

Corporate Director's Report on Financial Performance

Environment Directorate

Quarter Two 2014/15

Section 1: Revenue

Service	Net Budget £000	Forecast (under)/over spend				Change from last quarter £000
		Quarter One £000	Quarter Two £000	Quarter Three £000	Year End £000	
Corporate Director	166	0	0			0
Highways & Transport	7,621	(84)	(18)			66
Planning & Countryside	4,242	29	30			1
Culture & Environmental Protection	21,436	53	76			23
Total	33,465	(2)	88	0	0	90

Overview

The forecast revenue over spend for the Environment Directorate as a whole is £88k compared to a £2k under spend in quarter one.

Highways and Transport

The Highways and Transport Service are forecasting an under spend of £18k, a reduction of £66k from quarter one. The under spend is mainly due to increased income in Car Parking and a lower payment of concessionary fares to transport operators. However, the under spend has been reduced due to a reduction in the forecast income from S278 supervision fees.

Planning and Countryside

The Planning and Countryside Service is forecasting an over spend of £30k due to vegetation clearance works together with a forecast payment for tree safety works. This has been partially offset by a saving on consultancy fees and additional forecast income in planning applications.

Culture and Environmental Protection

Culture and Environmental Protection is forecasting an over spend of £76k mainly due to a payment due from Kennet Leisure which has not yet been agreed and a lower income forecast from the Youth Activities Service.

Risks identified

Potential risks include:

- The cost of the tree safety works is an estimate at this stage.
- S278 income is reliant on two major schemes (IKEA and the Hambridge Rd works associated with the Racecourse development) both of which have been delayed.

Section 2: Capital

Service	2014/15 Original Capital Programme £000	2014/15 Revised Capital Programme £000	Amount spent/ committed to Quarter Two £000	Forecast spend in year £000	Forecast under/over spend in year £000
Culture & Environmental Protection	693	2,316	933	2,316	0
Highways & Transport	11,908	15,925	9123	15,545	(380)
Planning & Countryside	135	481	269	481	0
Total	12,736	18,722	10,325	18,342	(380)

55.1% of the Environment capital programme has been committed as at the end of quarter two.

In Culture and Environmental Protection, the Museum project has been successfully completed on budget.

In Highways, good progress is being made with major schemes including flood alleviation and the widening of the A4. Additional funds have been awarded by the Environment Agency and the DfT to support these schemes. As reported at the end of quarter one, £280k is to be re-profiled for the widening of the Boundary Road rail bridge due to delays in Network Rail's electrification programme and £100k of S106 funding for the widening of the A340 footway on the approach to the rail bridge at Aldermaston Wharf is to be re-profiled to 2015/16 due to land complications and resourcing issues in the Highways Team.

In Planning and Countryside, the cost of repairs to flood damaged rights of way is currently expected to be covered by Severe Weather Recovery grant. However, other possible commitments against this grant cannot be confirmed until the Bellwin claim has been settled, so it is possible that this additional work may result in an over spend of up to £100,000.