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Contact:/Cysylltwch â: Democratic Services



THIS IS A MEETING WHICH THE PUBLIC ARE ENTITLED TO ATTEND

11th November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (BUDGET MONITORING)

A meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Committee (Budget Monitoring) will be held in Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale on Monday, 18th November, 2019 at 12.00 pm.

Please note that a pre and post meeting will be held 30 minutes prior to the start and following the conclusion of the meeting for members of the committee.

Yours faithfully

Michelle Morris
Managing Director

AGENDA

Pages

1. SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION

You are welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, a minimum notice period of 3 working days is required should you wish to do so. A simultaneous translation

We welcome correspondence in the medium of Welsh or English. / Croesawn ohebiaith trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg.

will be provided if requested.

2. **APOLOGIES**

To receive.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

To receive.

4. **JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (BUDGET MONITORING)** 5 - 14

To receive the minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Committee (Budget Monitoring) held on 16th September, 2019.

(Please note the minutes are for accuracy points only).

5. **ACTION SHEET - 16TH SEPTEMBER 2019** 15 - 28

To receive the action sheet.

6. **EXECUTIVE DECISION SHEET** 29 - 30

To receive the Executive Decision Sheet.

7. **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING -2019/2020, FORECAST OUTTURN TO 31 MARCH 2020 (AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2019)** 31 - 68

To consider the report of the Chief Officer Resources.

8. **CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING, APRIL TO SEPTEMBER, 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR** 69 - 88

To consider the report of the Chief Officer Resources.

9. **USE OF GENERAL AND EARMARKED RESERVES 2019/2020** 89 - 102

To consider the report of the Chief Officer Resources.

To: Councillor S. Healy (Chair)
Councillor G. Paulsen (Vice-Chair)
Councillor M. Cook
Councillor J. Holt
Councillor C. Meredith

Councillor G. Thomas
Councillor P. Baldwin
Councillor D. Bevan
Councillor M. Cross
Councillor G. A. Davies
Councillor G. L. Davies
Councillor M. Day
Councillor P. Edwards
Councillor L. Elias
Councillor K. Hayden
Councillor J. Hill
Councillor W. Hodgins
Councillor M. Holland
Councillor H. McCarthy
Councillor J. Millard
Councillor M. Moore
Councillor J. C. Morgan
Councillor J. P. Morgan
Councillor L. Parsons
Councillor K. Pritchard
Councillor K. Rowson
Councillor T. Sharrem
Councillor T. Smith
Councillor B. Summers
Councillor S. Thomas
Councillor H. Trollope
Councillor J. Wilkins
Councillor D. Wilkshire
Councillor B. Willis
Councillor L. Winnett

All other Members (for information)
Manager Director
Chief Officers

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT

**REPORT TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE JOINT
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (BUDGET MONITORING)**

**SUBJECT: JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
(BUDGET MONITORING) –
16TH SEPTEMBER, 2019**

REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC SUPPORT OFFICER

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR S. HEALY (CHAIR)

Councillors D. Bevan
M. Cook
M. Cross
G. L. Davies
P. Edwards
J. Hill
W. Hodgins
H. McCarthy
J. Millard
J. C. Morgan
K. Pritchard
T. Sharrem
T. Smith
B. Summers
S. Thomas

Co-Opted Members

A. Williams

**WITH: Managing Director
Corporate Director of Social Services
Corporate Director of Education
Chief Officer Resources
Chief Officer Commercial
Head of Community Services
Service Manager Accountancy
Scrutiny & Democratic Officer/Advisor**

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
No. 1	<p><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></p> <p>It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.</p>	
No. 2	<p><u>APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from: -</p> <p>Councillors M. Day, L. Elias, J. Holt, C. Meredith, L. Parsons, G. Paulsen, K. Rowson, H. Trollope, J. Wilkins, D. Wilkshire, B. Willis, L. Winnett</p> <p><u>Co-opted Member</u> Mr. T. Baxter</p>	
No. 3	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS</u></p> <p>Councillors W. Hodgins and P. Edwards declared an interest in the following item:-</p> <p>Item No. 10 - Revenue Budget Monitoring – 2019/2020, Forecast Outturn to 31 March 2020 (as at 30th June 2019).</p>	
No. 4.	<p><u>JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (BUDGET MONITORING)</u></p> <p>The Minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 6th February, 2019 were submitted, whereupon:-</p> <p><u>Item 4 – Revenue Budget 2019/20</u></p> <p>A Member commented that in relation to schools he and another Member spoke in support of schools to provide a balanced view and he felt this was not accurately reflected in the Minutes. The Member referred to page 19 Individual School Budgets (ISB) and said this was also not a balanced view.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED, subject to the foregoing, that the Minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	

<p>No. 5</p>	<p><u>ACTION SHEET – 6TH FEBRUARY, 2019</u></p> <p>The action sheet arising from the meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Committee (Budget Monitoring) held on 6th February, 2019 was considered, whereupon:-</p> <p><u>Item 5 – Revenue Budget 2019/20</u></p> <p>A Member referred to the full cost recovery of premises related costs for occupancy of Town and Community Councils and requested a breakdown of the full cost recovery be provided.</p> <p>A Member commented that budget setting discussions would shortly be taking place for 2020/21 and enquired if the Council paid at a higher rate for its utility costs. The Chief Officer Resources said that a 20% increase in utility costs had been built into the budget process for 2019/20 and she would enquire if the Council paid any penalties in relation to its utility costs and report back to Committee.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED, subject to the foregoing, that the Action Sheet be noted.</p>	<p>Chief Officer Resources</p> <p>Chief Officer Resources</p>
<p>No. 6</p>	<p><u>JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (BUDGET MONITORING)</u></p> <p>The Minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 11th February, 2019 were submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the Minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
<p>No. 7</p>	<p><u>ACTION SHEET – 11TH FEBRUARY, 2019</u></p> <p>The Action Sheet arising from the meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Committee (Budget Monitoring) held on 11th February, 2019 was considered, whereupon:-</p> <p><u>Item 7 – Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19, Forecast to 31st March 2019</u></p> <p>In response to a Member’s question regarding the Splash Park, the Director of Social Services said that a report had been prepared and presented to the Environment, Regeneration & Economic Development Scrutiny</p>	

	<p>Committee in May that Social Services Scrutiny Committee Members had been invited to attend.</p> <p>A Member requested information regarding the 13% increase in energy costs and Corporate Services energy rebates.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED, subject to the foregoing, that the Action Sheet be noted.</p>	Head of Community Services
No. 8	<p><u>JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (BUDGET MONITORING)</u></p> <p>The Minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 12th July, 2019 were submitted, whereupon:-</p> <p>A Member commented that at the Committee meeting he had requested a breakdown of expenditure costs for public toilets in each Ward and was still awaiting the information.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED, subject to the foregoing, that the Minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
No. 9	<p><u>ACTION SHEET – 12TH JULY, 2019</u></p> <p>The Action Sheet arising from the meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Committee (Budget Monitoring) held on 12th July, 2019 was considered, whereupon:-</p> <p>A Member enquired when an update review of the Industrial Portfolio would be received. The Managing Director said that this would form part of the MTFs and a report on individual Service Business Reviews e.g. Industrial Portfolio would be presented to the Regeneration Scrutiny Committee in the Autumn.</p> <p>A Member requested a further progress update on the Company Shop, Tredegar. The Head of Community Services said he would report back to Committee in due course.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED, subject to the foregoing, that the Action Sheet be noted.</p>	Head of Community Services

No. 10 **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING – 2019/2020, FORECAST OUTTURN TO 31 MARCH 2020 (AS AT 30TH JUNE 2019)**

Councillors W. Hodgins and P. Edwards declared an interest in this item and remained in the meeting.

Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Resources which provided the forecast financial outturn position across all portfolios for the financial year 2019/20 (as forecast at 30th June, 2019) and to review the actions taken forward to move towards a balanced outturn position.

The Chief Officer Resources spoke to the report and highlighted the main points contained therein.

Impact on Budget

In response to a Member's question regarding ALT Termination costs, the Chief Officer Resources said that the forecast overspend would have been £300,000 if reserves had not been used.

Risk including Mitigation Actions

A Member referred to Brexit as an organisational risk and commented on the Government's Yellowhammer Impact Assessment and enquired regarding preparations for financial planning. The Managing Director said that Yellowhammer was the worst case scenario and that an Officer Working Group was working on planning preparations and had geared up to the original March deadline. A Members Briefing session would be arranged for October to update Members and a report would be presented to Scrutiny. The Member felt that the Council may already feel the impact of Brexit by December. The Managing Director said that a risk assessment had been undertaken and if there was a radical change this would be reported to Members.

In response to a Member's enquiry regarding the Sustainable Social Services Grant, the Director of Social Services said that the grant had been received for the last 2 years but confirmation of the grant for 2020/21 would not be received until January/February 2020.

Financial Efficiency Projects (FEP)

A Member commented on the £50,000 increase in recycling income not being achieved due to the delayed use of the baler. The Head of Community Services said that there had been some issues regarding the baler at Silent Valley such as compacting of the aluminium cans and aerosols and training to operate the baler which had delayed its use and had resulted in a shortfall of income generated.

Appendix 1 - Summary of main forecast adverse variances 2019/20

Environment – Cemeteries

In response to a Member’s enquiry regarding cemeteries, the Head of Community Services said that the net surplus was not enough to offset the forecast adverse variance. Costs had been reduced as much as possible, however, the income target had been difficult to achieve. The Member felt that the income targets should be reviewed.

A Member commented that it was important that cemeteries be maintained to a good standard as they were an emotive and sensitive area for residents to visit. He added that it was not always about budgets and maintenance of cemeteries should be addressed in a better manner.

Reference was made to the Task & Finish Group and the monies received from Gwent Crematorium and Members felt that this should be referred to the Community Services Committee.

The Committee AGREED this course of action.

Environment – Cwmcrachen Caravan Site

A Member referred to the forecast adverse variance for Cwmcrachen Caravan Site and enquired if it was due to rents and high utility bills.

Education- Home to School Transport

A Member referred to the year on year increase in the

Scrutiny
Officer

Chief
Officer
Resourc
es

Home to School Transport for special schools, the Director of Education said that it was based on need within the system, some pupils had complex needs and it was difficult to predict increases in demand for the service.

Another Member commented that the Authority received a Looked After Children grant for the Social Services Directorate and felt that one Directorate received finance which also affected another Directorate. The Director of Education clarified that costs were linked to LAC, Social Services Directorate picked up the care elements and the Education Directorate picked up the education element of the total cost.

Appendix 2
Transport Services - Parking Enforcement

A Member referred to civil parking enforcement at schools and requested that Brynbach Primary School and Tredegar Comprehensive be identified as priority areas for enforcement. The Head of Community Services said that there were only two enforcement officers and their remit was to focus on the priority areas of town centres and schools. However, he would arrange for the two schools to be made a priority for officers.

Head of
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Following a Member's comment regarding an SRS update on the new IT system, the Chair responded that a Members briefing session would be arranged with SRS colleagues to give a complete update on new IT systems, as agreed at a recent Corporate Overview Scrutiny Committee. It was noted that drop-in sessions had been arranged with the Chief Officer Commercial.

The Committee AGREED this course of action.

Appendix 4
Corporate Services – Adverse Variance

In response to a Member's question regarding the anticipated shortfall on the Administration Subsidy grant, the Chief Officer Resources clarified that the grant was received to administer Housing Benefits and work was being undertaken to review the overpayments process to address this cost pressure.

With reference to the installation of dog waste bins, the Head of Community Services said that dog waste bins would continue to be installed where an absolute need had been identified.

A Member felt that the deep cleans at town centres were poor value for money.

A Member referred to public toilets funding and requested a breakdown of the funds provided to each of the town centres over the last 2 years. The Head of Community Services said that a reduction to the contribution paid to the organisations for running the public toilets was being considered. A one off grant had been received last year, however, internal funding was also provided through the Street Cleansing budget. A breakdown of funding for each town centre would be provided at the next appropriate Committee.

Head of
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Councillor M. Cook left the meeting at this juncture.

A Member commented that the original concept to use café toilets was good as the café owners had received funding for the public to use their facilities.

Another Member pointed out that although the previous administration had closed public toilets, this had been under consideration since 2006, and noted that the toilets had not been re-opened.

In response to a Member's question regarding the continual restructure of departments, the Managing Director clarified that this was not a continual restructure, the Senior Management Review Phase 2 (SMR2) had taken some time to put in place and the changes in the Regeneration Department referred to were in fact part of SMR2.

A Member enquired regarding CCTV savings. The Managing Director confirmed that the savings had been achieved.

A Member proposed to support the virements with an amendment to read: consider and 'comment upon' an action plan.

	<p>The Committee AGREED, subject to the foregoing, to recommend that the report be accepted and endorsed Option 1, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that Members provided appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report; • that Members consider and ‘comment upon’ the Action Plans attached at Appendix 4 developed to address the forecast adverse variances at the end of June 2019; and • recommend the Executive approve the budget virements attached at Appendix 5 which exceed £250,000. 	
<p>No. 11</p>	<p><u>CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING – APRIL TO JUNE 2019 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Resources which provided an overview of each Portfolio’s forecast capital expenditure against funding approvals for the 2019/20 financial year, as at 30th June, 2019.</p> <p>The Chief Officer Resources spoke to the report and highlighted the main points contained therein.</p> <p>A Member referred to the acquisition of Cwm Draw Units 1-6. The Chief Officer Resources said that the purchase had now been completed with a small budget remaining.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend that the report be accepted and endorsed Option 1, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that Scrutiny Members continue to provide appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report; • Continue to support appropriate financial control procedures agreed by Council; • the budgetary control and monitoring procedures in place within the Capital Team, to safeguard Authority funding be noted. 	

No. 12 **USE OF GENERAL AND EARMARKED RESERVES**
2019/2020

Consideration was given to report of the Chief Officer Resources which provided Members with the forecast reserves position for 2019/2020 as at Quarter 1 (30th June, 2019).

The Chief Officer Resources spoke to the report and highlighted the key points contained therein.

In relation to Education – Gypsy Travellers, a Member raised concerns regarding increased costs to this budget associated with the expansion of Gypsy Traveller sites. The Service Manager Accountancy said that this was not an overspend it was a reserve. The Education Improvement grant had reduced and funding had been set aside.

The Chair commented on the officer representation at the meeting and felt that report authors needed to be in attendance at the meeting. The Managing Director responded that all Directorates had been represented at the meeting.

The Committee AGREED to recommend that the report be accepted and endorse Option 1; namely to

- Note the planned forecast increase of the General Reserve to 4.47% (above the 4% target level) for 2019/2020 and future years strengthening the Council's Financial Resilience;
- Note the impact the £0.150m forecast adverse variance for 2019/2020 would have on the General Reserve target; and
- Continue to challenge budget overspends and implement appropriate service Action Plans, where required.

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Action Sheet

Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee – Monday 16th September 2019

Item	Action to be Taken	By Whom	Action Taken
6	<p><u>Action Sheet 6th February 2019</u></p> <p><i>Revenue Budget 2019/20</i> - A Member referred to ENV018 – Full cost recovery of premises related costs for occupancy of Town and Community Councils – and requested that a breakdown of the full cost recovery be provided to Members.</p> <p><i>Revenue Budget 2019/20</i> - A Member referred to ENV003 – Reduction of Street Lighting Provision – and the potential 20% increase in utility costs and enquired if the Council paid at a higher rate or if the Council paid any penalties.</p>	<p>Rhian Hayden Chief Officer Resources</p> <p>Matthew Perry, Service Manager</p>	<p>The Asset review as (as part of Bridging the Gap) will include full cost recovery.</p> <p>Blaenau Gwent is incurring the following costs for Town & Community Councils:-</p> <p>Tredegar Town Council - £21,520 Nantyglo & Blaina Town Council - £7,330 Brynmawr Town Council - £5,578</p> <p>Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council are based in Mitre Street, which is part of the Corporate Landlord Budget. The costs of maintaining this building is currently estimated to be £38,000pa.</p> <p>We procure energy via the National Procurement Services (Wales) and subsequently via the Crown Commercial Services, which is part of the UK Gov Treasury Dept. Our energy spend/requirements are added to the rest of the Welsh public sector and procured as a much larger cohort of energy in an attempt to maximise competitive opportunities.</p>

Item	Action to be Taken	By Whom	Action Taken
			Based on this collaborative model, our energy costs are the same as other LA's. Furthermore, no penalties have been incurred by the Authority.
8	<p><u>Action Sheet 11th February 2019</u></p> <p><i>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19, Forecast to 31st March 2019</i> - Members requested an explanation on the 13% increase in energy costs and Corporate Services energy rebates.</p>	Oriel Price, Senior Energy Officer	Update attached.
10	<p><u>Action Sheet 12th July 2019</u></p> <p><i>Capital Expenditure Provisional Outturn 2018/19 – Company Shop, Tredegar</i> – A member requested an update position.</p>	Clive Rogers Head Community Services	Currently identifying an agent to act for the Council. They will be instructed to submit an application to CADW to demolish parts of the listed building.
11	<p><u>Revenue Budget Monitoring – 2019/20, Forecast Outturn to 31st March 2020 (as at 30th June 2019)</u></p> <p>A member requested that the Cemeteries Task and Finish Group recommendations with regards to the use of Crematorium funding be reported to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee.</p>	Scrutiny & Democratic Officer	<p>The recommendations of the Task and Finish Group were reported to the Environment, Regeneration and Economic Development Committee on 12th September 2018. The committee recommended that Option 1 be supported – to utilise surplus funding from the Crematorium.</p> <p>The report was considered by the Executive Committee on 26th September 2018, and the</p>

Item	Action to be Taken	By Whom	Action Taken
	<p>Appendix 1 – Cwmcrachen Caravan Site – Member sought clarification on the adverse variance and enquired if this was due to rents and high utility costs.</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Civil Parking Enforcement – Members requested that Brynbach Primary School and Tredegar Comprehensive be identified as priority areas for enforcement.</p>	<p>Rhian Hayden, Chief Officer Resources</p> <p>Clive Rogers, Head Community Services</p>	<p>recommendation was not supported (see Extract from Executive minutes attached).</p> <p>The Executive Members for Corporate Services and Environment attended the Environment, Regeneration and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee meeting on 29th November, to respond to questions in relation to the Executive's decision (see Extract from scrutiny minutes attached).</p> <p>The Adverse variance is a combination of higher than expected utility costs at the site and rental income being lower than estimated as a result of vacancies.</p> <p>As at quarter 2:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • utilities forecast is £42k adverse variance – a potential error with the meters is being investigated. • Income is forecasting a £19k adverse variance <p>Both schools are included on the patrol list for enforcement and have been visited by the Civil Enforcement Officers. Both school sites will be visited on a regular basis, as part of the wider school-site parking enforcement.</p>

Item	Action to be Taken	By Whom	Action Taken																					
	<p>Appendix 4 – A Member referred to Public Conveniences funding and requested a breakdown of the funds provided to each of the Town Centres over the last 2 years.</p>	<p>Rhian Hayden, Chief Officer Resources</p>	<p>Information requested provided below:-</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>2018/19</u></th> <th><u>2019/20</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Brynmawr</td> <td>£1,530</td> <td>£2,100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blaina</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abertillery</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tredegar</td> <td>£2,160</td> <td>£2,160</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ebbw Vale</td> <td><u>£9,000</u></td> <td><u>£9,000</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td><u>£12,690</u></td> <td><u>£13,260</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>	Brynmawr	£1,530	£2,100	Blaina	Nil	Nil	Abertillery	Nil	Nil	Tredegar	£2,160	£2,160	Ebbw Vale	<u>£9,000</u>	<u>£9,000</u>	Total	<u>£12,690</u>	<u>£13,260</u>
	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>																						
Brynmawr	£1,530	£2,100																						
Blaina	Nil	Nil																						
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Tredegar	£2,160	£2,160																						
Ebbw Vale	<u>£9,000</u>	<u>£9,000</u>																						
Total	<u>£12,690</u>	<u>£13,260</u>																						
	<p>Members requested consideration is given to minutes being included on special meeting agenda.</p>	<p>Head Governance and Partnerships</p>	<p>It has been agreed that the minutes will go to the next available meeting. As stated in the Constitution:</p> <p>7.27 Procedure at Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meetings</p> <p>7.27.1 An Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall consider the following business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) minutes of the last meeting; (b) declarations of interest; (c) consideration of any matter referred to that Overview and Scrutiny Committee; (d) responses of the Executive to reports of that Overview and Scrutiny Committee; (e) the business otherwise set out on the agenda for the meeting; (f) Consideration of agenda items for the next meeting. 																					

Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee

Action: Item 8 - Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19, Forecast to 31st March 2019 - Members requested an explanation on the 13% increase in energy costs and Corporate Services energy rebates.

Officer Response:

We can see a general 15% increase in wholesale energy costs for 2019-20 based on the current NPS (Wales) framework.

Rebates have and continue to be achieved through the appointment of Axiom (specialist management consultancy) to undertake a timeline utility audit. The following gives an overview of both actual and estimated rebates based on historical overcharges on all utility contracts:

Current Rebates:

- Corona CCL charges: £12,711.58 (as of the 09.09.2019)
- EDF Overcapacity and CCL overcharges: £3,278.82 (as of the 09.09.2019)

*A VAT rebate has already taken place for Corona (chasing date and amount?)

Pending Rebates (Estimated):

- British Gas: £0
- EDF Metering charges: £28,597.50
- EDF Voltage charges: Do you have any metering photos for us / locations of substations?
- EDF Consumption Saving: Has the multi-storey car park been addressed?
- Dwr Cymru: £0

*Further savings are continuously monitored set against: increased energy efficiency programmes/retrofits coming online, the identification of subterranean water leaks and sites that are exempt from Dwr Cymru's sewerage charges (usually calculated on the assumption that 95% of the water consumption recorded by the meter is discharged to the sewer).

Have requested an updated spreadsheet of the rebates against the accounts/sites for all utilities, that I hope to receive soon. Further detail to follow once in receipt from Axiom based on the following:

- An updated spreadsheet of the rebates actioned and pending against the accounts/sites for all utilities
- Plus a future forecast of the identified/corrected savings based on our previous consumption.

Most rebates taken place have been credited to all accounts historically and therefore have been taken account of during the time of the 2019-20 forecast.

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT

REPORT TO: THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – 26TH SEPTEMBER, 2018

REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER

**PRESENT: Leader of the Council/Executive Member Corporate Services
Councillor N.J. Daniels (Chair)**

**Executive Member – Environment
Councillor G. Collier**

**Executive Member –
Regeneration & Economic Development
Councillor D. Davies**

**Executive Member – Education
Councillor C. Meredith**

**Executive Member – Social Services
Councillor J. Mason**

WITH: Managing Director
Corporate Director Social Services
Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services
Head of Education Transformation
Chief Officer Resources
Service Manager Public Protection
Principal Environmental Health Officer
Head of Legal & Corporate Compliance

DECISIONS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
	<u>DEPUTY LEADER/ENVIRONMENT MATTERS</u>	
No. 13	<p><u>CEMETERIES TASK AND FINISH GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS (PART 2)</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Head of Community Services.</p> <p>The Deputy Leader/Executive Member Environment presented the report which provided the findings from the Cemetery Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>The Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services said the need for investment in the Borough's cemeteries was accepted for the reasons outlined in the report. He referred to the Task and Finish Group preferred Option 1 to utilise the grant from the Crematorium, and said from a service area perspective this would need to be considered along with other funding bids.</p> <p>The Deputy Leader said the deterioration of the cemeteries was the result of lack of investment over the years, and he commended the work of the Task and Finish Group in addressing the issues, however, the method of resolving the situation financial does not comply with the Council's current arrangements. He said the £247k surplus funds from the Crematorium, when received, should be put into the Council's general reserve and any investment of these funds be considered along with other Council priorities.</p> <p>The Leader said he had no issue with the principle of the report and he was pleased to see acknowledgement from all political groups that the cemeteries had deteriorated to an unacceptable standard. However, he pointed out that the £247k from the Crematorium had not been formally introduced into the Council via a report stating that we have the money, and he agreed with the Deputy Leader's comments that the</p>	

money should go into the general reserve and balanced against other corporate priorities. He said whilst the report correctly highlighted the situation with the Borough's cemeteries, he found it difficult to support the preferred Option 1 as the money had not been formally declared to Council, and no opportunity for it to go down the corporate priority funding route.

The Leader then suggested an alternative Option, namely that the Corporate Director instruct the Technical Services Department to undertake an urgent comprehensive feasibility study of the Borough's cemeteries to ascertain the level of work that was needed to be undertaken, and these works be prioritised on a cemetery-by-cemetery basis; and that a meeting be arranged with the Chief Officer Resources and the Neighbourhood Services Team to discuss funding proposals for a rolling programme of works over the next few years.

RESOLVED that the report be not accepted, and the following alternative Option be approved:

- The Corporate Director to instruct the Technical Services Department to undertake an urgent comprehensive feasibility study of the Borough's cemeteries to ascertain the level of work that was needed to be undertaken, and these works be prioritised on a cemetery-by-cemetery basis; and
- That a meeting be arranged with the Chief Officer Resources and the Neighbourhood Services Team to discuss funding proposals for a rolling programme of works over the next few years.

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT

REPORT TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT, REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT, REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 29TH NOVEMBER, 2018

REPORT OF: BUSINESS SUPPORT OFFICER, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR P. EDWARDS (CHAIR)

Councillors P. Baldwin
D. Hancock
W. Hodgins
M. Holland
H. McCarthy
J. Millard
M. Moore
J.C. Morgan
K. Rowson
T. Sharrem
G. Thomas

**AND: Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services
Service Manager, Public Protection
Service Manager, Community Services
Service Manager, Regeneration (Temp)
Service Manager, Development Services
Team Manager, Thriving Communities
Team Manager, Environmental Protection
Team Manager, Housing Solutions & Compliance
Scrutiny Officer**

**WITH: Leader of the Council/Executive Member – Corporate Services
Councillor N. Daniels**

Deputy Leader of the Council/Executive Member – Environment

Councillor G. Collier

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
No. 6	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DECISION – CEMETERIES TASK AND FINISH GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS (PART 2)</u></p> <p>To respond to any questions raised by the Committee following the Executive Committee’s decision regarding the Cemeteries Task & Finish Group recommendations report.</p> <p>The Chair invited the Executive Member – Environment and the Executive Member – Corporate Services to speak to the report.</p> <p>The Executive Member – Environment commented that the Task & Finish Group had produced an excellent report but the recommendation could not be supported. The Managing Director had requested that the Technical Services Department prepare a business case setting out priority areas based on critical and non-critical improvements within Blaenau Gwent’s cemeteries.</p> <p>The Executive Member – Corporate Services agreed that it was a good report and that it was imperative to improve the condition of the Borough’s cemeteries as a matter of urgency. The Task & Finish Group’s recommendation was that £120,000 be allocated to make improvements to cemeteries but that money had not yet been received by the Council and if improvements were carried out funding would have to be provided through the Council’s reserves which were already below the recommended 4%. The Council had a duty to be financially prudent and not draw off general reserves unnecessarily. As part of the bidding process for 2019/20 an application could be submitted for funding to the Capital Programme, along with other Council priorities, for improvement works to be progressed on the priority areas identified within the business case.</p> <p>In response to a Member’s question regarding the appointment of consultants, the Executive Member –</p>	

Corporate Services explained that this would not be pursued as it would entail further costs to the Authority.

Members agreed that Blaenau Gwent cemeteries had been neglected for several years due to the financial cuts imposed on the Authority. In 2013/14 staffing levels had reduced which had also impacted on the condition of the cemeteries.

The Committee AGREED that the comments from the Executive Member – Corporate Services and the Executive Member – Environment be noted.

The Executive Member – Corporate Services Councillor N. Daniels and the Executive Member – Environment Councillor G. Collier left the meeting at this juncture.

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Report to: **Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee – 18th November 2019**

Subject: **Executive Decision Sheet**

Item	Scrutiny Committee Recommendation	Executive Decision	Recommendation			Executive Member invited to attend if recommendation accepted in part or rejected
			Approved	Accepted in Part	Rejected	
Executive Committee – 26 th September 2019 Revenue Budget Monitoring – 2019/20 Forecast Outturn to 31 March 2020 (as at 30 th June 2019)	The Committee recommended, Option 1, that Members consider and comment upon the report and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report • Consider the action plans attached at Appendix 4 developed to address the forecast adverse variances at the end of June 2019. • Recommend the Executive approve the budget virements attached at Appendix 5 which exceed £250,000. 	RESOLVED, that the report be accepted and the action plans noted as detailed in Appendix 4 which had been developed to address the forecast adverse variances as at the end of June 2019 and approval was given for the budget virements as detailed in Appendix 5 which exceed £250,000.	Scrutiny recommendation accepted.			No further action
Executive Committee – 26 th September 2019 Capital Budget Monitoring – April to June 2019	The Committee recommended, Option 1, that Members accept the report and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report. • Continue to support appropriate financial control procedures agreed by Council. • To note the budgetary control and monitoring procedures in place 	RESOLVED that the report be accepted and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the appropriate financial control procedures as agreed by Council be supported; • the budgetary control and monitoring procedures in place within the Capital Team to safeguard Authority funding was noted; and • the virement of £520,000 from 	Scrutiny recommendation accepted.			No further action

Item	Scrutiny Committee Recommendation	Executive Decision	Recommendation			Executive Member invited to attend if recommendation accepted in part or rejected
			Approved	Accepted in Part	Rejected	
	within the Capital Team, to safeguard Authority funding.	the generic European Structural Capital Match Fund to the European Match Funded be approved.				
Executive Committee – 26 th September 2019 Use of General and Earmarked Reserves 2019/20	The Committee recommended that the report be accepted and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the planned forecast increase of the General Reserve to 4.47% (above the 4% target level) for 2019/2020 and future years, strengthening the Council's Financial Resilience be noted; and the impact of £0.150m forecast adverse variance for 2019/2020 would have on the General Reserve target be noted. 	RESOLVED that the report be accepted and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the planned forecast increase of the General Reserve to 4.47% (above the 4% target level) for 2019/2020 and future years, strengthening the Council's Financial Resilience be noted; and the impact of £0.150m forecast adverse variance for 2019/2020 would have on the General Reserve target be noted. 	Scrutiny recommendation accepted.			No further action

Agenda Item 7

Executive Committee and Council only

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer: N/A

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer: N/A

Committee: **Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee**

Date of Meeting: **18 November 2019**

Report Subject: **Revenue Budget Monitoring -2019/2020,
Forecast Outturn To 31 March 2020 (As At 30
September 2019)**

Portfolio Holder: **Cllr Daniels – Leader / Executive Member
Corporate Services**

Report Submitted by: **Rhian Hayden – Chief Officer Resources**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
	29/10/2019	06/11/19			18.11.19	30/11/2019		

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Members with the forecast financial outturn position across all portfolios for the financial year 2019/2020 (as forecast at 30 September 2019) and to review the actions taken forward to move towards a balanced out turn position.

2. Scope and Background

- 2.1 This report provides details on the following:

- Forecast financial position to the end of March 2020 across all portfolios
- Budget virements actioned in the period July 2019 to September 2019
- Details of significant adverse variances
- Forecast outturn for Fees & Charges
- Progress on the achievement of the Financial Efficiency Projects for 2019/2020
- Action Plans developed to address significant adverse variances

- 2.12 This report forms part of the quarterly financial reporting framework to Members.

3. Options for Recommendation

3.1 Option 1 (Recommended Option)

Members of the Joint Budget Scrutiny consider the report and

- Provide appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report
- Consider the action plans attached at Appendix 4 developed to address the forecast adverse variances at the end of September 2019.
- Recommend that the Executive approve the budget virements attached at Appendix 5 which exceed £250,000.

3.2 **Option 2**

Do not accept the report.

4. **Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan**

4.1 This report supports the Council Priority, “Efficient Council”, as it is part of the financial planning and reporting arrangements which support the Councils’ financial resilience.

5. **Implications Against Each Option**

5.1 **Impact on Budget**

5.1.1 In setting the Council budget for 2019/2020 financial year, financial efficiency projects totalling £3.35m were approved and £1.5m cost pressure funding was awarded across all portfolios, including:-

- £0.6m for Environmental Services
- £0.67m to fund cost pressures which cut across all portfolios - including increases in employer’s pension contributions and pay scale realignment for APT&C Staff.

5.1.2 The forecast overall financial position across all portfolios at 31 March 2020, is a relatively small adverse variance of £7,200, against a total net revenue budget of £147m.

Across all Portfolios, the overall position is shown below:-

Portfolio/ Committee	2019/2020 Revised Revenue Budget	2019/2020 Forecast Outturn @ 31 March 2020	Favourable/ (Adverse) March 2020	Append ref:
	£m	£m	£m	
Underspending Portfolios				
Corporate Services & Financial Management & Strategy	14.72	14.64	0.08	2a
Social Services	44.92	44.74	0.18	2b
Economy	1.52	1.44	0.08	2d
Sub Total (1)	61.16	60.82	0.34	

Overspending Portfolios				
Education	55.48	55.54	(0.06)	2c
Environment	29.53	29.79	(0.26)	2e
Planning	1.06	1.06	0.00	2f
Licensing	0.07	0.08	(0.01)	2g
Sub Total (2)	86.14	86.47	(0.33)	
Total	<u>147.30</u>	<u>147.29</u>	<u>(0.01)</u>	

5.1.3 The table indicates that the provisional outturn is higher than the budget by £7,200 (across all services). This is after the application of £0.5m from specific reserves to address “one-off” in year planned expenditure.

5.1.4 **PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS**

5.1.5 There are four portfolios forecasting adverse variances totalling £0.34m, however there are a number of cost pressures identified across all portfolios. Appendix 1 identifies those services where the adverse variance exceeds £15,000, and Action Plans to address these cost pressures are attached at Appendix 4.

5.1.6 **Social Services - £180,000 favourable variance**

5.1.7 Social Services are forecasting a favourable variance of £180,000 against a budget of £45m.

5.1.8 Children's Services is currently forecasting a favourable variance of £0.150m and this is due to the Welsh Government Grant, Supporting Sustainable Social Services, for £762,000 which has contributed towards mitigating the cost pressure within Looked After Children and a number of social worker vacancies.

5.1.9 A number of preventative measures have been implemented including the Supporting Change Team, which supports children and families to prevent children coming into care, and the MYST project which works with children with complex need to reduce the requirement for residential placements. Both these initiatives are having a positive impact on expenditure for 2019/2020.

5.1.10 **Education - £64,000 adverse variance**

5.1.11 The overall forecast adverse position is mainly attributed to 2 areas:

- AWPU Clawback - £81,000
- Home to School transport - £44,000

5.1.12 However, these adverse variances have been partly offset by a number of forecast underspends within the Portfolio.

5.1.13 **Environment - £259,000 adverse variance**

5.1.14 The Environment Portfolio is forecasting an overall adverse variance of £0.259m across a number of services areas, the most significant being Waste Services at £104,000. This has reduced from quarter 1 adverse of £434,000, see Environment action plan for details of reduction.

5.1.15 **Fees & Charges**

5.1.16 The 2019/2020 portfolio estimates include income budgets in relation to fees & charges (excluding Council Tax) of £14.7m across all portfolios. Attached at Appendix 3 is an analysis of income received against budget for the financial year for individual portfolios, and current forecast indicates an adverse variance against this target of £0.572m, primarily relating to charges within Social Services.

5.1.17 Whilst this analysis is useful, it should not be considered in isolation, as elements of any shortfall within Portfolios can be inextricably linked to underspends in expenditure within the same budget heading. Where this is the case, budget holders should action budget virements to ensure that the income targets reflect more accurately expected income. Likewise, any over achievement in income which offset overspends in expenditure within the same budget, should be treated in the same way.

5.1.18 **Budget Virements**

5.1.19 The Constitution requires budget virements in excess of £250,000 to be approved by the Executive.

5.1.20 A number of budget virements have been actioned during the period July to September 2019 to mitigate cost pressures, which exceed £250,000 and require Executive approval and details are attached at Appendix 5. For information, a virement of £60,000 from Children's Services (Social Services Portfolio) to Recoupment (Education Portfolio) has been agreed, to assist with the education of Looked After Children outside of BGCBC schools

5.1.21 **Financial Efficiency Projects (FEP)**

5.1.22 In setting the 2019/2020 budget Financial Efficiency Projects (FEPs) were approved to deliver savings of £3.34m. Of this target £3.26m (97.3%) is forecast to be achieved, with a shortfall of £77,377, primarily from the delayed

operation of machinery at the waste transfer station (resulting in a lower level of achievable income.

5.1.23 This shortfall forms part of the overall portfolio out turn position and a summary of progress against the FEPs is attached at Appendix 6.

5.2 **Risk including Mitigating Actions**

5.2.1 (1) Grants form a significant element of the Council's income and support the delivery of priority services to the people of Blaenau Gwent. There is a risk that a reduction or cessation of grant funding will result in service levels reducing or services no longer being delivered.

5.2.2 A grants register have been developed and is being maintained and will be considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

5.2.3 (2) The Sustainable Social Services Grant of £762,000 may not be awarded in future years, creating a cost pressure for Children's Services.

5.2.4 This will be considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy when considering cost pressures, and a number of preventative measures have been introduced within Children's Services (Supporting Change Team and MYST) which are having a positive impact on expenditure for Looked After Children.

5.2.5 (3) Action Plans do not address the cost pressures identified.

5.2.6 The Action Plans will be monitored as part of the Budget Monitoring and Reporting Framework and the impact reported to the Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee, Executive Committee and the Cost Pressure Sub Group.

5.2.7 (4) There is a risk of increase costs for food, fuel and other essential goods and services following the ongoing situation regarding Brexit.

5.2.8 Brexit has been added as an organisational risk to the corporate risk register, whilst a separate, more detailed Brexit high level action plan has been developed and is being monitored by the Brexit Core planning Group.

5.3 Legal
N/A

5.4 Human Resources
N/A

6. **Supporting Evidence**

6.1 **Performance Information and Data**

6.1.1 A summary page for each portfolio is contained in Appendices 2a to 2g.

6.2 **Expected outcome for the public**

6.2.1 The report details the financial implications for the Council in providing services to the communities of Blaenau Gwent.

6.2.2 If overspends continue into the medium term, resources will be diminished and this may impact on the Council's ability to provide services to the public.

6.3 **Involvement (consultation, engagement, participation)**

6.3.1 CLT have considered the forecast financial position for 2019/2020 (as 30 September 2019).

6.4 **Thinking for the Long term (forward planning)**

6.4.1 For new and emerging cost pressures identified during the financial year, budget holders will be required to produce Action Plans which should address the cost pressure during the year. These Action Plans will form part of the quarterly budget reports and will be submitted to the Cost Pressure Sub Group for scrutiny, challenge and monitoring.

6.4.2 Cost Pressures are also considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

6.5 **Preventative focus**

6.5.1 Budget holders have developed Action Plans which should mitigate the forecast adverse variance during the financial year. However, should the overall forecast variance continue, further action may need to be considered across the Council to limit/delay expenditure where possible, to prevent any unplanned draw from reserves at the year end.

6.6 **Collaboration / partnership working**

6.6.1 Accountancy works closely with budget holders during the financial year in producing the financial forecast, identifying cost pressures and in developing Action Plans.

6.7 *Integration(across service areas)*
N/A

6.8 **EqlA(screening and identifying if full impact assessment is needed)**

6.9 All Financial Efficiency Projects that were approved as part of the budget setting process had gone through the EqlA process.

7. **Monitoring Arrangements**

State how the work will be monitored e.g. through scrutiny or directorate performance management arrangements

7.1 Financial reporting to Joint Scrutiny and the Executive is carried out on a quarterly basis. Where services are reporting significant cost pressures, there will be a requirement for Budget Holders to develop and implement Action Plans these will be reported to the Cost Pressure Sub Group, on a quarterly basis.

Background Documents /Electronic Links



Appendix 1 -
Summary of Main Vari



Appendix 2.pdf



Appendix 3 - Fees
and Charges.pdf



Appendix 4.pdf



Appendix 5 -
Virements Jul 19 to Sc



Appendix 6.pdf

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SUMMARY OF MAIN FORECAST ADVERSE VARIANCES 2019/2020

		<u>Adverse Variance at Mar 2019 (Provisional)</u>	<u>Forecast Adverse Variance at September 2019 Forecast</u>	<u>Action Plan Ref:</u>
		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	
	<u>Adverse variances in Excess of £15,000</u>			
1.	<u>Corporate Services</u>			
	Housing Benefits	(137,283)	(107,333)	4a
	ICT	0	(100,000)	4a
3.	<u>Education</u>			
	AWPU Clawback	(81,136)	(81,000)	4b
	Home to School Transport	1,617	(43,973)	4b
4.	<u>Environment</u>			
	Waste Services	(142,167)	(103,495)	4c
	Meals on Wheels	(53,685)	(22,588)	4c
	Corporate Landlord	0	(63,449)	4c
	Cwmcraehen Caravan Site	(20,578)	(53,713)	4c

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CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2020	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) 30 Jun 2019
	£	£	£	£
SUMMARY				
<u>DEPARTMENTAL AND OTHER RECHARGEABLE SERVICES</u>				
Corporate Services Department	(59,620)	(273,698)	214,078	220,268
Resources Department	147,180	160,399	(13,219)	2,009
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>87,560</i>	<i>(113,298)</i>	<i>200,858</i>	<i>222,277</i>
<u>COMMERCIAL SERVICES</u>				
Archives	148,670	142,789	5,881	5,881
Festival Park	91,000	87,617	3,383	3,383
Housing Benefit	(224,130)	(116,797)	(107,333)	(107,205)
ICT Service	280,310	380,310	(100,000)	(100,000)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>295,850</i>	<i>493,920</i>	<i>(198,070)</i>	<i>(197,941)</i>
<u>LEGAL & CORPORATE COMPLIANCE SERVICES</u>				
Registration of Electors	16,340	16,368	(28)	(28)
Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths	48,550	50,878	(2,328)	(10,887)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>64,890</i>	<i>67,247</i>	<i>(2,357)</i>	<i>(10,915)</i>
<u>GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES</u>				
Corporate Management	107,370	117,308	(9,938)	(11,709)
Democratic Representation and Management	1,210,600	1,223,202	(12,602)	(14,775)
CCTV Cameras	85,990	58,511	27,479	27,163
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>1,403,960</i>	<i>1,399,021</i>	<i>4,939</i>	<i>679</i>
<u>RESOURCES SERVICES</u>				
Corporate Management	348,810	325,999	22,811	(1,922)
Non Distributed Costs	746,240	746,156	84	84
Apprenticeship Levy	320,000	312,335	7,665	5,030
Council Tax Collection	(1,557,770)	(1,577,306)	19,536	26,243
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	8,795,900	8,768,559	27,341	66,076
N.N.D.R. Collection	(107,040)	(111,485)	4,445	6,259
Grants and Subscriptions	57,270	57,270	0	0
Voluntary Sector Schemes	0	0	0	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>8,603,410</i>	<i>8,521,529</i>	<i>81,881</i>	<i>101,770</i>
<u>CORPORATE CHARGES</u>				
Corporate Recharges	4,274,560	4,274,556	4	4
Senior Management Restructure	(12,590)	0	(12,590)	(12,590)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>4,261,970</i>	<i>4,274,556</i>	<i>(12,586)</i>	<i>(12,586)</i>
CORPORATE SERVICES TOTAL EXPENDITURE	14,717,640	14,642,974	74,666	103,284

SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2020	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) 30 Jun 2019
	£	£	£	£
SUMMARY				
<u>SOCIAL SERVICES</u>				
Children's Services - Commissioning and Social Work	3,226,040	3,198,232	27,808	(627)
Looked After Children	7,084,640	7,084,316	324	(5,489)
Family Support Services	191,240	186,602	4,638	2,637
Youth Justice	237,820	228,118	9,702	202
Other Children's and Family Services	2,183,800	2,131,458	52,342	37,630
Older People Aged 65 or Over	5,911,180	5,847,263	63,917	24,580
Adults Aged Under 65 with a Physical Disability or Sensory Impairment	41,800	41,650	150	150
Adults Aged Under 65 with Learning Disabilities	3,449,760	3,400,723	49,037	55,987
Adults Aged Under 65 with Mental Health Needs	628,420	643,931	(15,511)	(7,008)
Other Adult Services	357,430	360,596	(3,166)	(3,757)
Community Care	15,662,660	15,677,604	(14,944)	(6,866)
Support Service and Management Costs	921,990	921,348	642	136,328
Corporate Recharges	5,018,490	5,018,487	3	3
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>44,915,270</i>	<i>44,740,328</i>	<i>174,942</i>	<i>233,770</i>
Reallocation of Procurement Savings			0	0
Staff Support Adjustment re Capital			0	0
Supporting Sustainable Social Services Grant 18-19			0	0
Funding from General Reserves			0	0
Total Expenditure	44,915,270	44,740,328	174,942	233,770

EDUCATION PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2020	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) 30 Jun 2019
	£	£	£	£
SUMMARY				
SCHOOLS BUDGET				
Individual Schools Budget	42,833,880	42,833,880	0	0
Education Improvement Grant	257,800	259,431	(1,631)	270
Other Costs	662,320	664,546	(2,226)	(107)
Supporting Special Education Needs	1,779,810	1,862,077	(82,267)	(141,708)
<i>Schools Budget Total Expenditure</i>	45,533,810	45,619,934	(86,124)	(141,545)
LEA BUDGET				
Strategic Management	2,217,480	2,221,632	(4,152)	(4,151)
Assuring Access to Schools	2,086,540	2,122,721	(36,181)	(36,366)
Facilitating School Improvement	419,760	423,777	(4,017)	(3,517)
Supporting Special Education Needs	328,130	259,619	68,511	72,397
<i>LEA Budget Total Expenditure</i>	5,051,910	5,027,749	24,161	28,363
OTHER EDUCATION SERVICES				
Further Education and Training	133,290	132,710	580	580
Youth Service	365,130	353,966	11,164	4,197
Other Expenditure	141,040	145,257	(4,217)	(5,144)
Education Departmental Budget	22,000	31,969	(9,969)	148
<i>Other Education Services Total Expenditure</i>	661,460	663,902	(2,442)	(219)
CORPORATE CHARGES				
Corporate Support Recharges	4,230,270	4,230,270	0	0
Reallocation of Procurement Savings	0		0	0
Funding from General Reserves	0		0	0
<i>Corporate Charges Total Expenditure</i>	4,230,270	4,230,270	0	0
Total Expenditure	55,477,450	55,541,854	(64,404)	(113,401)

ECONOMY PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2020	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) 30 Jun 2019
	£	£	£	£
SUMMARY				
<u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u>				
Economic Strategy and Development - Departmental Budget	(106,013)	(137,337)	31,324	5,098
Estates Management - Rechargeable	106,013	91,111	14,902	(8,550)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(46,226)</i>	<i>46,226</i>	<i>(3,452)</i>
<u>ECONOMY SERVICES</u>				
Affordable Housing	0	0	0	0
Aspire	0	0	0	0
Community Benefits Investment	0	0	0	9,600
CSCS	0	(621)	621	748
Destination Management	16,150	15,650	500	100
DRIVE	0	0	0	0
Financial Support to Business	6,790	2,925	3,865	4,125
General Offices	(59,630)	(76,074)	16,444	5,571
Industrial Land	7,000	6,199	801	3,800
Inspire	0	0	0	0
Nursery Units/Misc. Industrial Premises	(680,650)	(685,738)	5,088	37,149
Pentagon	0	0	0	0
Regeneration Projects	4,900	6,075	(1,175)	(1,175)
Resilient Project	0	0	0	0
Estates Management Non Rechargeable	(70,490)	(76,251)	5,761	5,852
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>(775,930)</i>	<i>(807,835)</i>	<i>31,905</i>	<i>65,770</i>
Corporate Recharges	2,291,480	2,291,470	10	10
Funding from General Reserves	0		0	0
Total Expenditure	1,515,550	1,437,409	78,141	62,328

ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2020	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) 30 Jun 2019
	£	£	£	£
SUMMARY				
<u>COMMUNITY SERVICES</u>				
<u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u>				
Environment Department - Corporate Division	0	(10,816)	10,816	21,017
Environmental Services Division	(8,537)	(6,023)	(2,514)	512
Technical Services - Engineering & Property Management	0	0	0	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>(8,537)</i>	<i>(16,839)</i>	<i>8,302</i>	<i>21,529</i>
<u>WASTE SERVICES</u>				
Waste Services Team	40,276	40,276	0	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>40,276</i>	<i>40,276</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<u>WASTE COLLECTION</u>				
Household and Trade Waste Collection	510,900	515,317	(4,417)	(41,340)
Recycling Collection	2,122,470	2,156,873	(34,403)	(134,228)
Bulky Waste Collection	15	3,450	(3,435)	(5,166)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>2,633,385</i>	<i>2,675,640</i>	<i>(42,255)</i>	<i>(180,734)</i>
<u>WASTE TRANSFER</u>				
Civic Amenity Sites	303,920	307,984	(4,064)	(29,198)
Transfer Station	675,140	739,775	(64,635)	(19,994)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>979,060</i>	<i>1,047,759</i>	<i>(68,699)</i>	<i>(49,192)</i>
<u>WASTE DISPOSAL</u>				
Disposal Of Waste	1,108,870	1,102,445	6,425	(33,261)
Recycling Disposal	229,895	228,861	1,034	(49,958)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>1,338,765</i>	<i>1,331,306</i>	<i>7,459</i>	<i>(83,219)</i>
<u>PUBLIC SERVICES</u>				
County Borough Cleansing	1,200,952	1,200,249	703	(28,237)
Cemeteries / Crematorium	(287,860)	(279,692)	(8,168)	(37,248)
Meals On Wheels	(1,200)	21,388	(22,588)	(25,375)
Grounds Maintenance	918,220	928,373	(10,153)	(10,797)
Countryside Recreation Sites	34,690	32,597	2,093	2,093
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>1,864,802</i>	<i>1,902,915</i>	<i>(38,113)</i>	<i>(99,564)</i>
<u>FACILITIES MANAGEMENT</u>				
Corporate Landlord	1,452,680	1,516,129	(63,449)	(89)
Corporate Property	6,360	6,360	0	0
Building Cleaning	67,880	73,836	(5,956)	(8,970)
Catering Account	120,850	134,905	(14,055)	(4,779)
Appetite For Life	42,010	40,124	1,886	4
School Breakfast Club	373,950	388,500	(14,550)	(14,826)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>2,063,730</i>	<i>2,159,854</i>	<i>(96,124)</i>	<i>(28,660)</i>

ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2020	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) 30 Jun 2019
	£	£	£	£
<u>HIGHWAYS & ROADS SERVICES</u>				
Highways - Street Care Team	0	1,248	(1,248)	(2,500)
Non Operational Land	1,460	1,460	0	0
Licensing (Highway Permits)	(40,692)	(40,692)	0	5
Shopping Arcade, Abertillery	2,780	2,780	0	0
Road and Street Works Acts	(51,295)	(52,133)	838	0
Multi-Storey Car Parks	272,740	271,080	1,660	2,306
On Street Parking	1,100	1,012	88	88
Surface Car Parks	31,790	30,257	1,533	1,596
Public Transport Co-Ordination	920	2,245	(1,325)	(1,325)
Bridges	7,590	7,590	0	0
Structural Maintenance (Principal and Other Roads)	166,870	164,857	2,013	2,161
	19,440	19,440	0	0
Environmental Maintenance (Principal and Other Roads)				
Safety Maintenance (Principal and Other Roads)	65,790	65,790	0	0
Routine Repairs (Principal and Other Roads)	636,430	636,430	0	0
Street Lighting	1,111,620	1,111,620	0	0
Winter Maintenance	387,360	387,360	0	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>2,613,903</i>	<i>2,610,344</i>	<i>3,559</i>	<i>2,331</i>
<u>TRANSPORT SERVICES</u>				
Traffic Orders	(14,330)	(14,647)	317	0
Highways Adoptions	(9,070)	(9,070)	0	(5)
Traffic / Accident Research	15,690	15,690	0	0
Traffic Management	6,760	6,706	54	0
Parking Enforcement	0	0	0	0
Road Safety Education	17,250	14,189	3,061	4,425
Crossing Patrols	145,160	145,160	0	6,139
Concessionary fares and Support to Operators	281,050	281,050	0	0
Local Transport Plans	2,620	23	2,597	2,597
Home to School Transport	0	0	0	0
Transport and Heavy Plant	29,440	29,445	(5)	(5)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>474,570</i>	<i>468,546</i>	<i>6,024</i>	<i>13,151</i>
<u>CULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</u>				
General Administration and Markets	(24,170)	(19,322)	(4,848)	0
Countryside Programme and Management	1,990	1,990	0	0
Landscaping and Afforestation	20,660	20,660	0	0
Reservoirs, Tips, Quarries and Mines	10,130	5,192	4,938	6,708
Flood Defence And Land Drainage	55,380	55,380	0	0
City Deal	45,900	45,900	0	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>109,890</i>	<i>109,800</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>6,708</i>
COMMUNITY SERVICES TOTAL EXPENDITURE	12,109,844	12,329,601	(219,757)	(397,650)

ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2020	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) 30 Jun 2019
	£	£	£	£
<u>PUBLIC PROTECTION</u>				
<u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u>				
Environmental Health	20,735	21,900	(1,165)	(1,886)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>20,735</u>	<u>21,900</u>	<u>(1,165)</u>	<u>(1,886)</u>
<u>CARAVAN SITES</u>				
Cwmcrachen Caravan Site	(56,170)	(2,457)	(53,713)	(53,713)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>(56,170)</u>	<u>(2,457)</u>	<u>(53,713)</u>	<u>(53,713)</u>
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH</u>				
Food Safety	6,390	9,360	(2,970)	(2,911)
Control of Pollution	10,040	8,760	1,280	1,281
Dog Wardens	10,500	1,393	9,107	9,107
Animal Health and Welfare	23,360	20,000	3,360	3,360
Pest Control	60,180	70,000	(9,820)	(9,820)
Littering and Dog Control Orders	0	14,729	(14,729)	(14,418)
Health and Safety at Work (Commercial Prem.)	1,510	3,663	(2,153)	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>111,980</u>	<u>127,905</u>	<u>(15,925)</u>	<u>(13,401)</u>
<u>HOUSING SERVICES</u>				
Homelessness	234,204	214,942	19,262	15,887
20 Church Street	19,236	24,632	(5,396)	0
General Properties	(7,590)	(7,416)	(174)	0
Housing Access	60,420	47,701	12,719	13,097
Works in Default	275	280	(5)	(5)
Disabled Facilities Grants	1,040	102	938	896
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>307,585</u>	<u>280,241</u>	<u>27,344</u>	<u>29,875</u>
<u>TRADING STANDARDS</u>				
Trading Standards	(28,318)	(31,677)	3,359	3,358
Inspection and Enforcement	7,906	6,938	968	966
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>(20,412)</u>	<u>(24,739)</u>	<u>4,327</u>	<u>4,324</u>
PUBLIC PROTECTION TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>363,718</u>	<u>402,850</u>	<u>(39,132)</u>	<u>(34,801)</u>

ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

Item	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2020	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) 30 Jun 2019
	£	£	£	£
<u>CORPORATE CHARGES</u>				
Fire Service	3,398,900	3,398,900	0	0
Coroner's Court	89,460	90,498	(1,038)	(1,038)
Corporate Recharges	9,194,740	9,194,740	0	0
Procurement Saving	0	0	0	0
Prudential Borrowing	0	0	0	0
Income Generation	(50,000)	(50,000)	0	0
CORPORATE CHARGES TOTAL EXPENDITURE	12,633,100	12,634,138	(1,038)	(1,038)
<u>ANEURIN LEISURE TRUST</u>				
<u>ANEURIN LEISURE TRUST</u>				
Aneurin Leisure Trust	3,178,800	3,178,800	0	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>3,178,800</i>	<i>3,178,800</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<u>RETAINED SERVICES</u>				
General Entertainment	2,580	2,580	0	0
Corporate Recharges	1,242,610	1,241,994	616	(405)
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>1,245,190</i>	<i>1,244,574</i>	<i>616</i>	<i>(405)</i>
ANEURIN LEISURE TRUST TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4,423,990	4,423,374	616	(405)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	29,530,652	29,789,963	(259,311)	(433,894)

PLANNING COMMITTEE AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

Item	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Total Forecast Expenditure to March 2020	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) 30 Jun 2019
	£	£	£	£
PLANNING COMMITTEE SUMMARY				
<u>BUILDING CONTROL</u>				
<u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u>				
Building Control	0	0	0	(11)
<u>BUILDING CONTROL SERVICES</u>				
Building Regulations	(6,580)	(6,580)	0	0
Dangerous Structures	22,200	21,099	1,101	0
<i>Building Control Total Expenditure</i>	<i>15,620</i>	<i>14,519</i>	<i>1,101</i>	<i>(11)</i>
<u>DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT</u>				
<u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u>				
Development Management	8,076	10,220	(2,144)	(1,747)
<u>DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES</u>				
Dealing with Applications	(202,740)	(202,740)	0	0
Planning Appeals	3,190	3,190	0	0
Enforcement	(30)	24	(54)	(39)
<i>Development Management Total Expenditure</i>	<i>(191,504)</i>	<i>(189,306)</i>	<i>(2,198)</i>	<i>(1,786)</i>
<u>DEVELOPMENT PLANS</u>				
<u>DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</u>				
Development Plans	(6,276)	(6,298)	22	7,058
<u>DEVELOPMENT PLANS SERVICES</u>				
Development Plans	7,080	7,079	1	5,164
<i>Development Plans Total Expenditure</i>	<i>804</i>	<i>781</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>12,222</i>
Corporate Recharges	1,231,080	1,231,080	0	0
Funding from General Reserves	0		0	0
Planning Committee Total Expenditure	1,056,000	1,057,074	(1,074)	10,425
LICENSING COMMITTEE SUMMARY				
Licensing	29,090	39,056	(9,966)	(9,870)
Internal Recharges	36,100	36,098	2	2
Funding from General Reserves	0	0	0	0
Licensing Committee Total Expenditure	65,190	75,154	(9,964)	(9,867)

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Fees and Charges Forecast 2019/2020 (As at September 2019)

Portfolio	Service	Description of Income	Income Source	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Forecast	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) as at June 2019
				£	£	£	£
Fees & Charges							
Corporate Services	Communications	Advertising	Fees & Charges	19,070	3,806	(15,264)	(15,264)
Corporate Services	Business Support	External Printing and photocopying charges.	Fees & Charges	8,000	8,070	70	(523)
Corporate Services	Legal Fees	Legal Charges	Fees & Charges	13,380	13,313	(67)	934
Corporate Services	Corporate Support	Land Charges	Fixed - Set Locally	30,450	37,894	7,444	7,444
Economy	General Offices	Rental Income	Fees & Charges	49,260	58,322	9,062	(2,709)
Economy	Departmental	Reimbursement of staff costs and receipts for external works	SLA	62,990	26,925	(36,065)	(36,065)
Environment	Household and Trade Waste Collection		Fees & Charges	97,305	106,706	9,401	8,615
Environment	Recycling Collection	Recycling Collection & Disposal Income - Commercial Customers	Fees & Charges	24,890	21,945	(2,945)	4,740
Environment	Bulky Waste Collection	Bulky Waste Collection	Fees & Charges	66,660	59,349	(7,311)	(9,690)
Environment	Recycling Disposal	Sale of Recyclate Materials	Fees & Charges	393,200	499,114	105,914	45,480
Environment	County Borough Cleansing	C&CR - External Cleansing Works	Fees & Charges	210	0	(210)	(210)
Environment	Cemeteries / Crematorium	Burial Fees	Fees & Charges	491,470	461,759	(29,711)	(75,536)
Environment	Cemeteries / Crematorium	General Properties	Fees & Charges	2,580	3,000	420	420
Environment	Meals On Wheels	Sale of Meals	Fees & Charges	166,030	124,666	(41,364)	(37,004)
Environment	Grounds Maintenance	Income from Letting of Playing Fields, Ground Rent & Way Leaves	Fees & Charges	55,700	58,479	2,779	0
Environment	General Properties	Rental Income	Fees & Charges	7,590	7,416	(174)	0
Environment	Cwmcrachen Caravan Site	Rental	Fees & Charges	109,840	90,869	(18,971)	(9,004)
Environment	Dog Wardens	Byelaw Enforcement Fees	Fees & Charges	5,364	2,912	(2,452)	(2,452)
Environment	Corporate Landlord	Civic Centre - Rental of Land	Miscellaneous	755	844	89	89
Environment	School Catering Service	Sale of Meals		775,325	847,221	71,896	814
Environment	Cleaning Services	External Cleaning Services		43,052	43,052	0	0
Financial Management and Strategy	Accountancy Division	Administration charges for administering Appointeeships	Fees & Charges	25,150	15,690	(9,460)	(9,300)
Infrastructure	Technical Services - Engineering & Property Management	Reimbursement of staff costs and receipts for external works	Fees & Charges	305,231	351,419	46,188	15,637
Infrastructure	FEP - Increase in Income	Fees	Fees & Charges	50,000	50,000	0	0
Infrastructure	Licensing (Highway Permits)	Skips & Scaffolding Permits	Fees & Charges	40,692	41,290	598	598
Infrastructure	General Administration and Markets	Rental income	Fees & Charges	24,172	19,322	(4,850)	0
Infrastructure	Traffic Orders	Income from contractors, Welsh Water etc. for road works	Fees & Charges	22,634	22,947	313	0
Infrastructure	Road and Street Works Acts	Inspection fees, section 74's,FPN, coring, Dropped kerbs etc.	Fees & Charges	81,115	81,971	856	0
Infrastructure	Highways Adoptions	Highway Searches	Fees & Charges	9,065	9,065	0	0
Infrastructure	Multi-storey Carparks	Charge to Coleg Gwent	Fees & Charges	30,000	30,000	0	0
Infrastructure	Public Transport Co-Ordination	Charge to bus companies for use of Brynmawr Bus Station	Fees & Charges	400	400	0	0
Licensing	Hackney Carriages	Licence Fees	Fees & Charges	76,460	58,423	(18,037)	(17,743)
Licensing	Private Hire Vehicles	Licence Fees	Fees & Charges	1,830	1,117	(713)	(671)
Licensing	Scrap Metal	Sale of Scrap Metal	Fees & Charges	600	702	102	(232)
Planning	Enforcement	Enforcement Fees	Fees & Charges	610	0	(610)	(610)
Planning	Development Plans	Heritage Officer Income	Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Social Services	Other Children's and Family Services	Training Fees (Early Years tied in with expenditure which is set	Fees & Charges	0	0	0	1,318
Social Services	Older People aged 65 or over	Fees & Charges in respect of Care (Cwrt Mytton, Home Care, Extra Care & Joint Day Care Unit)	Fees & Charges	571,300	505,493	(65,807)	(74,192)
Social Services	Adults aged under 65 with Learning Disabilities	Fees & Charges in respect of Care (Augusta, Supported Living Bungalows & Community Options)	Fees & Charges	453,550	306,484	(147,066)	(135,578)
Social Services	Adults aged under 65 with Mental Health Needs	Fees & Charges in respect of Care (Vision House & Ysbyty'r Tri Chwm)	Fees & Charges	24,430	19,037	(5,393)	(3,320)
Social Services	Support Service and Management Costs	Fees & Charges in respect of Piper Alarms (IAA)	Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
		Sub - Total		4,140,360	3,989,022	(151,338)	(344,014)

Fees and Charges Forecast 2019/2020 (As at September 2019)

Portfolio	Service	Description of Income	Income Source	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Forecast	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) as at June 2019
				£	£	£	£
Fees & Charges - Set Nationally							
Corporate Services	Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths	Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths	Fixed - Set Nationally	86,770	75,344	(11,426)	(13,484)
Environment	Food Safety	Hygiene ratings & Health Certificates	Fixed - Set Nationally	2,000	7,678	5,678	5,678
Environment	Control of Pollution	Environmental Permits	Fixed - Set Nationally	16,238	16,238	0	0
Environment	Health and Safety at Work (Commercial Prem.)	Petroleum + Tattoo Licences	Fixed - Set Nationally	0	3,942	3,942	3,942
Environment	Trading Standards	Explosives Licences	Fixed - Set Nationally	761	876	115	115
Licensing	Licence Fees	Various (Gambling, Premises/ Clubs & Street Trading)	Fixed - Set Nationally	57,900	60,154	2,254	5,857
Planning	Dealing with Applications	Planning Application Fees	Fees & Charges	213,360	213,360	0	0
Planning	Building Regulations	Building Regulation Fees	Fixed - Set Nationally	95,620	95,620	0	24
Social Services	Older People aged 65 or over	CHC Income (Home Care and Extra Care Provision)	Fixed - Set Nationally	0	0	0	85,194
Social Services	Adults aged under 65 with Learning Disabilities	CHC Income (Augusta House; Supported Living Bungalows; Community Options)	Fixed - Set Nationally	62,500	261,917	199,417	223,494
Social Services	Community Care	Fees & Charges in respect of Care	Fixed - Set Nationally	3,324,670	2,913,562	(411,108)	(354,483)
Social Services	Community Care	Sale of Property	Fixed - Set Nationally	286,620	286,620	0	(19,789)
Social Services	Community Care	CHC Income	Fixed - Set Nationally	371,220	100,000	(271,220)	(308,220)
Social Services	Support Service and Management Costs	CHC Income (Adult Service Managers)	Fixed - Set Nationally	0	0	0	0
		Sub - Total		4,517,659	4,035,311	(482,348)	(371,672)
Fees & Charges - In Line with Local Agreements							
Economy	Industrial Land	Ground rent and commercial bookings	Fixed - Set Locally	2,750	2,900	150	150
Economy	Nursery Units/Misc. Industrial Premises	Rental income for industrial units	Fixed - Set Locally	694,530	747,349	52,819	39,880
Economy	Estates - Non Rechargeable	Ground Rent	Fixed - Set Locally	120,850	130,399	9,549	9,647
Economy	Financial Support to Business	Ground rent and commercial bookings	Fixed - Set Locally	0	2,650	2,650	2,650
Economy	CSCS	Charges for Construction Skills Certificates	Fixed - Set Locally	0	10,137	10,137	8,364
Environment	Corporate Landlord	Little Stars Nursery - Rent (Recovery of costs)	Miscellaneous	8,329	14,694	6,365	6,365
Education	Inter Authority Recoupment	Charges to other Local Authorities for SEN placements within Blaenau Gwent Schools	Fixed - Set Locally	612,000	704,458	92,458	93,516
		Sub - Total		1,438,459	1,612,587	174,128	160,572
		Total - Fees & Charges		10,096,478	9,636,920	(459,558)	(555,114)

Fees and Charges Forecast 2019/2020 (As at September 2019)

Portfolio	Service	Description of Income	Income Source	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Forecast	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) as at June 2019
				£	£	£	£
SLA							
Aneurin Leisure Trust	SLA Income	Provision of Support Services	SLA	238,820	238,822	2	0
Environment	Grounds Maintenance	SLA	SLA	189,220	167,610	(21,610)	(21,610)
Environment	Building Maintenance	SLA	SLA				
Financial Management and Strategy	Accountancy Division	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	178,480	178,480	0	0
Corporate Services	Organisational Development, Payroll & Health & Safety	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	303,480	303,480	0	0
Corporate Services	Legal Fees & GDPR	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	39,680	39,680	0	0
Corporate Services	Communications	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	3,070	3,070	0	0
Corporate Services	Performance (SIMS Support)	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	81,610	81,610	0	0
Corporate Services	Business Support (Courier)	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	3,950	3,950	0	0
Financial Management and Strategy	Creditors Division	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	7,570	7,570	0	0
Corporate Services	ICT	Support Services SLA with Schools	SLA	406,013	406,013	0	0
Environment	School Catering	SLA with Schools (excludes Corporate Landlord)	SLA	1,060,605	1,060,605	0	0
Environment	Cleaning Services	SLA with Schools	SLA	1,028,298	1,028,295	(3)	0
Infrastructure	CPM - Schools Biodiversity SLA	SLA with Schools	SLA	7,220	7,220	0	0
Infrastructure	Winter Maintenance	SLA with LA's for salt Storage	SLA	12,500	12,500	0	0
		Sub - Total		3,560,516	3,538,905	(21,611)	(21,610)
Court Fees/Fixed Penalty Notices/Fines							
Corporate Services	Corporate Services and Strategy	Legal income and land charges. Advertising.	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	10,000	9,647	(353)	(353)
Education	Welfare Service	Fixed Penalty Notices	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	2,070	2,070	0	0
Environment	Littering and Dog Control Orders	Income in relation to FPNs	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Leg	128,765	109,100	(19,665)	(24,665)
Corporate Services	Payroll Division	Attachment Orders	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	1,020	832	(188)	(382)
Financial Management and Strategy	Council Tax Collection	Court Costs	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	162,680	162,680	0	0
Financial Management and Strategy	NNDR	Court Costs	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	1,800	1,800	0	0
Corporate Services	Housing Benefits Account	Admin Penalties	Court Fees/FPN/Fines/Legal	25,000	25,000	0	0
		Sub - Total		331,335	311,129	(20,206)	(25,400)

Fees and Charges Forecast 2019/2020 (As at September 2019)

Portfolio	Service	Description of Income	Income Source	Revised Estimate 2019/2020	Forecast	Variance Favourable / (Adverse)	Variance Favourable / (Adverse) as at June 2019
				£	£	£	£
Consortium Arrangements							
Economy	General Offices	Annual Service & Rental Charge to Torfaen CBC in relation to Archives	Consortium Arrangements	74,940	85,022	10,082	10,082
Environment	Disposal Of Waste	Contribution from SVWS	Consortium Arrangements	110,000	110,000	0	0
Environment	Cemeteries / Crematorium	Crematorium Income - Reallocation of surplus at year end	Consortium Arrangements	131,925	131,925	0	12,825
Environment	20 Church Street	Housing Advice Centre Contribution	Consortium Arrangements	11,740	12,400	660	660
Environment	Housing Access	Income from Housing Associations in relation to Administration of the Common Housing Register	Consortium Arrangements	86,050	104,326	18,276	18,276
Environment	Environmental Health	Public Protection Collaboration with Torfaen CC	Consortium Arrangements	108,400	86,118	(22,282)	(22,282)
		Sub - Total		523,055	529,791	6,736	19,561
Miscellaneous							
Education	Supporting Special Educational Needs	Internal Income - Recovery of pupil lead funding from schools.	Internal Income	100,000	19,000	(81,000)	(81,000)
Corporate Services	Corporate Procurement Division	Rebates - Energy & Randstad	Miscellaneous	95,700	95,513	(187)	(54)
Corporate Services	Corporate Procurement Division	Purchase Card Income	Miscellaneous	1,640	5,024	3,384	3,360
Infrastructure	L&A - Invasive Weeds	Contribution from Caerphilly for Treatment of Knotweed	Miscellaneous	10,000	10,000	0	0
		Sub - Total		207,340	129,537	(77,803)	(77,694)
		TOTAL		14,718,724	14,146,282	(572,442)	(660,257)

Action Plan

Corporate Services 2019/20 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2019)

Appendix 4a

Service Area	2018/19 Provisional Outturn Variance £	2019/2020 Variance at Sept 2019 Forecast £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact £	Responsible Officer
IT Service	0	(100,000)	<p>In the original IT Collaboration Business Plan, £100,000 income was built into the budget to be funded from reserves, with the view that future savings, due to merging of software systems, would produce savings and therefore reduce the need of reserve funding.</p> <p>These savings have not yet been achieved, as the Software Contracts are still Blaenau Gwent's responsibility.</p> <p>A Working Group is being formed to review and re-negotiate all Council contracts; the Software contracts will form a part of this. The bulk of the savings produced from this will not benefit the IT Service until 2020/21, as most of the high value contracts have already been renewed for 2019/20.</p> <p>There is also a Digital Steering Group, which includes the SRS, to look at transferring the Software contract to the SRS and combine them with the other partners, to produce savings.</p>	Not Currently Known	Anne-Louise Clark

Action Plan

Corporate Services 2019/20 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2019)

Appendix 4a

Service Area	2018/19 Provisional Outturn Variance £	2019/2020 Variance at Sept 2019 Forecast £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact £	Responsible Officer
Housing Benefits	(137,273)	(107,205)	<p>At this time, the forecast overspend is due to external audit fees (£43,000) for which there is no budget and an anticipated shortfall on the Administration Subsidy grant of £64,000. For the last financial year, these costs were offset by an in year budget virement.</p> <p>Work is currently being undertaken into reviewing the overpayments process with the view of hopefully addressing this cost pressure by quarter 2.</p> <p>This work is still progressing due to a profiled aged debt breakdown being required, which has taken longer than anticipated. Hopefully this review will be completed by quarter 3.</p>	Not Currently Known	Anne-Louise Clark

Action Plan
Education
2019/20 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2019)

Appendix 4b

Service Area	2018/19 Provisional Outturn Variance £	2019/2020 Variance at Sept 2019 Forecast £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact	Responsible Officer
				Not Known	Gavin Metheringham
Home to School transport	1,617	(43,973)	<p><u>Reason for Adverse variance</u></p> <p>The adverse variance is due to the full year financial impact of new contracts that commenced during the year and new contracts required during this financial year in order to meet the increased demand for Pen-y-Cwm and the River Centre Special Schools.</p> <p><u>Proposed Action</u></p> <p>The River Centre is currently at capacity and is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future. Pen-y-Cwm is also at capacity and has seen a marked increase in demand for places resulting in the need to consider increasing the school's capacity. The transport requirements for both schools are demand-led, but monitored closely and efficiencies made where possible.</p>	Not Known	Lynn Phillips

Action Plan

Education

2019/20 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2019)

Appendix 4b

Service Area	2018/19 Provisional Outturn Variance £	2019/2020 Variance at Sept 2019 Forecast £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact	Responsible Officer
AWPU Clawback	(81,136)	(81,000)	<p><u>Reason for Adverse variance</u></p> <p>The anticipated funding recovered from Schools as a result of the LA providing alternative education provision has reduced due to schools increasingly providing provision to meet pupils needs as an alternative to requiring specialist placement and as a result of the River Centre being at capacity.</p> <p><u>Proposed Action</u></p> <p>Areas have been identified where guidance requires or advises AWPU clawback from schools. This will be taken forward following appropriate awareness raising.</p> <p>Mechanisms for identifying AWPU clawback eligibility are being devised with the River Centre.</p>	Not Known	Gavin Metheringham

Action Plan

Environment

2019/20 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2019)

Appendix 4c

Service Area	2019/2020 Variance at June 2019 Forecast £	2019/2020 Variance at Sept 2019 Forecast £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact	Responsible Officer
Waste Services	(313,145)	(103,495)	<p><u>Reason for Adverse variance</u> The adverse variance is due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer Station Costs have increased due to additional hours being worked as a result of black bag sorting and increased recyclate - £50,000 • The Sustainable Waste Management grant is lower than estimated by £45,000, due to the grant reduction being higher than anticipated. <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further virements into Waste Services from underspending budgets will be a priority. • There are likely to be further savings associated with 'keeping up with the Joneses' campaign which has seen a reduction in residual waste. • The waste recycling disposal contracts will continue to be monitored and reviewed. <p><u>Updates:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The waste recycling disposal contracts have been reviewed resulting in a reduction in costs and increases in recyclate income £51,000 • A risk based approach has resulted in the security 	Estimated net saving £104,000	M Perry / M Stent

Action Plan

Environment

2019/20 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2019)

Appendix 4c

Service Area	2019/2020 Variance at June 2019 Forecast £	2019/2020 Variance at Sept 2019 Forecast £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact	Responsible Officer
			<p>contract being terminated from October 2019. However, due to issues with insurance etc this will need to be reviewed prior to the third quarter £40,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The 'keeping up with the Joneses' campaign has assisted in a reduction in residual waste costs £130,000.• In year virements have also been undertaken to offset the additional revenue costs incurred from the narrow access and rear loading vehicles.• The baler at the Transfer Station has now commenced operation, allowing for the potential to generate additional income from the increased levels and quality of recyclate.		

Action Plan

Environment

2019/20 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2019)

Appendix 4c

Service Area	2019/2020 Variance at June 2019 Forecast £	2019/2020 Variance at Sept 2019 Forecast £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact	Responsible Officer
Meals on Wheels	(25,375)	(22,588)	<p><u>Reason for Adverse variance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This overspend is due to the income from the sale of meals not achieving the target income. • Meal prices have been increased and marketing undertaken to try to increase revenue. Staff hours have been reduced. However, the service continues to struggle to breakeven as a result of the income targets set against this service. <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to market to try to increase sales • Review of staff hours to deliver the service. 		C Rogers / M Price
Corporate Landlord	0	(63,449)	<p><u>Reason for Variance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This overspend is mainly due to the expenditure incurred on Community Asset Transfers and securing non operational buildings. • Non-operational buildings - £21,000. This is an unfunded budget and includes one off cost pressures relating to the transfer of redundant buildings to the Corporate Landlord. • Community Asset Transfer - £42,000 – This relates 		C Rogers / M Price

Action Plan

Environment

2019/20 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2019)

Appendix 4c

Service Area	2019/2020 Variance at June 2019 Forecast £	2019/2020 Variance at Sept 2019 Forecast £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact	Responsible Officer
			<p>to buildings transferred to Community Organisations involved with the Recreation Grounds CATS.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise expenditure on all non-essential maintenance buildings. • Continue to reduce Non Operational buildings via CATs, Sale or demolition. • Review of costs associated with Non Operational buildings to be carried out. (E.g. review of security and alarm costs) 		
County Borough Cleansing	(28,237)	(703)	<p>Reason for Adverse variance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is partly due to the cost of the Public Conveniences, including the contribution paid to the management of Public Conveniences towards the running costs and maintenance costs. A one off grant was received in 2018/2019 of £17,200, but this is not anticipated for the current year at this stage. • It is also due to an increase in hired vehicle costs. 		M Perry / D Watkins

Action Plan

Environment

2019/20 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2019)

Appendix 4c

Service Area	2019/2020 Variance at June 2019 Forecast £	2019/2020 Variance at Sept 2019 Forecast £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact	Responsible Officer
			<p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cease spend for Deep cleans at Town Centres. • Reduce Weedspraying. • Review of transport costs of sweeper. Potential to remove one unit <p><u>Updates:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in Town Centre deep cleans • Reduce Weedspraying • Reduction of 1 sweeper 		
Cemeteries	(37,248)	(8,168)	<p><u>Reason for Adverse variance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a forecast net surplus (income over expenditure) on this budget of £287,000, however, the income target of £491,000 is not being achieved by £29,000. <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The income forecast is based on 2018/2019, and will be monitored during the financial year. • Consideration to increase fees and charges for residential and non residential fees, from 01/01/20 		M Perry / D Watkins

Action Plan

Environment

2019/20 Forecast Adverse Variances (as at 30 September 2019)

Appendix 4c

Service Area	2019/2020 Variance at June 2019 Forecast £	2019/2020 Variance at Sept 2019 Forecast £	Action Required & Timescale	Financial Impact	Responsible Officer
			<p><u>Updates:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An in-year virement was made from within Environment budgets of £33,000. 		
Cwmcrachen Caravan Site	(53,713)	(53,713)	<p><u>Reason for Variance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utility bills far higher than anticipated. <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation into corporate utility bill arrangements at the site to ensure correct billing. • Review to ensure that the council is full cost recovering against these costs. 		D Thompson

	Budget Virement Out of Portfolio	Budget Virement Into Portfolio	Budget Virement Within Portfolio	COMMENTS
	£	£	£	
<u>SOCIAL SERVICES</u>				
<u>Children's Services</u>				
Fostering Out County Agencies			(288,000)	Budget Realignments
Legal Costs Care Proceedings			288,000	Budget Realignments
Total	0	0	0	

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FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY PROJECTS - 2019/2020 PROGR

Jun-19

No.	Project Ref.	Project Name	Lead Directorate	Service Area	Director	Approved Savings	Savings Delivered	(Under)/Over Achievement	Position Update
1		SOCIAL SERVICES							
2	SSA008	Alternative delivery of Cwrt Mytton Dementia Care Home	Social Services	Adults	Damien McCann	21,253	21,253	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
3	SSA010	Alternative delivery of Supported Living Service	Social Services	Adults	Damien McCann	289,000	289,000	0	Savings have been achieved.
4	SSA011	Reduction/Review in front line staff across Adult Care Management Teams	Social Services	Adults	Damien McCann	75,000	75,000	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
5	SSA014	Alternative delivery of Community Options Services - Alternative Models of Delivery	Social Services	Adults	Damien McCann	71,355	71,355	0	Savings have been achieved.
6	SS19001	Development of a regional approach to delivery of Direct Payments	Social Services	Adults	Damien McCann	15,000	15,000	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
7	SS19002	Initial reduction in Assisted Transport following implementation of new assessment and eligibility criteria from April 19	Social Services	Adults	Damien McCann	41,000	41,000	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
8	SS19003	Phase 2 review of Lake View Community Options Service Review - Reconfiguration of	Social Services	Adults	Damien McCann	20,000	20,000	0	Savings have been achieved.
		SOCIAL SERVICES TOTAL				532,608	532,608	-	
		CORPORATE SERVICES							
9	GOV19001	Reduction in Members Allowances	Corporate Services	DRM	Michelle Morris	15,000	15,000	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
10	GOV19002	Reduction in Staffing - Policy and Democratic Services	Corporate Services	Policy	Michelle Morris	48,217	48,217	0	Budget has been reduced due to los of 1 FTE, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
11	GOV19003	CCTV Review	Corporate Services	CCTV	Michelle Morris	66,390	66,390	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
12	FMS003	Employee Downsizing - Payroll	Resources	Payroll	Anne Louise Clark	20,800	20,800	0	Budget has been reduced due to loss of 1 FTE, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
13	FMS013	Procurement - Income Generation	Resources	Procurement	Anne Louise Clark	18,160	16,408	(1,752)	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved. However as at quarter 2 there is a slight forecast under achievement of this saving.
14	CS19001	Reduction in Mileage Budget - Business Support	Corporate Services	Business Support	Michelle Morris	2,000	2,000	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
15	LEG19001	Reduction in supplies and services - Legal Services	Corporate Services	Legal	Michelle Morris	1,000	1,000	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
16	LEG19002	Reduction of budget - Electoral Register/ Canvassing budget	Corporate Services	Legal	Michelle Morris	3,500	3,500	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
		CORPORATE SERVICES - TOTAL				175,067	173,315	(1,752)	
		RESOURCES							
17	FMS002	Accountancy Division - Service Review and Staff Downsizing	Resources	Accountancy	Rhian Hayden	110,000	110,000	0	Budget has been reduced, however there has been a delay in implementing SMR2. This cost pressure has been addressed in year by a budget virement. Savngs will be achieved in full in future years.
18		Cease Voluntary Contribution to Care & Repair	Resources	Grants	Rhian Hayden	25,000	25,000	0	Budget has been reduced, contribution has ceased.
19	FMS019	Cease Voluntary Sector Contributions to Care & Repair and Citizen's Advice Bureau	Resources	Grants	Rhian Hayden	60,000	60,000	0	Budget has been reduced, however the contribution will not cease until the end of 2019/20. The overspend will be funded from earmarked reserves set up in 2018/19 due to alternative funding being identified.
20	FMS020	Service Review in the Revenues & Social Service Income areas	Resources	Revenues	Rhian Hayden	88,532	88,532	0	Budget has been reduced, however there has been a delay in implementing SMR2. This cost pressure has been addressed in year by a budget virement. The savings will be achieved in full in futue years.
21	RES19001	General & Allotment Grants	Resources	Grants	Rhian Hayden	22,700	22,700	0	Budget has been reduced, grants no longer awarded.
22	RES19003	Resources Directorate Budget Reductions	Resources	CTRS	Rhian Hayden	116,000	116,000	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
		RESOURCES TOTAL				422,232	422,232	0	
		ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION							
23	ENV005	Review of regeneration activity and staffing structure	Environment & Regeneration	Regeneration	Richard Crook	22,500	22,500	0	
24	ENV018	Full cost recovery of premises related costs for occupancy of Town & Community Councils	Environment & Regeneration	Estates	Richard Crook	10,625	0	(10,625)	This saving has not been achieved (neither has the previous saving from 2018/2019). No progression has been made in relation to this FEP.
25	ENV026	Increase fees of Grounds Maintenance whilst undertaking Community Asset Transfers (CAT)	Environment & Regeneration	Grounds Maintenance	Richard Crook	50,000	50,000	0	

No.	Project Ref.	Project Name	Lead Directorate	Service Area	Director	Approved Savings	Savings Delivered	(Under)/Over Achievement	Position Update
26	ENV029	Destination Management Collaboration	Environment & Regeneration	Regeneration	Richard Crook	5,000	5,000	0	
27	ENV032	Development of an Integrated Transport Unit	Environment & Regeneration	Highways	Richard Crook	10,000	10,000	0	
28	ENV19003	Reduction in refuse fleet	Environment & Regeneration	Highways	Richard Crook	10,000	10,000	0	
29	ENV19004	Reduction in the number of staff in each Cleansing Team	Environment & Regeneration	Environment	Richard Crook	128,000	128,000	0	
30	ENV19005	Infrastructure and Property Services - Budget Reductions	Environment & Regeneration	Technical Services	Richard Crook	11,000	11,000	0	
31	ENV19007	Planning - Reduction in staffing	Environment & Regeneration	Planning	Richard Crook	40,000	40,000	0	Savings achieved through loss of 1 post.
32	ENV19008	Reduction in Housing Solutions Supplies & Services budget	Environment & Regeneration	Housing	Richard Crook	13,000	13,000	0	
33	ENV9009	Environmental Protection - Staff restructure - Residual savings	Environment & Regeneration	Public Protection	Richard Crook	14,000	14,000	0	
34	ENV19010	Generate additional income through the sale of recycleate	Environment & Regeneration	Waste	Richard Crook	50,000	0	(50,000)	The baler at the Transfer Station will commence operation from 14/08/19 which could generate additional income from the increased levels and quality of recycleate.
35	ENV19012	Community Services - Increase in professional fee income	Environment & Regeneration	Technical Services	Richard Crook	50,000	50,000	0	
36	ENV19013	Increase in Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Licensing Income	Environment & Regeneration	Licensing	Richard Crook	5,000	0	(5,000)	The annual uplift to the fees & charges was not approved.
37	ENV19016	Utilise Capital Grant to fund Highways Improvement Works (with corresponding reduction in Highways Maintenance Revenue Budget)	Environment & Regeneration	Technical Services	Richard Crook	200,000	200,000	0	
38	ENV19017	Completion of CAT transfers for all sports facilities	Environment & Regeneration	Environment	Richard Crook	210,000	200,000	(10,000)	
		ENVIRONMENT TOTAL				829,125	753,500	-75,625	
		EDUCATION							
39	EDU001	Reduction in Service Level Agreement costs within the Education Directorate	Education	Education	Lynette Jones	25,570	25,570	0	Reduced SLA costs for 2019/2020 and savings achieved
40	EDU003	Reduction in Service Level Agreement for Outdoor Education	Education	Education	Lynette Jones	23,230	23,230	0	SLA has ended and savings achieved
41	EDU1900	Budget Reduction - Education Improvement Grant Match Funding	Education	Education	Lynette Jones	5,000	5,000	0	Reduction in grant, therefore reduced match funding requirement - savings achieved
42	EDU1900	Reduce the Education Premature Retirement Costs (PRC Budget)	Education	Education	Lynette Jones	200,000	200,000	0	Budget has been reduced, costs being monitored to ensure that the savings is achieved
43	EDU1900	Reduction in inflationary increase - Individual School Budget	Education	Education	Lynette Jones	842,650	842,650	0	Cashflat budget to schools, budget savings achieved
44	EDU1900	Transfer payment of DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) checks for school based staff	Education	Education	Lynette Jones	15,000	15,000	0	Costs now being funded by school budgets, savings achieved
		EDUCATION TOTAL				1,111,450	1,111,450	0	
		CROSS CUTTING PROJECTS							
45	CC002	Cash Flat Budgets - No inflationary increase to non-employee budgets	Resources	Corporate	Rhian Hayden	105,000	105,000	0	Savings delivered no inflationary increase applied. .
46	CC006	Management Review - Phase 2	Managing Director	Corporate	Michelle Morris	150,000	137,410	(12,590)	Savings mainly delivered however due to delays in implementing SMR2 this has not been wholly met in 2019/20. The savings will be fully achieved in 2020/21.
47	CC19001	Staff Reward Scheme - Reduced costs in relation to the employers National Insurance & Pension Contributions fro staff buying into	Resources	Corporate	Rhian Hayden	3,000	3,000	0	Savings achieved, budgets reduced.
48	RES19002	Fees and charges budget - Increase above inflation	Resources	Corporate	Rhian Hayden	20,000	20,000	0	Savings achieved, income budgets increased.
		CROSS CUTTING TOTAL SAVINGS				278,000	265,410		
		TOTAL OVERALL SAVINGS				3,348,482	3,258,515	(77,377)	

Agenda Item 8

Executive Committee and Council only

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer: N/A

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer: N/A

Committee: **Joint (Budget) Scrutiny Committee**

Date of meeting: **18th November 2019**

Report Subject: **Capital Budget Monitoring, April to September, 2019/2020 Financial Year**

Portfolio Holder: **Cllr Daniels – Leader, Executive Member Corporate Services**

Report Submitted by: **Rhian Hayden – Chief Officer Resources**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
	29/10/2019	06/11/19			18/11/2019	18/12/2019		

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide members with an overview of each Portfolio's actual and forecast capital expenditure against funding approvals for the 2019/2020 financial year, as at 30th September 2019.

2. Scope and Background

- 2.1 This report provides details on the following:

- Forecast financial position to the end of March 2020 across all portfolios
- Details of any significant adverse and/or favourable variances

- 2.2 This report forms part of the quarterly financial reporting framework to Members.

3. Options for Recommendation

3.1 Option 1 (Recommended Option)

Members of the Joint Budget Scrutiny accept the report and

- Provide appropriate challenge to the financial outcomes in the report.
- Continue to support appropriate financial control procedures agreed by Council.
- To note the budgetary control and monitoring procedures in place to safeguard Authority funding.
- To consider the funding proposals in relation to the Industrial Units Improvement Programme and Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) projects and recommend to Executive Committee.

3.2 Option 2

Do not accept the report.

4. **Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan**

4.1 This report supports the Council Priority, “Efficient Council”, as it is part of the financial planning and reporting arrangements which support the Council’s financial resilience.

5. **Implications Against Each Option**

5.1 ***Impact on Budget (short and long term impact)***

5.1.1 The overall financial position at 30th September 2019 shows a nil variance against a total in year capital budget of £19.16m. It is anticipated that all in year capital expenditure will be fully funded.

Across all Portfolios, the overall position is shown below:-

Total Approvals Q2 (Sept 2019)	Future funding	In year funding	Actual Expenditure to 30/09/2019 (Month 6)	Forecast Expenditure 2019/2020	Forecast Variance underspent / (overspent)
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
63,244	44,085	19,159	6,531	19,159	-

5.1.2 It is imperative that capital reserves are not committed beyond affordable funding levels. Budget holders must therefore maintain spending within the overall total for the approved capital schemes.

5.1.3 Expenditure against external funding approvals needs to be maximised in order to avoid loss of funding. Where significant delays in capital expenditure have occurred or are anticipated, liaison with funding bodies is required at the earliest opportunity in order to secure approval for funding re-profile.

5.1.4 Where overall funding approvals are likely to be exceeded and additional compensatory funding sources cannot be identified, budget holders will initially report the consequences to the Corporate Leadership Team, including proposals to defer/delete other approved schemes.

5.1.5 The Constitution requires budget virements in excess of £250,000 to be approved by the Executive

- 5.1.6 During 2019/20, the Council has received Welsh Government Economic Stimulus funding of £444,465. It is proposed that this funding be utilised for the Industrial Units Improvement Programme which would release £280,000 of the Council's own resources to the Capital contingency for allocation at a future date.
- 5.1.7 Welsh Government has also indicated that they will be awarding funding of £2.8m from Welsh Government for the HWRC. This represents 100% of the estimated build / development cost of the facility and results in the Council's own resources not being required. Subject to formal confirmation of this award it is therefore proposed that the £520,000 allocated for the HWRC in the Capital Programme be reallocated to the Capital contingency for allocation at a future date.

5.2 Risk including Mitigating Actions

- 5.2.1 If capital schemes are not kept within budget, then capital reserves may be committed beyond affordable levels, with the consequence that projects that have not yet commenced may be deferred or not undertaken, so impacting upon future Capital Programmes.
- 5.2.2 If capital schemes do not achieve the required level of expenditure within the correct financial year, funding may be lost to the Authority and be detrimental to the Authority's chances of securing future funding.
- 5.2.3 Both of the aforementioned risks are mitigated as far as possible through close working relationship with budget holders and external funding bodies such as Welsh Government. This ensures that where possible, funding is maximised or funding amendments are secured should the need arise.

5.3 Legal

N/A

5.4 Human Resources

N/A

6. Supporting Evidence

6.1 *Performance Information and Data*

- 6.1.1 Appendix 1.1 & 1.2 details the provisional financial position for 2019/2020.

Appendix 2 provides information of funding changes since the first quarter report.

6.2 *Expected outcome for the public*

- 6.2.1 The report details the financial implications for the Council in providing capital investment for the communities of Blaenau Gwent.

All forecast overspends and underspends are managed in order that secured funding approvals are not lost and to mitigate any potential adverse impact upon future

Capital investment in Blaenau Gwent.

6.3 ***Involvement (consultation, engagement, participation)***

Corporate Leadership Team has considered the quarter two position for the 2019/2020 financial year.

6.4 ***Thinking for the Long term (forward planning)***

It is essential that all forecast overspends and underspends are managed in order that secured funding approvals are not lost and to mitigate any potential adverse impact upon the future capital programme.

6.5 ***Preventative focus***

The Capital Services Team to continue their close working relationship with budget holders and external funding bodies to ensure that funding is maximised or funding amendments are secured in future financial years.

6.6 ***Collaboration / partnership working***

The Capital Services Team works closely with budget holders in producing the financial forecast and with external funding bodies to ensure that where possible funding is maximised or funding amendments are secured should the need arise.

6.7 ***Integration(across service areas)***

N/A

6.8 ***EqIA(screening and identifying if full impact assessment is needed)***

N/A

7. **Monitoring Arrangements**

7.1 Financial reporting to the Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee and the Executive Committee is carried out on a quarterly basis. Where projects are reporting significant cost pressures, there is a requirement for Budget Holders to ensure that where possible funding is maximised or funding amendments are secured should the need arise.

Background Documents /Electronic Link

Appendix 1.1

Appendix 1.2

Appendix 2

Management Reports

Reporting Year: and Period: 2020/6

Capital Programme Funding Estimates Summary

<i>Portfolio</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure To: September 2019</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
Corporate Services Portfolio	729,654	227,086	502,568	196,931	30,155	227,086	0
Social Services Portfolio	4,881,636	1,408,136	3,473,500	387,125	1,021,011	1,408,136	0
Economy Portfolio	15,713,656	3,717,820	11,995,836	515,776	3,202,044	3,717,820	0
Education and Active Living	32,178,361	6,627,214	25,551,147	3,627,854	2,999,361	6,627,214	0
Environment Portfolio	6,717,390	5,183,776	1,533,614	1,098,915	4,084,861	5,183,776	0
Infrastructure Portfolio	2,037,076	1,205,647	831,429	673,780	531,867	1,205,647	0
All Portfolios	985,888	788,925	196,963	30,636	758,289	788,925	0
Total Capital Funding	63,243,661	19,158,604	44,085,057	6,531,016	12,627,588	19,158,604	0

End of Report

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Capital Programme - 2019/20 Funding Estimates
Capital Report 2019/20

Management Reports

Reporting Year: and Period: 2020/6

Capital Programme Funding Estimates

<i>Code</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure to: September 2019</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
Corporate Services Portfolio								
Corporate Services								
101385	Workplace Transformation	124,914	26,339	98,575	26,339	0	26,339	0
327037	WPT - Civic Centre IT Network	194,740	0	194,740	0	0	0	0
327100	Ebbw Vale Test Track	20,000	20,000	0	20,000	0	20,000	0
327101	Emergency Electrical & IT Works Civic Ce	240,000	30,747	209,253	30,747	0	30,747	0
328090	CCTV Upgrade	150,000	150,000	0	119,845	30,155	150,000	0
Corporate Services		729,654	227,086	502,568	196,931	30,155	227,086	0
Corporate Services Portfolio		729,654	227,086	502,568	196,931	30,155	227,086	0

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Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2019	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
Social Services Portfolio								
Childrens Services								
324718	Flying Start - First Friends Childcare	55,000	55,000	0	0	55,000	55,000	0
324719	Flying Start - Cwm 2	26,352	26,352	0	26,352	0	26,352	0
324721	Flying Start - Ebbw Vale North	150,000	150,000	0	0	150,000	150,000	0
324727	Flying Start - Swyffryd	19,500	19,500	0	0	19,500	19,500	0
324736	Flying Start Additional Works	60,000	60,000	0	9,702	50,298	60,000	0
324770	Childcare Offer - Sixbells Scheme	1,500,000	80,000	1,420,000	2,079	77,921	80,000	0
324771	Childcare Offer - Badminton Scheme	1,500,000	50,000	1,450,000	0	50,000	50,000	0
324772	Childcare Offer - Blaina ICC Scheme	500,000	50,000	450,000	43,496	6,504	50,000	0
324773	Childcare Offer - Swfryd Scheme	500,000	450,000	50,000	1,660	448,340	450,000	0
324774	Childcare Offer - Small Grants Scheme	100,000	0	100,000	0	0	0	0
Childrens Services		4,410,852	940,852	3,470,000	83,289	857,563	940,852	0
Adult Services								
323003	Health & Safety	63,943	63,943	0	0	63,943	63,943	0
323120	Disabled equipment	283,250	279,750	3,500	279,750	0	279,750	0
323147	Intermediate Care Fund	23,591	23,591	0	23,591	0	23,591	0
323149	Better Care Capital Project	50,000	50,000	0	0	50,000	50,000	0
323150	Cwrt Mytton Lift Refurbishment	50,000	50,000	0	495	49,505	50,000	0
Adult Services		470,784	467,284	3,500	303,836	163,448	467,284	0

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<i>Code</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure to: September 2019</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
	Social Services Portfolio	4,881,636	1,408,136	3,473,500	387,125	1,021,011	1,408,136	0

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Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2019	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
Economy Portfolio								
Tredegar Regeneration								
326163	Tredegar HLF	1,225,419	587,160	638,259	297,530	289,630	587,160	0
326167	Tredegar STAR Community Centre	8,282	4,682	3,600	3,980	702	4,682	0
Tredegar Regeneration		1,233,701	591,842	641,859	301,510	290,332	591,842	0
Ebbw Vale Town Centre								
326191	TRI - Urban Centre Commercial Property I	920,000	400,000	520,000	0	400,000	400,000	0
Ebbw Vale Town Centre		920,000	400,000	520,000	0	400,000	400,000	0
Valleys Regional Park								
326200	VRP Ebbw Fach Trail	2,274	0	2,274	0	0	0	0
326205	VRP - Parc Bryn Bach	500,000	500,000	0	0	500,000	500,000	0
Valleys Regional Park		502,274	500,000	2,274	0	500,000	500,000	0
The Works Site								
325097	Big Arch	1,058,000	25,362	1,032,638	25,362	0	25,362	0
325102	Learning Works - 11-16 school	34,835	34,835	0	34,835	0	34,835	0
325220	Site Investigation Works	19,000	0	19,000	0	0	0	0
325225	Ebbw Valley Railway - Northern Extension	2,441	0	2,441	0	0	0	0
326079	General Offices Refurb	20,000	20,000	0	20,000	0	20,000	0
The Works Site		1,134,276	80,197	1,054,079	80,197	0	80,197	0

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Other Regeneration								
326006	Tech Valley's Initiative	500,000	0	500,000	0	0	0	0
326180	Lime Avenue Business Park	3,270,975	1,004,342	2,266,633	4,342	1,000,000	1,004,342	0
326181	Lime Avenue Employment park	2,701,654	78,453	2,623,201	78,453	0	78,453	0
326182	Box Works	1,012,234	1,012,234	0	3,295	1,008,939	1,012,234	0
326183	Regain 2	4,050,000	0	4,050,000	0	0	0	0
326225	Heat Networks Project	17,385	0	17,385	0	0	0	0
326251	Constrained Units	315,905	0	315,905	0	0	0	0
326262	Acquisition of Cwm Draw Units 1-6	4,500	0	4,500	0	0	0	0
326263	Ebbw Vale Cenotaph & War Memorial Gar	20,752	20,752	0	20,652	100	20,752	0
326264	Aneurin Bevan Memorial Stones	30,000	30,000	0	27,326	2,674	30,000	0
Other Regeneration		11,923,405	2,145,781	9,777,624	134,069	2,011,712	2,145,781	0
Economy Portfolio		15,713,656	3,717,820	11,995,836	515,776	3,202,044	3,717,820	0

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Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2019	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
Education and Active Living								
Education Services								
324125	Education Minor Works	102,477	102,477	0	16,605	85,872	102,477	0
324130	Abertillery Comprehensive Lighting Upgr	12,439	0	12,439	0	0	0	0
324135	School Works Programme - Tech Services	35,022	0	35,022	0	0	0	0
324138	Education Capital Maintenance	16,450	16,450	0	16,351	99	16,450	0
324140	Brynmawr Comp - Remodelling Reception	55,000	55,000	0	9,550	45,450	55,000	0
324141	Bryn Bach - Kitchen Rep & Classroom ren	112,000	112,000	0	89,532	22,468	112,000	0
324142	Georgetown Windows & Boiler Replaceme	95,000	95,000	0	25,011	69,989	95,000	0
324143	Rhos-y-fedwyn - Refurbishment	96,000	96,000	0	52,679	43,321	96,000	0
324144	St Marys - Refurbishment	60,000	60,000	0	0	60,000	60,000	0
324145	Tredegar Comp - Food & Technology	100,000	100,000	0	0	100,000	100,000	0
324146	Deighton - Kitchen	104,234	104,234	0	104,234	0	104,234	0
324201	Class Size - Willowtown	199,600	199,600	0	113,162	86,438	199,600	0
324202	Class Size - St. Illtyd's	70,000	70,000	0	65,335	4,665	70,000	0
324203	Period Poverty	6,579	6,579	0	6,579	0	6,579	0
324205	St. Marys CIW MUGA	89,125	89,125	0	51,870	37,255	89,125	0
324206	Georgetown S106	47,000	47,000	0	15,629	31,371	47,000	0
324515	Learning in Digital Wales	34,596	0	34,596	0	0	0	0
324530	ALN	122,298	0	122,298	0	0	0	0
324532	Ebbw Fawr ASD	3,890	0	3,890	0	0	0	0
324560	Schools IT Infrastructure	588,068	588,068	0	30,870	557,198	588,068	0
324580	Brynmawr 3G Pitch	650,657	650,657	0	3,405	647,252	650,657	0

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Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2019	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
324740	New Abertillery Primary School	29,164	0	29,164	0	0	0	0
324741	Band A - Tredegar Comprehensive	3,738	0	3,738	0	0	0	0
324743	21st Century Schools Six Bells Project	3,329,782	3,329,782	0	2,803,116	526,666	3,329,782	0
324744	Ystruth Primary Welsh Medium Primary	15,736	15,736	0	15,736	0	15,736	0
324750	Band B - Welsh Medium New Build	6,350,000	200,000	6,150,000	51,768	148,232	200,000	0
324751	Band B - New Primary Ebbw Fawr Valley	9,000,000	80,000	8,920,000	990	79,010	80,000	0
324752	Band B - Secondary Remodelling Brynmai	3,200,000	0	3,200,000	0	0	0	0
324753	Band B - Secondary Remodelling Abertille	3,200,000	0	3,200,000	0	0	0	0
324754	Band B - Secondary Remodelling Tredega	3,200,000	0	3,200,000	0	0	0	0
324755	Band B - Welsh Medium Remodelling Bro	930,000	400,000	530,000	1,500	398,500	400,000	0
Education Services		31,858,855	6,417,708	25,441,147	3,473,923	2,943,785	6,417,708	0
Active Living Services								
329089	Abertillery LC Demolition	102,506	102,506	0	96,605	5,901	102,506	0
329095	Splash Pad	110,000	0	110,000	0	0	0	0
329097	Play Equipment	107,000	107,000	0	57,326	49,674	107,000	0
Active Living Services		319,506	209,506	110,000	153,931	55,575	209,506	0
Education and Active Living		32,178,361	6,627,214	25,551,147	3,627,854	2,999,361	6,627,214	0

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Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2019	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
Environment Portfolio								
Environmental Services								
327018	RCAF Long Term Organics Procurement	26,512	0	26,512	0	0	0	0
327036	WPT Business Resource Centre (SS)	100,000	100,000	0	0	100,000	100,000	0
327039	Kerbside Collections	15,919	8,300	7,619	8,300	0	8,300	0
327042	Collaborative Change Programme 18-19	296,873	296,873	0	106,005	190,868	296,873	0
327043	Household Waste Recycling Centre	520,000	0	520,000	0	0	0	0
327045	BRC Decommissioning Project	196,718	1,211	195,507	(1,231)	2,442	1,211	0
327055	Central Depot Project	2,185	0	2,185	0	0	0	0
327065	Re:Fit	4,110,381	4,110,381	0	716,384	3,393,997	4,110,381	0
327067	Market Hall - Asbestos Removal	92,000	92,000	0	864	91,136	92,000	0
327068	Cemeteries Investment Programme	210,000	0	210,000	0	0	0	0
Environmental Services		5,570,588	4,608,765	961,823	830,323	3,778,442	4,608,765	0
Housing Environmental Health								
328221	Remediation of Contaminated Land/Dereli	150,921	32,211	118,710	32,211	0	32,211	0
350510	Improvement grants - new scheme	843,565	400,000	443,565	187,894	212,106	400,000	0
350550	Support for Independent Living	152,316	142,800	9,516	48,487	94,313	142,800	0
Housing Environmental Health		1,146,802	575,011	571,791	268,592	306,419	575,011	0
Environment Portfolio		6,717,390	5,183,776	1,533,614	1,098,915	4,084,861	5,183,776	0

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Code	Scheme	Total Funding	In Year Budget	Future Funding	Expenditure to: September 2019	Remaining in Year Budget	Forecast Expenditure	Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav
Infrastructure Portfolio								
Engineering Services								
328040	Cwm By Pass	13,970	0	13,970	0	0	0	0
328310	Local Transport Fund	150,000	150,000	0	0	150,000	150,000	0
328315	Local Transport Fund - Project Retention	22,988	0	22,988	0	0	0	0
328318	Active Travel Fund	166,000	166,000	0	284	165,716	166,000	0
Engineering Services		352,958	316,000	36,958	284	315,716	316,000	0
Highways Network Management								
328063	Bridge Strengthening Works	1,311	0	1,311	0	0	0	0
328269	Highways PB Imp. Works.	20,946	0	20,946	0	0	0	0
328270	Highways Improvement Works	1,596,041	889,227	706,814	673,076	216,151	889,227	0
328334	LGBI - Trinant Hall	65,820	420	65,400	420	0	420	0
Highways Network Management		1,684,118	889,647	794,471	673,496	216,151	889,647	0
Infrastructure Portfolio		2,037,076	1,205,647	831,429	673,780	531,867	1,205,647	0

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<i>Code</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure to: September 2019</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
All Portfolios								
All Portfolios								
300300	City Deal	233,500	233,500	0	0	233,500	233,500	0
303990	OS Capital Admin/Design & Supervision	524,000	524,000	0	0	524,000	524,000	0
321112	Disabled Access - Special Programme	28,388	28,388	0	27,599	789	28,388	0
324672	The Company Shop - Tred	200,000	3,037	196,963	3,037	0	3,037	0
All Portfolios		985,888	788,925	196,963	30,636	758,289	788,925	0
All Portfolios		985,888	788,925	196,963	30,636	758,289	788,925	0

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<i>Reporting Year: and Period: 2020/6</i>								

<i>Code</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>In Year Budget</i>	<i>Future Funding</i>	<i>Expenditure to: September 2019</i>	<i>Remaining in Year Budget</i>	<i>Forecast Expenditure</i>	<i>Forecast Variance (Adv)/Fav</i>
	Total Capital Funding	63,243,661	19,158,604	44,085,057	6,531,016	12,627,588	19,158,604	0

End of Report

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APPENDIX 2

Information on Capital Funding Changes 2019/20New Approvals and/or material Funding Changes in Quarter 2

Portfolio	Cost Centre	Scheme	Amount (£)	Funding Body	Type	Additional Information
Corporate Governance						
	327100	Ebbw Vale Test Track	20,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Slippage identified in Improvements Grants Budget
	327101	Emergency Electrical & IT Works Civic Centre	240,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
Social Services - Adult & Children						
	323003	Health & Safety	-50,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	
	323150	Cwrt Mytton Lift Refurbishment	50,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	
Economy						
	326205	VRP - Parc Bryn Bach	500,000	Welsh Government	New Approval	Creation of an iconic Discovery Gateway site to grow visitor economy within the Valleys Regional Park.
	325102	Learning Works - 11-16 school	34,835	Blaenau Gwent	Retention Reserve	Final Account payment
	326079	General Offices Refurb	20,000	Blaenau Gwent	Retention Reserve	Final Account payment
	326006	Tech Valley Initiative	500,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
	326251	Constrained Units/ Industrial Units Improvement Programme	280,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
Education, Active Living and Learning						
	324560	Schools IT Infrastructure	139,057	Welsh Government	New Approval	HWB in schools
	329089	Abertillery LC - Demolition	39,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Receipts	Utilisation of Earmarked Capital Receipt to fund demolition to completion.
	329097	Play Equipment	107,000	Welsh Government	New Approval	
	324750	Band B - Welsh Medium New Build	350,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
	324751	Band B - New Primary Ebbw Fawr Valley	3,150,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
	324752	Band B - Secondary Remodelling Brynmawr	1,120,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
	324753	Band B - Secondary Remodelling Abertillery	1,120,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
	324754	Band B - Secondary Remodelling Tredegar	1,120,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
	324755	Band B - Welsh Medium Remodelling Bro Helyg	280,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
Environment						
	327067	Market Hall - Asbestos Removal	80,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	
	327067	Market Hall - Asbestos Removal	12,000	Aneurin Leisure	Contribution to costs	
	350510	Improvement grants - new scheme	-70,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	£20k Vired to fund Ebbw Vale Test Track & £50k to Support for independent living to enable disabled adaptations
	350550	Support For Independent Living	50,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	£50k to Support for independent living to enable disabled adaptations
	327068	Cemeteries Investment Programme	210,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
	327043	Household Waste Recycling Centre	520,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
Infrastructure						
All Portfolios						
	324672	Tredegar Company Shop	200,000	Blaenau Gwent	Capital Programme	Capital Programme 2019/20 - 2025/26
Unallocated Funding						
		Household Waste Recycling Centre	2,800,000	Welsh Government	New Approval	100% funding for Project
		Economic Stimulus	444,654	Welsh Government	Economic Stimulus within Local Authorities	

It should be noted that the funding changes detailed above will not balance to total funding changes between Q1 to Q2

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Agenda Item 9

Executive Committee and Council only

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer: N/A

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer: N/A

Committee: **Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee**

Date of meeting: **18th November 2019**

Report Subject: **Use of General and Earmarked Reserves 2019/2020**

Portfolio Holder: **Cllr Daniels – Corporate Services**

Report Submitted by: **Rhian Hayden, Chief Officer Resources**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
	29/10/2019	06/11/19			18.11.19	18.12.19		

1. **Purpose of the Report**
 - 1.1 To report to the members of the Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee the forecast reserves position for 2019/2020 as at Quarter 2 (30 September 2019).
2. **Scope and Background**
 - 2.1 There are a number of statutory requirements concerning Local Authority Reserves, including:
 - The Local Government Act 1972;
 - The Local Government Finance Act 1988;
 - The Local Government Finance Act 1992;
 - The Local Government Act 2003; and
 - The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.
 - 2.2 The CIPFA Local Authority Accounting Panel (LAAP) issued Bulletin 99: Local Authority Reserves and Balances in July 2014. This provides non-statutory guidance on relevant issues including:
 - Proper accounting treatment; and
 - Principles to assess the adequacy of reserves.
 - 2.3 To ensure compliance with CIPFA Local Authority Accounting Panel Bulletin 99 and identified best practice, the Council revised its protocol for managing reserves, with effect from April 2015.
 - 2.4 One aspect of the revised protocol concerns the enhancement of Elected Member engagement and scrutiny, and to this end quarterly reports detailing the actual and forecast use of general and earmarked reserves, including changes in requirement/amounts and risk assessments, are prepared and presented to Executive and Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee during the financial year.
 - 2.5 In order to adopt a long-term approach to the need to provide services to the citizens of Blaenau Gwent, the protocol was amended and agreed by Council

in March 2016 to include a target level for general reserves. This was set as 4% of the last reported actual net revenue expenditure (as included in the Revenue Outturn return).

Options for Recommendation *To include Recommendation(s) / Endorsement by other groups, e.g. CMT/Committees/Other groups)*

3.1 That the Joint Budget Scrutiny Committee considers the attached report of forecast use of general and earmarked reserves for 2019/2020 and:

- note the planned forecast increase of the General Reserve to 4.58% (above the 4% target level) for 2019/2020 and future years strengthening the Council's Financial Resilience.
- consider the impact the £0.007m forecast adverse variance for 2019/2020 would have on the General Reserve target; and
- continue to challenge budget overspends and implement appropriate service Action Plans, where required.

Maintenance of general reserves at an adequate level is crucial to the Council being able to meet future liabilities arising from risks for which specific provision has not been made.

4. **Evidence of how this topic supports the achievement of Council Priorities / Statutory Responsibilities / National Well-being Goals etc.**

4.1 **National Well-being Goals**

The management of earmarked and general reserves (in recognition of the need to plan for known or predicted future obligations, unexpected events or emergencies), allows the Authority to deliver services in pursuance of its obligations under the national well-being goals.

4.2 **Corporate Priorities**

This report supports the Council Priority, "Efficient Council", as it is part of the financial planning and reporting arrangements which support the Council's financial resilience.

5. **Implications Against Each Option**

5.1 **Financial Impact**

5.1.1 Section 6 provides an overall summary of the forecast financial position in relation to the remaining balances in general and earmarked reserves at 31 March 2020.

5.1.2 Table 1 at 6.1.3 (below) shows the forecast position for the general reserve at year-end 2019/2020 to be an increase of £0.242m, to £6.136m. This balance would represent 4.58% of net revenue expenditure, £0.775m above the 4% target level of £5.361m, indicating some progress towards strengthening the

financial resilience of the Council and allowing a buffer to deal with unexpected future issues.

5.1.3 The increase in general reserves is due to:

- £117,000 contribution as agreed by Council during the 2019/2020 budget setting process
- £132,000 as a result of a reduction in the Fire Service Precept charge following additional funding from Welsh Government for the increase in employers pension contributions.

5.1.4 Table 2 at 6.1.7 (below) shows the forecast level of earmarked reserves at 31 March 2020 to be £3.600m, an in year reduction of £3.229m. A substantial element of this reduction relates to school balances which are currently estimated to reduce by £1.061m over the financial year.

5.1.5 To maintain the general reserve at the 4% target level will potentially require further transfers into the reserve, dependent on budgeted use of the reserve and in-year over/under spends against service budgets. Further reserve adjustments should therefore be considered as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and will impact upon the Council's savings targets for future years.

5.2 Risk

5.2.1 The Council must ensure an appropriate level and use of reserves to support its financial sustainability.

5.2.2 Failure to comply with the requirements set out in CIPFA LAAP Bulletin 99: *Local Authority Reserves and Balances*, which include the implementation of a clear protocol for the establishment, use, control and review of reserves, could result in adverse comments by regulators.

5.2.3 If the level of general reserves is not maintained at an adequate level, the Authority may be unable to meet future liabilities arising from risks for which specific provision has not been made. In addition, if the Authority has not maintained sufficient reserves, the successor authority may have difficulty in meeting liabilities arising and/or providing required services following a future local government reorganisation or collaboration.

5.2.4 A protocol for the management of reserves was adopted in April 2015 to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with CIPFA LAAP Bulletin 99 and identified best practice.

5.2.5 In the short-term, the level and adequacy of reserves are regularly reviewed and monitored through regular outturn/ forecast reporting. In the medium term, reserves are assessed as part of the budget-setting process and the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Maintenance or replenishment plans will be developed if necessary and implemented to maintain earmarked and general

reserves in accordance with the approved protocol.

- 5.2.6 To address the potential risk that the level of general reserves will fall below the protocol target level, the Council should develop a replenishment/maintenance plan as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2020/2021 and future years.
- 5.2.7 In its Annual Audit Letter relating to the 2017/2018 financial year, the Wales Audit Office noted the continued fall in total general and earmarked revenue reserves (i.e. usable reserves). In comparison to all other Welsh Authorities, the letter indicates that, as at 31 March 2018, Blaenau Gwent had the lowest level of general and earmarked reserves expressed as a percentage of Gross Revenue Expenditure (4.63%, compared with a maximum of 23.62% and an average of 11.44%).
- 5.2.8 In order to meet this Welsh average, general and earmarked reserves would need to increase significantly to approximately £20.7m.
- 5.2.9 There is a risk that failure to increase reserves further will attract adverse criticism from regulators. This risk can be mitigated by increasing the Council fund Reserve.

5.3 **Legal**

- 5.3.1 The Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires authorities in England and Wales to have regard to the level of reserves needed for meeting estimated future expenditure when calculating the budget requirement.
- 5.3.2 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 places a duty on chief finance officers' to report on the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves when the authority is considering its budget requirement.
- 5.3.3 Section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 requires the chief finance officer to report to all the authority's councillors if there is or is likely to be unlawful expenditure or an unbalanced budget. This would include situations where reserves have become seriously depleted and it is forecast that the authority will not have the resources to meet its expenditure in a particular financial year.

5.4 **Personnel**

- 5.4.1 There are no direct personnel/staffing implications arising out of this report.

6. **Supporting Evidence**

6.1 Performance Information and Data

- 6.1.1 The level of the Council's general reserve disclosed in the draft statutory accounts presented to Audit Committee in June 2019 for the financial year

ended 31 March 2019 was £5.894m equating to 4.40% of net revenue expenditure (as reported in the 2018/2019 Revenue Outturn forms). The current 4% target level of general reserves in accordance with the reserves protocol is £5.361m.

6.1.2 The revenue budget forecast year-end position for 2019/2020 (as at end of Quarter 2) indicates an overspend of £0.007m after the application of £0.369m from earmarked reserves.

6.1.3 Therefore, the potential impact on the forecast outturn position for the general reserve at 31 March 2020 would be as follows:

Table 1: General Reserve	£000
Balance at 31 March 2019	5,894
Contribution to General Reserve	117
Reduction in Fire Authority Precept	132
Use of reserve: funding of forecast overspend	(7)
Forecast Balance at 31 March 2020	6,136

6.1.4 The forecast general reserve balance at 31 March 2020 of £6.136m would represent 4.58% of net revenue expenditure as reported in the 2018/2019 Revenue Outturn forms. The general reserve would therefore be £0.775m above the 4% target level of £5.361m

6.1.5 Appendix 1 gives details of the total earmarked reserves held at the start of the 2019/2020 financial year (£6.829m) with actual reserve movements to the end of quarter 2 (30 September 2019) and forecast movements to 31 March 2020.

6.1.6 The level of earmarked reserves has been determined in accordance with the reserves protocol agreed by Corporate Management Team in April 2016. The level of usable reserves available to the Authority increased by £1.720m in 2018/2019.

6.1.7 The current summary forecast outturn position for earmarked reserves at 31 March 2020 is as follows:

Table 2: Earmarked Reserves	£000
Balance at 31 March 2019	6,829
Reserve Adjustments	2
Actual Expenditure to Q2	(369)
Forecast Expenditure to Q4	(2,862)
Forecast Balance at 31 March 2020	3,600

6.1.8 For those reserves that have been utilised to fund actual expenditure to 30 September 2019 (£0.369m), details of the expenditure funded have been provided in Appendix 2. Details of additional income transferred to earmarked reserves (£0.002m) have been provided in Appendix 3.

6.1.9 During Quarter 2, earmarked reserves have been assessed for purpose, requirement and adequacy and adjusted where necessary to meet identified liabilities.

6.2 **Expected outcome for the public**

6.2.1 The management of earmarked and general reserves (in recognition of the need to plan for known or predicted future obligations, unexpected events or emergencies), helps demonstrate stewardship of the Authority's resources and its ability to provide services to the local community.

6.3 **Involvement** (*consultation, engagement, participation*)

6.3.1 Not applicable.

6.4 **Thinking for the Long term** (*forward planning*)

6.4.1 Stewardship of the Authority's resources allows for the provision of services to the local community in the short and long term.

6.5 **Preventative focus**

6.5.1 Not applicable.

6.6 **Collaboration / partnership working**

6.6.1 Not applicable.

6.7 Integration(across service areas)

6.7.1 Not applicable.

6.8 EqIA

6.8.1 An EQIA is not required as this report provides an estimated outturn position in relation to the Authority's reserve balances for the financial year, on an objective basis in accordance with relevant accounting standards, codes, concepts, principles, guidance and legislation.

7. Monitoring Arrangements (*State how the work will be monitored e.g. through scrutiny or directorate performance management arrangements*)

7.1 In the short-term, the level and adequacy of reserves are regularly reviewed and monitored through regular outturn/forecast reports.

7.2 There are legal requirements in respect of the reporting of reserves when setting the annual budget and the statutory outturn position is considered by the Authority's external auditors in their audit of the annual Statement of Accounts.

7.3 In the medium term, reserves are assessed as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Background Documents /Electronic Links

Appendix 1

Appendix 2

Appendix 3

REF: UOGER18/19.120

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Appendix 1: Earmarked Reserves Movements 2019-2020

Name of Reserve	Balance Brought Fwd 1 April 2019	Reserve Adjustments		Actual Expenditure	Forecast Expenditure	Balance Carried Fwd 31 March 2020
		Increases	Decreases			
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Deminimis Capital Works	87,812.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	(8,781.21)	79,030.92
Education Facilities	121,963.00	0.00	0.00	(44,000.00)	(77,963.00)	0.00
Energy Centre	55,659.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(5,565.90)	50,093.10
IT Infrastructure	133,809.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	(26,761.90)	107,047.58
Land at Blaenant Road	136,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	136,200.00
WRAP Regional Vehicles	51,944.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	51,944.85
Budget Contingency Fund	71,347.89	0.00	0.00	(6,996.00)	(42,947.52)	21,404.37
Building Control Fees	83,180.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	(27,449.40)	55,730.61
Business Support	9,005.50	0.00	0.00	(2,350.00)	(6,655.50)	0.00
Cardiff Capital Region City Deal	187,836.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	187,836.00
Community Asset Transfers	13,868.63	0.00	0.00	(13,868.63)	0.00	0.00
Deposits and Bonds	3,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(160.00)	3,040.00
Downsizing, Redundancy & Transitional Costs	216,227.51	0.00	0.00	(45,740.37)	(105,618.89)	64,868.25
Election Costs	36,228.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	(7,245.77)	28,983.06
Future Interest Rate	106,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(106,000.00)	0.00
General/ Voluntary Sector Grants	60,000.00	0.00	0.00	(30,000.00)	(30,000.00)	0.00
ICT	272,120.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	(48,981.66)	223,138.65
Insurance Liabilities	922,662.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	(230,665.66)	691,996.99
Individual Schools Budget (ISB)	186,153.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(33,507.54)	152,645.46
Land & Property Charges	98,591.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	(4,929.56)	93,661.58
Leisure Termination Costs	165,238.28	0.00	0.00	(160,648.00)	(4,590.28)	0.00
Local Development Plan	192,166.54	0.00	0.00	(5,375.00)	(33,058.31)	153,733.23
LMS Balances	1,009,644.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,061,000.00)	(51,355.42)
Members Local Grants	33,834.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	(13,533.87)	20,300.80
Payroll Project Management	23,529.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	(23,529.97)	0.00
Person Centred Practice	7,093.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(7,093.00)	0.00
Prudential Borrowing	200,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,000.00
Specialist Commercial Advice (Leisure Trust Review)	64,538.00	0.00	0.00	(9,474.00)	(22,795.00)	32,269.00
Specialist Commercial Advice (Waste Arrangements)	28,522.07	0.00	0.00	(11,256.50)	(3,004.54)	14,261.04
Stock Conditions Survey	12,137.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,184.72)	9,952.62
Strategic Business Reviews	250,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(62,500.00)	187,500.00
Superannuation	500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(25,000.00)	475,000.00

Appendix 1: Earmarked Reserves Movements 2019-2020

<u>Name of Reserve</u>	<u>Balance Brought Fwd 1 April 2019</u>	<u>Reserve Adjustments</u>		<u>Actual Expenditure</u>	<u>Forecast Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance Carried Fwd 31 March 2020</u>
		<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>			
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Taxation	141,917.68	0.00	0.00	(2,820.00)	(4,275.88)	134,821.80
Technology Park Feasibility Study	80,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(80,000.00)	0.00
Transport Oncost	23,127.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(4,162.86)	18,964.14
Waste Services	120,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(120,000.00)	0.00
Winter Maintenance	200,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(36,000.00)	164,000.00
Aneurin Bevan Health Board - Education	55,664.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(55,664.00)	0.00
Corporate Procurement	44,633.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	(44,633.86)	0.00
CRASB	11,058.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(11,058.00)	0.00
Education - Gypsy Travellers	43,618.42	0.00	0.00	(8,729.00)	(34,889.42)	0.00
EU Exit Preparations for Food Enforcement	9,738.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(9,738.00)	0.00
Leadership Hallmark	33,647.89	0.00	0.00	(21,745.25)	0.00	11,902.64
Planning WAG Grant Planning Committee	24,837.66	0.00	0.00	(6,238.43)	(18,599.23)	0.00
Event	6,264.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	(6,264.27)	0.00
Regen General Contributions Unapplied (Town Centre Management)	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(10,000.00)	0.00
Rights of Way Diversions	47,588.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	(8,565.89)	39,022.37
Section 106 Agreements	20,255.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(3,645.90)	16,609.10
SEW Adoption Collaboration	225,390.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	(40,570.24)	184,819.96
SMIFFs	231,394.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	(231,394.30)	0.00
SSIA/PLOF Grant	13,558.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	(4,474.18)	9,083.93
Workforce Development Collaboration	20,171.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	(10,085.70)	10,085.70
Restrictive Physical Intervention	93,985.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	(93,985.04)	0.00
School Based Counselling	5,903.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,948.24)	3,955.51
Youth Service	2,385.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,385.00)	0.00
	23,030.81	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	(8,425.17)	17,105.64
Total:	6,828,683.01	2,500.00	0.00	(369,241.18)	(2,862,288.35)	3,599,653.48

Appendix 2: Expenditure Funded by Earmarked Reserves, 2019-2020

<u>Name of Reserve</u>	<u>Actual Expenditure to Q2</u>	<u>Purpose of Expenditure</u>
	£	
Education Facilities	44,000.00	Works carried out at Brynmawr Market Hall Cinema.
Budget Contingency Fund	6,996.00	Funding the safeguarding of Teacher & Learning Responsibility payments at Abertillery Learning Campus following a restructure.
Business Support	2,350.00	Staff training costs.
Community Asset Transfers	13,868.63	Reserve fully utilised to fund Grounds CAT transfers.
Downsizing, Redundancy & Transitional Costs	45,740.37	Redundancies relating to staff downsizing .
General/ Voluntary Sector Grants	30,000.00	Funding the Authority's contribution towards the Citizens Advice Bureau.
Leisure Termination Costs	160,648.00	Additional financial support to Aneurin Leisure to fund early termination costs.
Local Development Plan	5,375.00	Payment of invoice - AECOM Integrated Sustainability Appraisal.
Specialist Commercial Advice (Leisure Trust Review)	9,474.00	Procurement of specialist advice for reviewing the delivery model.
Specialist Commercial Advice (Waste Arrangements)	11,256.50	Fees in respect of financial due diligence on Silent Valley Waste Services Ltd.
Taxation	2,820.00	To fund cost in relation to HMRC Making Tax Digital requirements.
Education - Gypsy Travellers	(8,729.00)	Contribution towards employee costs in relation to Early Years.
IER	21,745.25	Stationery & Postage costs in relation to the Individual Electoral Register.
Leadership Hallmark	(6,238.43)	Staff costs in relation a CCTV agency worker.
Total to Qtr 2:	(369,241.18)	

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Appendix 3: Additional Income Transferred to Earmarked Reserves, 2019-2020

<u>Name of Reserve</u>	<u>Income to Q2</u>	<u>Source of Income</u>
Youth Service	£ 2,500.00	Increase in reserve to cover backdated restructure
Total to Qtr 2:	2,500.00	

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