

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO AND DECISION OF THE POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE ON 9 DECEMBER 2021

SUBJECT: Budget Monitoring Report to 30 September 2021

REPORT AUTHOR: Carolin Martlew, Interim Group Head of Corporate Support and S151 Officer

DATE: November 2021

EXTN: 01903 737568

AREA: Corporate Support

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: The Budget Monitoring Report sets out the Capital, Housing Revenue and General Fund Revenue budget performance to the end of September 2021.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Policy and Finance Committee approve that:

- (i) Any specific project related General Fund revenue underspend continues to be transferred to earmarked reserves as per previous policy to allow projects to be completed;
- (ii) The Housing Revenue Account repairs and maintenance (Planned and Responsive) budget be closely monitored to ensure that any necessary corrective action is taken if required; and
- (iii) The Capital, Asset Management and Projects programme be reviewed to determine future projections and deliverability of current projects.

1. BACKGROUND:

The Council approved a General Fund revenue total net expenditure budget of £25.733 million; a Housing Revenue Account revenue total expenditure budget of £18.980 million; and a capital budget of £7.960 million for the year 2021/22. This report provides information to enable actual spending and income to be monitored against profiled budget for the period to 30 September 2021.

2. PROPOSAL(S):

The Committee is requested to consider the budget monitoring report in Appendix 1. The report provides information on a management by exception basis to enable the reader to understand the overall performance of the council within the context of the budget book summary. The report highlights the significant additional expenditure and loss of income due to the Covid-19 pandemic and any other factors.

3. OPTIONS:
N/A

4. CONSULTATION:

Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓
Other groups/persons (please specify)		✓
5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)	YES	NO
Financial	✓	
Legal		✓
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment		✓
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act		✓
Sustainability		✓
Asset Management/Property/Land		✓
Technology		✓
Other (please explain)		✓

6. IMPLICATIONS:
Financial
It is sound governance to monitor spending against budget during the financial year. Such control allows the Council to take prompt corrective action if spending or income significantly varies from the approved budgets.
The Council continues to incur additional expenditure and loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic and net expenditure is monitored closely to ensure that corrective action continues to be taken if necessary. Transfers to earmarked reserves were required in 2020/21 in relation to Collection Fund transactions that impact the General Fund in 2021/22. These are also reviewed and monitored as part of the process.

7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:
To ensure that spending is in line with approved Council policies, and that it is contained within overall budget limits.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:
Revenue and Capital Estimates 2021-2022. <http://www.arun.gov.uk/financial-information/>