

Summary Directorate Variances

Community Wellbeing

The Community Wellbeing Directorate is currently forecast to be overspent by £0.211 million.

Community Wellbeing	2023/24 Revised Budget £ million	2023/24 Year-end Forecast £ million	2023/24 Variance £ million
Communications & Customer Services	1.510	1.021	(0.488)
Community Services	3.987	3.652	(0.335)
Environmental Services	10.511	10.978	0.468
Housing Services	1.947	2.515	0.567
Total Community Wellbeing	17.954	18.166	0.211

The key variances are detailed below.

Service Area	Forecast Variance £ million	Explanation
Communications & Customer Services	(0.488)	Savings due to vacant posts and uncommitted consultancy budgets.
Community Services	(0.335)	Underspend is due to additional income from the help on hands service from previous periods, saving on salaries and unbudgeted grant income received.
Environmental Services	0.468	The cremator experienced unexpected damage which required unbudgeted additional costs. Additional staffing costs in refuse and recycling, fleet management, garden waste. The service also experienced additional operating costs in fleet management. Overspend have been partially mitigated by underspends in amenity Horticulture due to unsuccessful recruitment leading to vacant posts.
Housing Services	0.567	The housing service has significant increased costs due to the rising costs of materials, labour and staffing costs in Building Management. Woking Road Depot stores are forecasting an overspend due to use of casuals and reduced income. This is offset by an underspend on staff in housing surveying in addition to increased recharges to capital and projects.

Place Directorate

The Place Directorate is currently forecast to be overspent by £0.366 million

Place	2023/24 Revised Budget £ million	2023/24 Year-end Forecast £ million	2023/24 Variance £ million
Assets and Property	(7.118)	(6.977)	0.141
Planning & Development	1.349	2.136	0.787
Regeneration & Planning Policy	1.886	1.561	(0.325)
Regulatory Services	1.597	1.360	(0.237)
Total Place	(2.286)	(1.920)	0.366

The key variances are detailed below.

Service Area	Forecast Variance £ million	Explanation
Assets and Property	0.141	Significant overspends on maintenance contracts, equipment, services and unbudgeted spends on agency staff for Woking Road Depot have led to an overspend.
Planning & Development	0.787	There are considerable additional costs forecast within the service due to appeals and the need for experts and consultants. There has been a transfer from reserves of approx. £0.9 million. To help mitigate these additional costs. Reduced income from land charges due to economic climate deterring homeowners requiring this service.
Regeneration & Planning Policy	(0.325)	A favourable forecast due to underspends on major projects and planned savings to support current financial situation
Regulatory services	(0.237)	Unbudgeted additional income due to the HMO 4-year renewal in addition to increased grant income from Air Quality Active Travel Grant. Savings on salaries due to recruitment freeze offset additional costs due to risk management funding and health and safety training.

Transformation & Governance Directorate

The Transformation & Governance Directorate is currently forecasting to be overspent by £0.341 million.

Transformation & Governance	2023/24 Revised Budget £ million	2023/24 Year-end Forecast £ million	2023/24 Variance £ million
Commercial Services	1.634	0.574	(1.061)
Finance	1.730	1.785	0.055
Corporate Management	1.744	1.649	(0.094)
Unallocated Costs	3.113	2.835	(0.278)
Legal & Democratic Services	0.776	1.010	0.235
North Downs Housing	(0.021)	(0.041)	(0.020)
Organisational Development	0.294	0.351	0.057
Total Transformation & Governance	9.270	8.164	(1.107)

The key variances are detailed below.

Service Area	Forecast Variance £ million	Explanation
Commercial Services	(1.061)	Overachievement of income in car parks due to increased demand has been offset by reduced fee income within Building Control due to reduced demand.
Legal & Democratic	0.235	Overspend due to 4 yearly elections
Unallocated Costs	(0.278)	Underspend to inflation budget held centrally.