MTFP Savings and increased income

- 2.1 The Council-wide budget includes a saving target of £(0.231)m from the overall Council budget of £(12.2)m for savings and increased income. The table below summarises the current forecast of this savings target:

	<b>Budget target (£000's)</b>	<b>End of Year Forecast (£000's)</b>	<b>Variance (£000's)</b>
Increased and new income	0	0	0
Transformation savings	0	0	0
Other savings	(231)	(231)	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>(231)</b>	<b>(231)</b>	<b>0</b>

All budget options put forward for delivery in 2012/13 are expected to achieve their targets by the year end.

## 3 Service carry-forward reserve and Recommendations

- 3.1 The underspend within Council-wide budgets is transferred to the General Reserve, as detailed in the summary report.

**Period 11 Forecast Outturn revenue expenditure and income variances, and movements from Period 10 monitoring report**

The following tables detail the main variances from the revenue budget to the forecasted outturn, and the movements since the last monitoring report in both Management Accounts (“Budget Book”) format and by cause or area of impact of the variance.

<b>Budget Book Format (Objective analysis)</b>	<b>Full Year Budget (£000's)</b>	<b>P11 Forecast Outturn (£000's)</b>	<b>P11 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 to P11 movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Ref</b>
<b>Finance Portfolio</b>						
Precepts, Levies & Subscriptions	16,536	16,583	47	47		C-W3
Provisions (bad debts, pensions, property rates)	1,745	1,745				
Treasury Management	9,051	8,608	(443)	(443)		C-W1
Insurance	647	647				
Members Expenses	942	942				
Grants	(3,627)	(3,627)				
Other Centrally held budgets	90	(64)	(154)	(154)		C-W2
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,384</b>	<b>24,834</b>	<b>(550)</b>	<b>(550)</b>	<b>0</b>	



<b>Business Reason / Area (Subjective analysis)</b>	<b>P11 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 Outturn variance (£000's)</b>	<b>P10 to P11 movement (£000's)</b>	<b>Ref</b>
Treasury Management:				
- Investment Income	(106)	(106)		C-W1
- Debt Management cost savings	(337)	(337)		C-W1
Other Centrally held budgets				
- External audit fees	(106)	(106)		C-W2
- Right-To-Buy sales	(80)	(80)		C-W2
- Housing Benefit subsidy	20	20		C-W2
- Other minor payments	12	12		C-W2
Precepts, Levies & Subscriptions				
- AGMA Budgets	47	47		C-W3
<b>Total</b>	<b>(550)</b>	<b>(550)</b>	<b>0</b>	

## NOTES ON PROJECTED VARIANCES

### **C-W1 – Treasury Management - £(0.443)m (favourable), a movement of £(0.013)m since the last report.**

A rephasing of schemes within the Council's Capital Investment Programme, funded by prudential borrowing, was incurred in the final quarter of 2011/12. This will result in a one-off reduction in the amount the Council has to set aside in order to repay debt in 2012/13, £(0.021)m.

In response to the continuing uncertainty of the worldwide economic climate, counterparty security and borrowing rates being considerably higher than investment rates, the new long term borrowing planned to be taken later in the year, will not be taken thereby generating a saving of £(0.314)m in interest payable. This course of action has been undertaken in accordance with advice obtained from the Council's external treasury management consultants.

£(0.095)m relating to a better rate of interest on investments in the first 6 months of the year compared to budget, £(0.020)m as well as additional investment interest earned due to new capital monies (Primary School grant and Section 106 agreement) being received ahead of the capital expenditure being incurred, £(0.075)m.

An additional £(0.013)m of investment interest from favourable cash flow as a result of rephased capital expenditure.

### **C-W2 – Other Centrally held budgets - £(0.124)m favourable**

The Audit Commission fees for 2012/13 have substantially reduced, in particular relating to the standard audit fee, £(0.106)m, due in part to the Council's good quality financial management. There has also been eight Right-To-Buy sales of ex-Council Houses by Trafford Housing Trust, which are not budgeted for, generating income of £(0.080)m to the Council. £0.012m relates to a payment to HM Revenues and Customs for unpaid tax and national insurance following a national investigation into payments to School Improvement Partners.

Housing Options Service Trafford (HOST – managed by Salford Council), who are responsible for Trafford's statutory housing service for the homeless have been using bed and breakfast accommodation due to the high level of demand since summer 2012. The Housing Benefit subsidy arrangements on bed and breakfast tenancies is punitive to discourage Local Authorities from using this accommodation. Trafford will only receive just over half of the benefit expenditure back in subsidy from the DWP and the projected shortfall to the end of March 2013 is £20k.

### **C-W3 – Precepts, Levies & Subscriptions - £0.047m adverse**

A number of projects have been re-prioritised by AGMA in 2012/13 and budgets have been re-aligned accordingly. This includes new and revised projects being funded from savings elsewhere within AGMA budgets. However, the total amount now due to Lead authorities is higher than expected, £0.047m.