



Environment & Sustainable Communities Committee	Agenda Item
11 March 2024	10

Title:	Budget and Performance Report
Report of:	Tim Greenwood, Finance Manager
Lead Member:	Councillor Bridget Smith, Chair of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee
Public Report:	Yes
Key Decision:	No
Voting Arrangements:	No vote required.

Recommendations:

A	Note the financial position of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Division for the financial year 23/24 to January 2024
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Strategic Objective(s):

The proposals within this report fit under the following strategic objective(s):

x	Achieving ambitious skills and employment opportunities
x	Achieving good growth
x	Achieving best value and high performance

1. Purpose

1.1	To provide an update of the financial position for 2023/24 and to provide analysis against the 2023/24 budgets, up to the period ending January 2024
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2. Background

2.1	At the last meeting, the Committee was provided with an analysis of the 2023/24 performance against budget to November 2023. This report provides an update covering up to January 2024.
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3. Revenue Expenditure

3.1	A breakdown of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Revenue Expenditure for the period to 31 January 2024 is set out in Table 1 below.
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Table 1

Environment and Sustainable Communities Revenue Expenditure	23/24 Actual YTD £k	23/24 Budget YTD £k	23/24 Variance YTD £k	23/24 Budget FY £k	23/24 FO FY £k	23/24 Variance FY £k	23/24 Deferral £k
Climate Change	31	40	-9	50	50	0	-
Environment and Spatial Planning Staff	162	206	-44	248	248	0	-
Huntingdonshire Biodiversity for all - Revenue	0	40	-40	100	100	0	-
Natural Cambridgeshire	70	64	6	80	80	0	-
Developing climate evidence and data	0	0	0	150	150	0	-
Delivering the Climate Action Plan	0	0	0	110	110	0	-
Future Fens	0	0	0	70	70	0	-
Local Area Energy Plan	0	0	0	60	60	0	-
GSE Net Zero Investment Design	13	523	-510	12	12	0	-
HUG1 - Revenue	118	372	-254	433	433	0	-
LAD3 - Revenue - (Sustainable Warmth)	764	1214	-450	2429	2429	0	-
Local Energy Advice Demonstrator	315	0	315	2170	2170	0	-
Net Zero Hub Core	2583	233	2350	3825	3825	0	-
Rural Communities Energy Fund	145	277	-132	445	445	0	-
Public Sector Decarbonisation	125	412	-287	1222	1222	0	-
Total Environment Revenue Expenditure	4,326	3,381	945	11,404	11,404	0	-

3.2 Expenditure to date is higher than budget to date.

3.3 Forecast outturn is expected to be in line with budget.

4. Capital Expenditure

4.1 A breakdown of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Capital Expenditure for the period to 31 January 2024 is set out in Table 2 below.

Table 2

Environment and Sustainable Communities Capital Expenditure	23/24 Actual YTD £k	23/24 Budget YTD £k	23/24 Variance YTD £k	23/24 Budget FY £k	23/24 FO FY £k	23/24 Variance FY £k	23/24 Deferral £k
Care Home Retrofit Programme	0	1,600	-1600	2,000	500	-1500	1500
Huntingdonshire Biodiversity for all - Capital	0	580	-580	800	245	-555	555
Logan's Meadow Local Nature Reserve wetland extension	0	184	-184	280	280	0	-
Nature and Environment Investment Fund	0	200	-200	250	250	0	-
Net Zero Villages Programme	0	800	-800	1000	0	-1000	1000
HUG1 - Capital	1815	2799	-984	2799	2799	0	0
HUG2 A Capital 23/24	0	0	0	22338	22338	0	0
LAD3 - Capital (Sustainable Warmth)	4660	11281	-6621	7447	7447	0	0
Total Environment Capital Expenditure	6,475	17,444	-10,969	36,914	33,859	-3,055	3055

4.2 Whilst expenditure to date is lower than budget all projects except the care home retrofit programme, Huntingdon Biodiversity and Net Zero Villages are expected to spend to budget by the end of the financial year.

4.3	Forecast outturn shows an underspend against budget of £3.0m. This is in respect of the projects named above which are expected to slip into the following financial year. This is for various reasons including slow uptake to the programmes and delays in legal agreements.
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5. Implications	
Financial Implications	
5.1	There are no financial implications other than those included in the main body of the report.
Legal Implications	
5.2	The Combined Authority is required to prepare a balanced budget in accordance with statutory requirements.
Public Health Implications	
5.3	N/A
Environmental & Climate Change Implications	
5.4	These budgets are designed to generate environmental benefits.
Other Significant Implications	
5.5	N/A
Background Papers	
5.6	None