

General Services Budgetary Control Report

Period to 15 July 2007

Notes on Variances greater than £25,000

Education and Cultural Services

Schools – Secondary £47,767 Adv

This adverse variance is due to elements of staffing levels, partially offset by related external recharge income levels. Actions have been taken to minimise any staffing overspend during 2007/08. Cleaning costs also show an adverse variance to date. This is currently under further review.

Schools - Special £32,280 Adv

This overspend is due to the level of current placements in residential and day placements. There are currently and pending a greater number of secure placements than previously anticipated. This is being closely monitored.

Outdoor Education £27,158 Adv

This overspend is due mainly to the income levels being lower than previously anticipated. This is in line with 2006/07 final outturn.

Pre Five £43,217 Adv

This overspend is mainly the staffing efficiency target to date not being achieved due to 'staff to pupil' ratio requiring to be met.

Libraries £43,271 Adv

This overspend is primarily due to staff costs and is currently under investigation with appropriate corrective action being taken as necessary.

Social Work

Operations and Servicing £29,410 Fav.

This underspend is mainly due vacant posts being held.

Residential Accommodation – Young People £45,080 Adv

This adverse variance is mainly due to the shortage of foster parents causing the need to use fostering agencies which are more expensive.

Home Help Service £46,570 Fav

This variance is due to the rationalisation of home care provision causing lower than anticipated staff costs and payments to other bodies. Income is also higher than budgeted due to changes in guidance regarding people in receipt of supporting people services.

Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services

Architectural and Related Services

£29,882 Fav

This favourable variance is due to staffing vacancies.

Refuse Collection

£38,395 Adv

This adverse variance is mainly due to a fall in the level of commercial charges income caused by competition in the market place and a fall in sale/demand of wheelie bins through the issue of pre-owned free bins.

Miscellaneous

Sundry Services

£189,500 Adv

This is primarily as a result of the Housing Maintenance Trading Operation position currently showing an adverse variance (mainly within staffing costs). Staffing numbers are currently under management review and an action plan has been put in place with a view to bringing figures more in line with the budgeted position.