

Third Quarter Financial Update 2021/22

Communities, Housing & Environment Committee

1st March 2022

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Part A

Executive Summary & Overview



This report provides members with the financial position as at 31 December 2021, covering activity for both the Council as a whole and this committee's revenue and capital accounts for the first three quarters of 2021/22.

Members will be aware of the significant uncertainty in the 2021/22 budget estimates arising from the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, both in relation to demands on the Council to respond and the speed of local economic recovery. Financial support from central government received during 2020/21 continues to support specific activities, and the unringfenced Covid-19 grant of £860,000 will be used to support recovery and renewal activities.

The headlines for Quarter 3 are as follows:

Part B: Revenue budget – Q3 2021/22

- Overall net expenditure at the end of Quarter 3 for the services reporting to this committee is £3.795m, compared to the approved profiled budget of £4.555m, representing an underspend of £0.761m.

Part C: Capital budget – Q3 2021/22

- Capital expenditure at the end of Quarter 3 was £3.776m against a total budget of £9.798m. Forecast spend for the year is £6.120m.

The budgets in this report are the revised estimates for 2021/22.

Part B

Third Quarter Revenue Budget 2021/22



B2) Revenue Budget

B1.1 The table below provides a detailed summary on the budgeted net income position for CHE services at the end of Quarter 3. The financial figures are presented on an accruals basis (e.g. expenditure for goods and services received, but not yet paid for, is included).

CHE Revenue Budget & Outturn – Quarter 3

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Cost Centre	Approved Budget for Year £000	Budget to 31 December 2021 £000	Actual £000	Variance £000	Forecast 31 March 2022 £000	Forecast Variance 31 March 2022 £000
Parks & Open Spaces	968	739	689	50	958	10
Playground Maintenance & Improvements	148	109	98	10	148	0
Parks Pavilions	45	34	12	22	45	0
Mote Park	249	187	226	-39	299	-49
Parks & Open Spaces Leisure Activities	-2	-1	-0	-1	-2	0
Mote Park Leisure Activities	-19	-14	-19	5	-19	0
Allotments	13	10	8	2	13	0
Cemetery	63	67	26	41	43	20
National Assistance Act	-0	-0	3	-4	-0	0
Crematorium	-898	-618	-677	59	-928	30
Community Safety	28	-7	-11	5	28	0
PCC Grant - Building Safer Communities	0	0	-8	8	0	0
C C T V	77	15	13	2	77	0
Drainage	32	24	6	18	32	0
Licences	-5	-3	-1	-1	-5	0
Licensing Statutory	-63	-47	-90	43	-93	30
Licensing Non Chargeable	8	6	6	0	8	0
Dog Control	28	19	26	-7	28	0
Health Improvement Programme	10	9	0	9	10	0
Pollution Control - General	33	23	5	18	33	0
Contaminated Land	1	0	-1	1	1	0
Waste Crime	38	30	10	20	38	0
Food Hygiene	9	6	-3	9	9	0
Sampling	4	2	0	2	4	0
Occupational Health & Safety	-6	-5	-4	-0	-6	0
Infectious Disease Control	1	1	38	-37	1	0
Noise Control	1	1	0	1	1	0
Pest Control	-12	-9	-2	-7	-12	0
Public Conveniences	208	149	141	7	208	0
Licensing - Hackney & Private Hire	-61	-48	-35	-13	-61	0
Street Cleansing	1,142	843	797	47	1,092	50
Household Waste Collection	1,271	955	982	-27	1,271	0
Commercial Waste Services	-55	-43	-72	29	-55	0
Recycling Collection	745	485	457	28	745	0
Climate change	26	0	0	0	26	0
Community Hub	0	-13	2	-15	0	0

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Cost Centre	Approved Budget for Year £000	Budget to 31 December 2021 £000	Actual £000	Variance £000	Forecast 31 March 2022 £000	Forecast Variance 31 March 2022 £000
Public Health - Obesity	0	-47	-80	33	-108	108
Public Health - Misc Services	0	-1	2	-3	0	0
Grants	166	165	163	2	166	0
Delegated Grants	2	2	1	1	2	0
Parish Services	134	134	133	2	134	0
General Fund Residential Properties	-77	-58	-46	-12	-77	0
Strategic Housing Role	12	-22	-20	-2	12	0
Housing Register & Allocations	14	13	11	1	14	0
Private Sector Renewal	-47	-48	-50	2	-47	0
HMO Licensing	-20	-15	-25	10	-20	0
Homeless Temporary Accommodation	328	135	103	31	298	30
Homelessness Prevention	55	-901	-938	37	-52	107
Predictive Analysis and Preventing Homelessness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aylesbury House	28	20	14	5	28	0
Magnolia House	-1	-1	-20	18	-1	0
St Martins House	4	3	2	1	4	0
Marsham Street	61	46	36	10	61	0
Sundry Temporary Accommodation (TA) Properties	-14	-10	-21	12	-14	0
Pelican Court (Leased TA Property)	0	0	-0	0	0	0
2 Bed Property - Temporary Accommodation	-17	-13	-29	17	-17	0
3 Bed Property - Temporary Accommodation	-71	-53	-75	22	-71	0
4 bed Property - Temporary Accommodation	10	7	4	3	10	0
1 Bed Property- Temporary Accommodation	3	2	-4	6	3	0
Supported Accommodation	0	0	-0	0	0	0
The Trinity Foyer	21	17	25	-8	21	0
Chillington House	-6	-4	-7	3	-6	0
Long Lease Properties	0	0	2	-2	0	0
Marden Caravan Site (Stilebridge Lane)	19	16	23	-7	19	0
Ulcombe Caravan Site (Water Lane)	7	-1	30	-31	34	-27
Head of Environment and Public Realm	110	82	68	15	110	0
Bereavement Services Section	261	196	184	12	261	0
Community Partnerships & Resilience Section	396	283	254	28	363	32
Licensing Section	115	86	79	7	115	0
Environmental Protection Section	272	204	170	34	252	20
Food and Safety Section	267	200	93	107	267	0
Depot Services Section	871	654	634	20	871	0
Biodiversity & Climate Change	62	47	36	11	62	0
Head of Housing & Community Services	111	83	82	1	111	0
Homechoice Section	217	144	117	27	217	0
Housing & Inclusion Section	417	180	114	66	360	57
Housing & Health Section	273	148	80	69	199	75
Housing Management	284	183	159	24	284	0
Homelessness Outreach	6	-104	-111	8	6	0
Salary Slippage 3CHE	-194	-145	0	-145	0	-194
Fleet Workshop & Management	226	169	153	17	226	0
MBS Support Crew	-58	-44	-39	-5	-58	0
Grounds Maintenance - Commercial	-140	-105	-130	25	-140	0
Total	8,130	4,555	3,795	761	7,831	299

B1.2 The table shows that at the end of the third quarter overall net expenditure for the services reporting to CHE is £3.795m, compared to the approved profiled budget of £4.555m, representing an underspend of £0.761m.

B1.3 The table indicates that in certain areas, significant variances to the budgeted income levels have emerged during the third quarter of the year. The reasons for the more significant variances are explored in section B2 below.

B2) Variances

B2.1 The most significant variances for this Committee are as follows:

	Positive Variance Q3	Adverse Variance Q3	Year End Forecast Variance
Communities, Housing & Environment Committee	£000		
Parks & Open Spaces – The plan is to use the current underspend for number of items. These include funding for agency staff covering sickness absence, some works that need to be undertaken and a tree survey.	50		10
Crematorium - Demand for the service continues to be high. This has led to the need to realign the cremator, and surplus income is being used to fund these works.	60		30
Street Cleansing – The underspend is a consequence of staff vacancies that have now been filled, so the variance should not change significantly by the end of the year.	47		50
Public Health (Obesity) – The underspend is due to a number of unused grants that will be carried forward at the end of the year.	32		108
Homelessness Prevention - There are a number of budgets in this area that are not being fully utilised, the most significant ones being those for the guaranteed rent scheme and the homefinder scheme.	37		107

Part C

Third Quarter Capital Budget 2021/22



B1) Capital Budget: Communities, Housing & Environment Committee (CHE)

B1.1 The position of the 2021/22 CHE element of the Capital Programme at the Quarter 3 stage is presented in Table 3 below. The budget for 2021/22 includes resources brought forward from 2020/21.

CHE Capital Programme 2021/22 (@ Quarter 3)

	Revised Estimate 2021/22 £000	Actual to December 2021 £000	Budget Remaining £000	Q4 Profile £000	Projected Total Expenditure £000	Projected Slippage to 2022/23 £000
Housing - Disabled Facilities Grants Funding	1,017	535	481	250	785	231
Temporary Accommodation	3,008	9	2,998	1,000	1,009	1,998
Brunswick Street	233	230	3		230	3
Union Street	217		217			217
Springfield Mill	2,045	1,888	157	157	2,045	0
Private Rented Sector Housing Programme	1,125	56	1,069	250	306	819
1,000 Homes Affordable Housing Programme	750	651	99	99	750	
Acquisitions Officer - Social Housing Delivery P/ship	160	150	10	10	160	
Granada House Refurbishment Works	20	13	7	7	20	
Street Scene Investment	50	21	29	29	50	
Flood Action Plan	244		244	75	75	169
Electric Operational Vehicles	84		84	84	84	
Vehicle Telematics & Camera Systems	35		35	35	35	
Rent & Housing Management IT System	19	8	11	11	19	0
Installation of Public Water Fountains	15		15	15	15	
Crematorium & Cemetery Development Plan	378	171	207	207	378	0
Continued Improvements to Play Areas	200		200	50	50	150
Parks Improvements	149	7	142	50	57	92
Gypsy & Traveller Sites Refurbishment	50	35	15	15	50	0
Total	9,798	3,776	6,022	2,344	6,120	3,679

B1.2 Comments on the variances in the table above are as follows:

Temporary Accommodation – This is the funding for the latest phase of property acquisitions to provide accommodation for temporarily homeless families and persons. There have been no acquisitions to date. A number may take place during the fourth quarter, but it has proved difficult to obtain properties at reasonable valuations given the current overheated housing market.

Private Rented Sector Housing and 1,000 Homes Affordable Housing Programmes – The housing team are working on various projects which are currently at different stages. Expenditure is very much indicative at this stage and expected to increase during the last quarter once schemes have progressed further and new ones are potentially secured.