

## COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE POSITION AS AT MONTH 4

	Month 4 forecast £000
CORPORATE DIRECTOR - CS	-102
HOUSING & PERFORMANCE	7
ADULT SOCIAL CARE	1,883
CULTURAL SERVICES	15
SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,803</b>

### Director's Summary

The Month 4 position reports a forecast overspend of £1.803m. This is almost entirely due to factors in adult social care: a combination of issues known at the beginning of year and newly emerging pressures.

#### Known pressures:

It was recognised that there would be a shortfall beginning the year across adult social care budgets of £250k. This was based on the ability to maintain demand through the resource panel at a static level and achievement of 'best case' outcomes of negotiations with the NHS over some Continuing Health Care (CHC) cases. However, the demand management targets proved extremely challenging due to the severity of cases coming through and the slow down in death rates, leading to additional pressures of £712k. The CHC negotiations did not achieve best case, therefore not realising the headroom that may have helped alleviate pressures.

In addition, identified pressures on the Learning Disability transitions budget were taken as risk during the budget build process, as this budget has been a volatile one to predict in previous years. It is now known that this pressure is in the region of £356k.

#### Emerging pressures include:

Loss of Independent Living Fund (ILF) income. The ILF was set up as a national resource within the Department of Work and Pensions dedicated to the financial support of disabled people, to enable them to live in the community rather than residential care. It was announced nationally in April 2010 that from 1 May 2010, as care package costs rise and the ILF is coming under greater pressure, that in order to safeguard existing users' awards, the ILF will not be accepting any new applications for the remainder of the 2010 -11 financial year. Loss of benefits for individual care packages in West Berkshire is currently estimated as £120k.

There has been a sharp increase in the number of people who were previously self funding whose capital has depleted but who are eligible for support. In 2009/10 there were eight in total but we already have seven this year. Estimated pressure is currently £220k on those seven people and we know that there are another five expected to come through the system over the next couple of months.

In addition there have been three new care packages totalling £160k for people with a learning disability, previously unknown to the Council.

The Directorate is examining all of its budgets to identify any items which could be used to mitigate the forecast overspend. A list of proposed options for decommissioning and reducing services will be brought to Management Board to consider.

However, it should be noted that the forecast position holds a large risk in that it is based on the ability to hold demand at a static level, which experience has proved to be unlikely. Therefore any additional identified in year savings may be needed in order to hold the forecast to current levels.

### **Capital summary (month 3):**

As at month 3 the majority of the Community Services capital budget is anticipated to be spent at year end. Much of the budget relates to housing and disabled facilities grants which are committed throughout the financial year.