

## **CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S SUMMARY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE MONTH 8**

### **Overview**

The Directorate is forecasting to be £165,000 underspent at outturn. The forecast underspend has increased by £72,000 from Month 7 due to decisions to stop expenditure in some areas of Policy and Communication and further vacancy savings.

There are a number of other pressures emerging in year but management action is in place to address these largely through reduced levels of staffing and holding back on non essential expenditure.

### **Pressures on the 2010-11 budget**

The most significant pressure is the loss of Land Charge income (£44k). This follows a Government announcement that charging a fee for a personal search of the local land charges register is incompatible with the Environmental Information Regulations and the underlying EU Directive. The current fee has been revoked from 17<sup>th</sup> August 2010 and will therefore create an in year budget pressure.

Other pressures have arisen in Legal & Electoral. There is a £45k pressure from High Court and other cases, which may be offset by costs recovery subject to cases not being further adjourned.

There is a concern that £59k of the Budget Monitoring Panel's savings target will not be met as any vacancy savings are going towards the recruitment freeze target instead.

The CCTV project is expected to be finalised on 19<sup>th</sup> December. As a result of continuing to pay salaries and costs up to this date, there is expected to be an overspend of £35,000.

### **Progress against the recruitment freeze**

Good progress is being made and the £200k savings target will be met.

### **Management action taken to address emerging pressures**

New savings are being found across the Directorate to manage emerging pressures and any unmet savings. These new savings generally relate to staffing where a number of posts are being held vacant. This is largely in Policy & Communication, ICT and Finance.

### **Risks identified**

No major risks have been identified at this point.