

MONITORING REPORT FROM DIRECTORS OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

DATE: 26 February 2009

PURPOSE

To update members on activity within the Children's Services and Adult and Community Service's Directorates during the period to 31 January 2009. This report refers to those services previously within the Learning and Care Directorate.

BACKGROUND

The total former Learning and Care Budget is projected to be overspent by £98k. This is a decrease of £56k from the previous month arising mainly from a reduction in projected expenditure on Adult Social Care, offset by an increase in projected expenditure on Housing Services.

SPECIFIC AREAS FOR ATTENTION

Revenue Budget

Children & Young People – Central Schools Budget (DSG)

The forecast expenditure funded by the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is now expected to be overspent by £390k, a decrease of £37k on the £427k reported last month. Whilst this is only a relatively small change overall, there are some significant changes on individual budgets. The pressure on the out-borough special school placements budget continues to increase, with two new high cost placements in the last month resulting in a further increase in the projected overspend on this budget of £100k. The number of school staff on maternity leave for whom the Schools Budget pays schools top-up payments has increased significantly and this budget now looks to be overspent by £107k, an increase on the last month of £47k. These increases in projected overspend have been offset by decreases elsewhere, primarily in the SEN recoupment budget and schools specific contingency budget, both of which look likely to be underspent. Any over- or underspends against the ring-fenced DSG at the end of the year is carried forward into the following year's Schools Budget, and does not affect the Local Authority funded budget.

Children & Young People – LA funded Budget

The LA funded Children and Young People's budget currently shows a projected overspend of £455k, an increase of £27k on the £428k forecast overspend reported last month. The main pressures remain, as before, in high-cost demand-led budgets such as Home to School Transport, which has this month seen further pressures as a result of contract changes on a number of routes, and residential care for vulnerable children. New foster care placements have also resulted in a small increase in projected overspend on the safeguarding budget.

Adult Social Care

Adult Social Care currently shows an underspend of £352k, a net decrease in expenditure of £133k on the reported underspend last month of £219k. This mainly relates to a projected underspend on salary costs in the Learning Disability team due to staff vacancies. There is also an additional anticipated underspend relating to non salary costs on the Mental Health team and a reduction in expenditure on the Elderly and Physical Disability residential budget.

Housing Services

There has been an increase in activity on Interest Free Loans for deposits on rental property combined with additional demand for temporary accommodation from larger families, which has resulted in extended stays in bed and breakfast accommodation while suitable rental premises are identified. This has increased pressure on the Housing Policy budget by an estimated additional £50k in the current year.

Capital Budget

Since last month the former Learning and Care Directorate's approved gross expenditure capital budget has reduced by £7.838m from £19.928m to £12,090m. (This includes schools devolved formula capital projects and other devolved funding totalling £3.666m). The budget movement relates to :

Budget movement	£000 exp	
Slippage to 2009-10 in respect of 08-09 capital projects	(1,155)	Reported to Cabinet in December 2008 and January 2009
Holyport Manor new build – slippage to 09-10	(6,750)	Slippage based on latest review of start dates for different stages of the project. (Not previously reported to Cabinet).
Increase in Section 106 funding in schools	69	
New grant: Mobile Technology for children's social workers	13	
Adjustment to Oak Lodge Centre	(15)	
Total	(7,839)	

The projected outturn for the former Learning and Care Directorate's capital budget remains unchanged from last month at £16k above budget. This is mainly due to a handful of projects where the tender costs have come in higher than expected. The main contractor tenders are now in for the new Holyport Manor special school. The quotes received are still containable within budget.

New slippage of £184k is reported this month relating to the following schemes.

Children and Young people schemes	£000 exp	
Larchfield Community provision	(39)	Scheme still at feasibility stage
Wessex Schools amalgamation	(74)	Scheme on hold while options sought to reduce costs
Bisham school conservatory	(10)	Needs to be completed in school holiday
Wessex Primary underground pipework	(50)	Needs to be completed in school holiday
School caretakers housing asbestos survey	(11)	Delayed due to resource issues
Total	(184)	

This relates to a part of the Extended Schools capital programme which now looks unlikely to be spent before Spring 2009.

MONITORING REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

DATE: 26th February 2009

PURPOSE

To update members on activity within the Environmental Services Directorate during the period to January 2009.

BACKGROUND

The key issues identified in this month's Budget Monitoring Report are:

- Continual review by the directorate on income levels in the light of economic outlook.
- Effect of the adverse weather conditions

SPECIFIC AREAS FOR ATTENTION

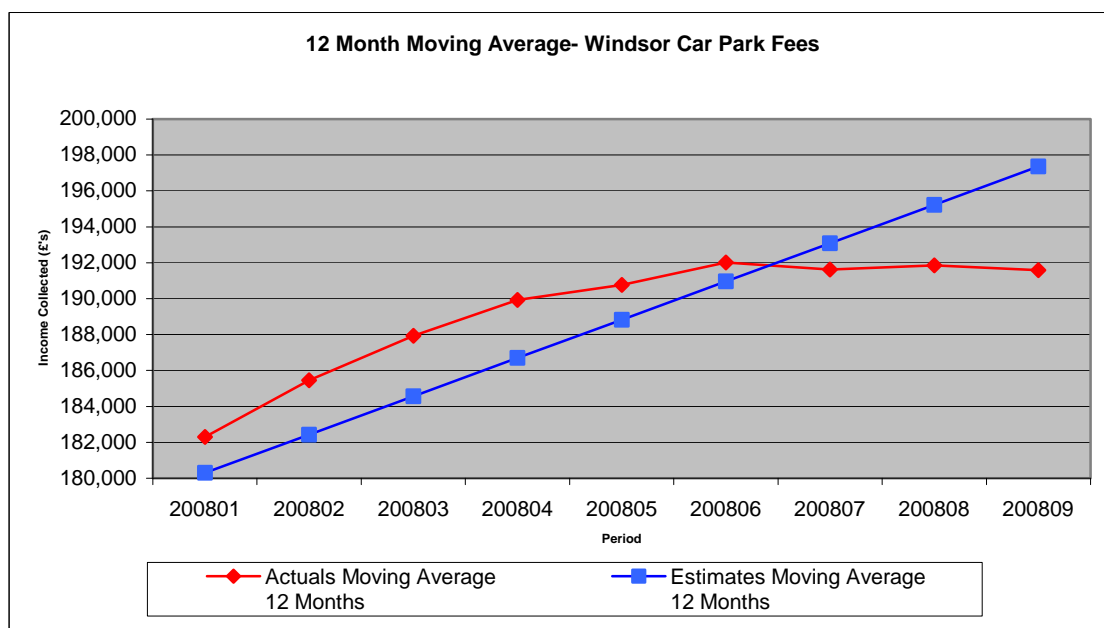
Revenue

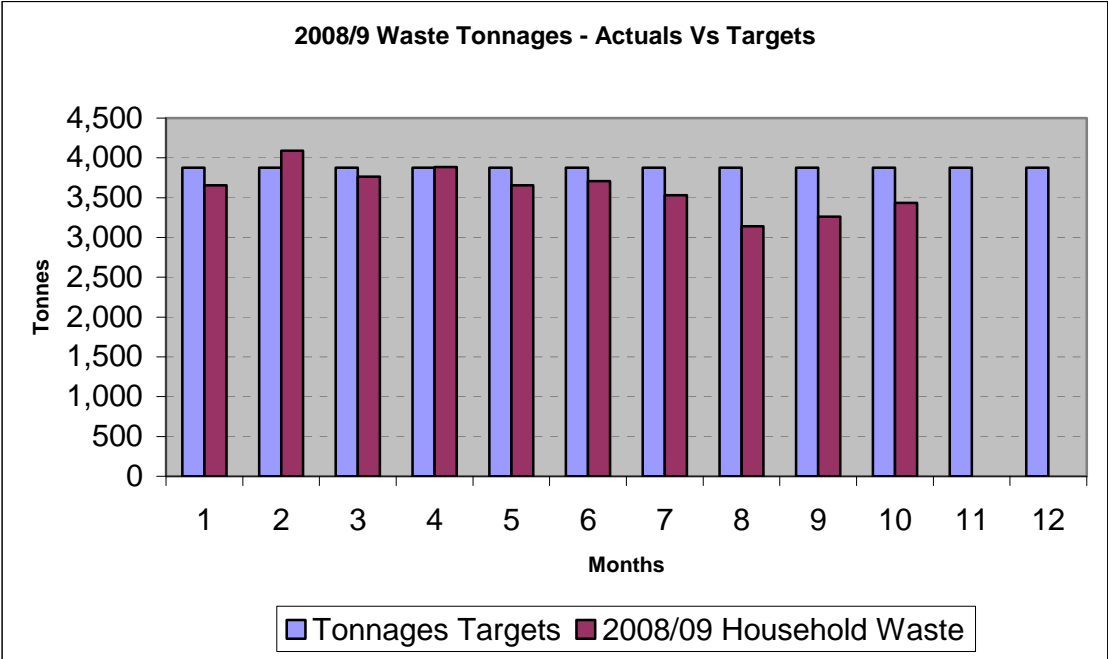
1. The overall Directorate variance including Planning & Leisure Services has increased by £35k to £110k. This is mainly due to additional costs of gritting and carriageway repairs as a result of the adverse weather conditions, currently amounting to £80k. Final costs are likely to be in the region of £150, and when these are known a report will be presented requesting a supplementary estimate.
2. The changes in income levels include the Planning areas and measures to address these are reported by the Head of Planning in the budget monitoring notes. In addition, an anticipated saving of £25k will no longer arise in the Planning Policy area for projects relating to the LDF including Maidenhead Regeneration which are now being progressed.

Car Parking income levels are being carefully monitored for any fluctuations due to current market conditions. Reductions in car parking income in Windsor have been offset by savings on repairs. The graph below shows the effect of the economic downturn in parking income in Windsor on a 12 month rolling average.

Budget management has been assisted by a further reduction in waste to landfill, as shown in the graph below.

3. Measures to address some of the Directorate's pressures identified to date are shown on the detailed budget monitoring sheets, with continued efforts to contain expenditure within the current budget as described above.





MONITORING REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

DATE: 26 February 2009

PURPOSE

To update Members on activity within the Corporate Services Directorate during the period to 31st January 2009.

BACKGROUND

The Chief Executive reports a projected overspend of £25k, a decrease of £110k since last month.

The approved estimate has changed to £14,779k (last month £14,705k) after an LPSA grant was awarded (£50k) and a supplementary estimate agreed by the employment panel to cover severance costs in Business Improvement (£24k).

SPECIFIC AREAS FOR ATTENTION

Revenue

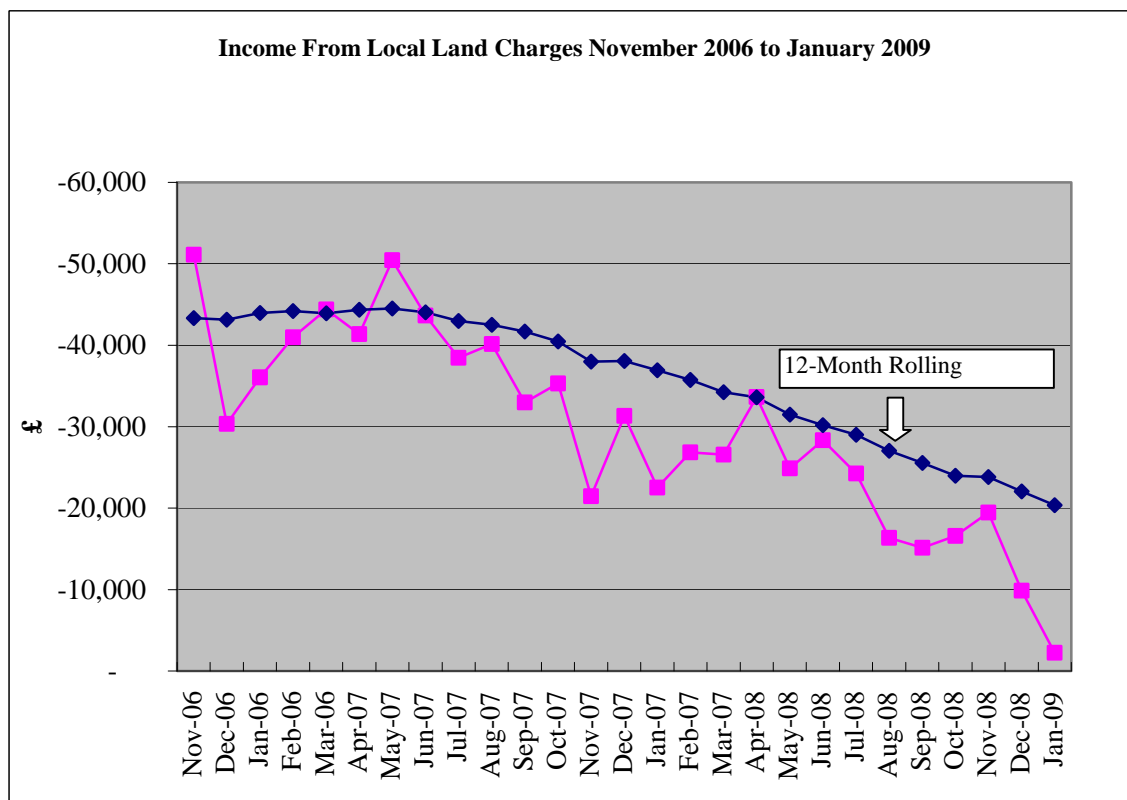
Consultation is reporting an underspend of £22k as a result of lower costs due to fewer consultations being undertaken. There have been savings from staff vacancies in Electoral Expenses (-£26k), Chief Executive (-£24k) and Member Services (-£15k) where new management arrangements are at a lower cost than originally budgeted.

Legal services income has improved slightly (-£20k). The Youth Offending Team has identified savings of £15k to offset the costs of externally provided anger management classes reported to cabinet last month. Strategic Finance has recharged £15k of costs to the Pension Fund.

Member allowances are underspent by an additional £20k, offset by extra costs for Civic Events (£7k).

Maidenhead Town Centre Partnership income will be £10k lower than costs in 2008/9.

Income from local land charges has deteriorated by a further £30k because of a greater fall in the number of house sales.



Council Tax Collection

The Council Tax collection rate at month-end for January is 95.24% which is 0.35% ahead of last year's figures of 94.89 %.

Business Rates Collection

The percentage of Business Rates collected, as at January is 94.73%, which is 0.57% ahead of last year's figures of 94.16%.

Capital Programme status

The following progress on Corporate Services schemes is reported as at January 2009:

	December Monitoring	January Monitoring
Number of Schemes in Programme	24	25
Yet to Start	8%	4%
In Progress	75%	80%
Completed	13%	12%
Ongoing Annual Programme	4%	4%

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Note	Explanation
1	<p><u>Highway Maintenance - Winter Gritting</u> Approved Estimate: £978k Variation: +£20k First reported at Cabinet: February 09 Anticipated increase in Winter Gritting costs due to adverse weather conditions. Action: by Head of Highways & Engineering</p>
2	<p><u>Street Numbering & Naming Income</u> Approved Estimate: -£20k Variation: +£15k (+£5k) First reported at Cabinet: October 08 Anticipated increase in Street Naming & Numbering Income not achieved due to delay in resolving legal clarification for new charges. Service transferred to BIU 1/7/2008. Action: by Head of Highways & Engineering</p>
3	<p><u>Public Transport Support</u> Approved Estimate: £688k Variation: -£10k First reported at Cabinet: February 2009 Savings on bus contracts Action: by Head of Highways & Engineering</p>
4	<p><u>School Crossing Patrols</u> Approved Estimate: £30k Variation: -£10k (-£10k) First reported at Cabinet: August 08 Savings due to staff vacancies. Other safety measures are being pursued. Action: by Head of Highways & Engineering - currently experiencing difficulty in recruiting which reflects the National shortage.</p>
5	<p><u>Streetscene</u> Approved Estimate: £1,034k Variation: £40k First reported at Cabinet: February 2009 Additional costs of urgent highway defect repairs due to adverse weather conditions. Action: by Head of Streetcare & Operations</p>
6	<p><u>Highway Licensing Income</u> Approved Estimate: -£88k Variation: -£70k (£-30k) First reported at Cabinet: January 09 Additional income from a large commercial hording licence & other skip & scaffold licences.. Action: by Head of Streetcare & Operations</p>
7	<p><u>Streetcare & Operations Unit</u> Approved Estimate: £1,554k Variation: £20k First reported at Cabinet: February 2009 Additional costs due to adverse weather conditions. Action: by Head of Streetcare & Operations</p>

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Note	Explanation
8	<p><u>Building Control</u> Approved Estimate: -£713k Variation: +£50k (+£40k) First reported at Cabinet: August 08 Potential shortfall in income due to economic downturn, offset by savings due to staff vacancies (See note 16) Action: by Head of Planning - income will be carefully monitored to calculate the potential effect of economic downturn. The staff vacancy will be carefully managed to help offset the shortfall.</p>
9	<p><u>Town & Country Planning</u> Approved Estimate: £353k Variation: +£55k (+£60k) First reported at Cabinet: July 08 Additional legal costs Badnells Pit (£65k), offset by savings on Planning policy consultancy costs (£10k) Action: by Head of Planning - offset by savings in Development Control Unit - see note 13</p>
10	<p><u>Town & Country Planning Income</u> Approved Estimate: -£1004k Variation: +£100k (+£40k) First reported at Cabinet: Sept 08 Potential shortfall in income due to economic downturn, and a lower number of 'major' planning applications. Action: by Head of Planning - income will be carefully monitored to calculate the potential effect of economic downturn.</p>
11	<p><u>Transport Policy & Implementation</u> Approved Estimate: £28k Variation: -£10k (-£10k) First reported at Cabinet: Nov 08 Potential savings in consultancy costs to offset the shortfall in S38 & S278 income. Action: by Head of Planning - Used to offset income shortfall (see note 12)</p>
12	<p><u>Transport Policy & Implementation Income</u> Approved Estimate: -£45k Variation: +£20k (+£20k) First reported at Cabinet: July 08 Potential shortfall in S38 & S278 income. Action: by Head of Planning - offset by savings in consultancy costs (note 11)</p>
13	<p><u>Development Control Unit</u> Approved Estimate: £1,616k Variation: -£150k (-£100k) First reported at Cabinet: July 08 Savings as a result of staff vacancies Action: by Head of Planning</p>

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Note	Explanation
14	<u>Planning Policy Unit</u> Approved Estimate: £552k Variation: -£10k (-£20k) First reported at Cabinet: Nov 08 Savings as a result of staff vacancies Action: by Head of Planning
15	<u>Transport Policy & Implementation Unit</u> Approved Estimate: £473k Variation: -£10k (-£10k) First reported at Cabinet: October 08 Increased income from an additional grant for School Travel Plans Action: by Head of Planning
16	<u>Building Control Unit</u> Approved Estimate: £713k Variation: -£40k (-£40k) First reported at Cabinet: August 08 Savings as a result of staff vacancies, used to offset income shortfall see note 8 Action: by Head of Planning
17	<u>Waste Disposal</u> Approved Estimate: £2,601k Variation: -£50k First reported at Cabinet: February 2009 Savings due to potential reduction in tonnages (1,000) following introduction of subscribed green waste scheme and increase in recycling. Action: by Head of Public Protection & Sustainability
18	<u>Trading Standards Unit</u> Approved Estimate: £458k Variation: -£10k First reported at Cabinet: February 2009 Savings as a result of staff reduction in FTE's Action: by Head of Public Protection & Sustainability
19	<u>Industrial & Commercial Estates</u> Approved Estimate: £267k Variation: +£45k (+£45K) First reported at Cabinet: August 08 Additional costs of NNDR for empty properties Action: by Property Management Manager
20	<u>Industrial & Commercial Estates Income</u> Approved Estimate: -£3,558k Variation: -£35k (+£0) First reported at Cabinet: August 08 Additional back rent on commercial properties & new lettings, offset by loss of rental income £45K re void property Action: by Property Management Manager

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Note	Explanation
21	<u>Building Services Unit</u> Approved Estimate: £271k Variation: £10k First reported at Cabinet: February 2009 Cost of severance pay Action: by Building Services Manager
22	<u>Admin Buildings & Depots</u> Approved Estimate:-£155k Variation: -£75k (-£65k) First reported at Cabinet: December 08 Potential saving on delay of completing schedule of Fire, Health & Safety works. Action: by Building Services Manager
23	<u>Windsor Leisure Centre</u> Approved Estimate:£3,496k Variation: -£20k (-£30k) First reported at Cabinet: Nov 08 Potential savings from professional support for feasibility study(£30k), offset by additional costs of new telephone system (£10k). Action: by Head of Leisure Services
24	<u>Magnet Leisure Centre</u> Approved Estimate:£2,880k Variation: £10k First reported at Cabinet: February 2009 Additional costs of new telephone system Action: by Head of Leisure Services
25	<u>Head of Community Services</u> Approved Estimate:£1,196k Variation: £5k First reported at Cabinet: February 2009 Additional staffing costs following restructure - there will be compensating savings in other Directorates. Action: by Head of Leisure Services

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Note	Explanation
26	<p><u>Parking Income</u> Approved Estimate: -£6,630k Variation: +£200k (+£160k) First reported at Cabinet: July 08 Potential shortfall in off street income due to downturn and unfavourable weather conditions as demonstrated in reductions in tourist car parks in Windsor (£360k), offset by increase in on street income (£160k) Action: by Parking Manager - Income and car parks usage is carefully monitored and compared against budget, having regard to the seasonal effect of tourism in Windsor.</p>
27	<p><u>Parking</u> Approved Estimate: £3,858k Variation: -£20k (+£20k) First reported at Cabinet: July 08 Staff savings and savings on repairs for DPE equipment which is still under warranty. Finalised Service Charges re Sainsbury's car park to be agreed, and this will be reflected in future budget monitoring statements. Action: by Parking Manager</p>
28	<p><u>Corporate Management</u> Approved Estimate:-£40k Variation: £40k First reported at Cabinet: February 2009 Agency savings target to be achieved through managed vacancies. Action: by Director of Environment</p>

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2008/2009

Monitoring as at 22/01/09

	2008/2009 ORIGINAL BUDGET			2008/2009 APPROVED ESTIMATE			PROJECTIONS – GROSS EXPENDITURE						
	Gross	Income	Net	Gross	Income	Net	Gross Actual	2008/09 Gross Expenditure Projected	2009/10 SLIPPAGE Projected	TOTAL Gross EXPENDITURE Projected	VARIANCE Projected	VARIANCE Projected	
	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(%)	
Portfolio Summary													
Corporate Services													
Business Improvement	1,196	0	1,196	1,250	0	1,250	924	1,250	0	1,250	0	0	
CSC	154	0	154	170	(59)	111	73	170	0	170	0	0.0	
Other	225	(10)	215	345	(77)	268	375	345	0	345	0	0.0	
Total Corporate Services	1,575	(10)	1,565	1,765	(136)	1,629	1,372	1,765	0	1,765	0	0.0	
Community Services													
Local Transport Plan	4,534	(1,540)	2,994	4,758	(1,589)	3,169	2,348	4,650	0	4,650	(108)	(2.3)	
Operations	685	(25)	660	924	0	924	283	624	0	624	(300)	(32.5)	
Public Protection	760	(510)	250	842	(554)	288	546	842	0	842	0	0.0	
Planning	147	(11)	136	165	(31)	134	47	165	0	165	0	0.0	
Library & Information Service	1,584	(470)	1,114	1,115	(491)	624	602	1,115	0	1,115	0	0.0	
Leisure Centres	595	(225)	370	546	(145)	401	475	546	0	546	0	0.0	
Outdoor Facilities	2,285	(2,250)	35	2,565	(2,515)	50	2,072	2,565	0	2,565	0	0.0	
Asset Management	1,647	0	1,647	840	0	840	277	831	0	831	(9)	(66.7)	
Car Park Schemes	1,585	(1,485)	100	758	(648)	110	367	558	0	558	(200)	(26.4)	
Total Community Services	13,822	(6,516)	7,306	12,513	(5,973)	6,540	7,017	11,896	0	11,896	(617)	(127.8)	
Learning & Care													
Adult Social Care	130	(80)	50	121	(43)	78	(4)	121	0	121	0	0.0	
Children & Young People – General	0	0	0	1,627	(244)	1,383	1,258	1,627	0	1,627	0	0.0	
Children & Young People – Schools (Form)	3,180	(3,180)	0	3,666	(3,665)	1	2,944	3,666	0	3,666	0	0.0	
Children & Young People – Schools (Other)	10,922	(9,080)	1,842	4,450	(2,754)	1,696	4,597	4,466	0	4,466	16	0.4	
Housing	1,764	(1,724)	40	2,039	(1,999)	40	1	2,039	0	2,039	0	0.0	
Learning & Care – General	171	(121)	50	187	(137)	50	49	187	0	187	0	0.0	
Total Learning & Care	16,167	(14,185)	1,982	12,090	(8,842)	3,248	8,845	12,106	0	12,106	16	0.4	
Total Committed Schemes	31,564	(20,711)	10,853	26,368	(14,951)	11,417	17,234	25,767	0	25,767	(601)	(2.3)	
External Funding	(£'000)			(£'000)				(£'000)					
Government Grants	(13,470)			(7,515)				(7,515)					
Developers' Contributions	(6,829)			(6,880)				(6,680)					
Other Contributions	(412)			(556)				(556)					
Total External Funding Sources	(20,711)			(14,951)				(14,751)					
Total Corporate Funding	10,853			11,417				11,016					

Capital Monitoring Report - January 2008
Overall Projected Variances

The £601k variances reported for January 2009 are as follows:-

Community Services report that in comparison to the approved budget, there will be a net underspend of £617k as follows.

-300 CQ09	Lease Vehicle Replacement Programme	Vehicle lease option under review
-200 CG25	Nicholsons MSCP - Waterproofing	Scheme under review subject to Maidenhead regeneration
-103 CF86	Verge Parking/Verge Protection	Programme for 2008/09 and related Housing Association Contributions not determined. Corporate spend only.
-45 CE23	LTP Pre-Planning, Investigation & Scheme Development	Projected expenditure to be wholly funded from S106 contributions
-30 CG17	S106 Traffic Management Schemes	Projected expenditure wholly funded from S106 contributions
-10 CE55	Car Parks - Improvements	Commitment re supply of Radio System £30K to be transferred to CE56
-5 CM34	York Stream House-Security Cameras	Project complete.
-4 CM33	York House-Sprinkler System	Project complete.
10 CE29	Decriminalised Parking Enforcement	Cabinet Report 24/7/08 approved additional phases of works. Fund excess from CE55
20 CE31	St Leonards Road/Imperial Rd-Junction Improvements.	Additional ducting works required. Investigate possibility of funding overspend from additional S106 .
50 CE14	Highways Surfacing Contract	Additional £40K approved for 2 micro-asphalt schemes by Directors. To be funded from savings elsewhere in the overall Capital Programme
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-617		
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As previously reported, Learning & Care report that in comparison to the approved budget, there is likely to be a net overspend of £16k in the Schools (other) area as follows

11 CJUZ	Furze Platt Dance Studio-	Additional expenditure to pay final disputed invoice.
13 CKRE	Dedworth Green Rewire & Fire alarm	- Final tender figures have increased
-20 CKRT	Courthouse Junior - Heating Pipework Phase II-	Reduced tender figure
-8 CKRW	Woodlands Park - Heating Pipework Replacement-	Reduced tender figure
5 CKSA	Waltham St Lawrence-Rewiring and New Fire Alarm-	Higher tender figure
15 CKSB	Wraysbury - Rewiring and New Fire Alarm-	Final tender figures have increased
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There are no variations to report for Resources