

Title of Report:	Provisional Outturn 2003/04	Item 8
Report to be considered by:	Executive	
Forward Plan Ref:	EX0691	

Corporate Plan Priority:	This work supports all of the Council's Corporate Priorities
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Purpose of Report:	To update the Executive on the current position regarding the 2003/04 outturn across all services.
Recommended Action:	To note the report and the under-spend reflected in Appendix 8.
Reason for decision to be taken:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To inform Members of the outturn figures for 2003/2004.
List of other options considered:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
Key background documentation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget 2004/05 Executive & Council 1 March 2004

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Implications

Policy:	Implications of the position will be incorporated into the Councils Medium Term Financial Strategy and the work on the 2005/06 budget.
Financial:	The provisional Outturn is forecast to be a £1.8m underspend. Details of the outturn position are reported above and within appendix 8. The position may change as a result of new information being available during the process of completing the Statement of Accounts and also as a result of the work to be carried out by the Audit Commission during the summer.

Supporting Information

1. Background

- 1.1 The Service units have been working in conjunction with Accountancy to close the 2003/04 accounts in line with the year-end timetable. This work has been ongoing since early April and has been completed on 4th June.
- 1.2 The information contained within this report is based upon information available at 4th June. Although efforts have been made to identify any outstanding issues which may change the outturn as reported there could well be further movement following the Audit process yet to be carried out by the Audit Commission during the summer.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 Information was produced for Members to assist at the time of setting the Council Tax for the 2004/05 financial year. This identified a projected outturn of £1.3m underspend based on information from services at Month 10 and known issues at that time.
- 2.2 At 4th June the information available indicates that there have been further savings achieved across services currently resulting in the anticipated underspend being £1.8m Detail of the outturn by service has been attached as Appendix 8.
- 2.3 Variations from the Month 10 forecast are attributed to :

Community Care and Housing

- Home care recharges to PCT's are higher than expected at Period 10

Environment and Public Protection

- Staffing savings due to higher than anticipated vacancies -£40k
- Delayed Legislation – End of Life Directive -£39k
- Reduced Waste collection and Disposal costs linked to dry weather -£113k
- Higher final income from Building Control -£27k
- Various minor increases in income figures across services -£46k

Strategy and Commissioning

- Reduced recharges to the Legal Service for Child Care Solicitors (operated under a Joint Arrangement) -£100k
- Reduced admin grant for Council Tax (to be confirmed) +£50k

3. Conclusions

- 3.1 The close financial management within the service areas has enabled a further improvement in the outturn position to be achieved. This is a positive position to be in whilst considering options for the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the planning of the 2005/06 Budget strategy.
- 3.2 The underspend represents 1.2% of the councils net 2003/04 budget.
- 3.3 This should still be viewed as a provisional position and changes may well occur during the final stages of the closure of the accounts.

- 3.4 Work will continue on the close down and the audit process over the coming weeks as the Statement of Accounts is prepared for presentation to Executive in July. Any significant variations to the outturn position will be reported as part of this ongoing process.

Appendices

Appendix 8 – 2003/04 Provisional Outturn as at 6th June 2004

Consultation Responses

Local Stakeholders:	N/A
Officers Consulted:	Corporate Directors
Trade Union:	N/A