

Analysis of Variances - 2012/13

Appendix 1

Budget heading	Approved budget £'000	Actual £'000	Year end (under) / over spend £'000	Percentage %	Comments - the explanation of year end variation
Community Response :					
Wholetime firefighters pay and allowances	26,435	26,384	(51)	-0.2%	Relatively small underspend. More leavers in the last few months than anticipated.
Retained firefighters pay and allowances	6,212	6,072	(140)	-2.3%	This budget was reduced during the year to reflect actual operational activity to the end of December. However, in case of adverse weather conditions or other issues outside the control of the Service, the original budget was maintained for the last quarter. Actual operational activity continued at lower levels in the last quarter resulting in an underspend.
Buildings R&M, Alterations & Fees	1,319	1,178	(141)	-10.7%	Mainly due to projects which have slipped into 2013/14 due to circumstances beyond our control (weather, delays in obtaining consents, etc.) A request to carry forward £112k has been made - see Final Accounts report for details.
Environmental works	0	222	222		The environmental works was originally intended to be charged to capital to support a bid for capital grant. However, as the capital bid was unsuccessful it is more appropriate to charge these works to revenue and to fund from the Investment and sustainability reserve.
Energy costs	561	517	(44)	-7.8%	There are many external factors here which cannot be predicted including unit costs and air temperatures. The budget will continue to be reduced in line with the requirements of the carbon management plan, however future savings are based on a theoretical model.
Grounds maintenance	71	53	(19)	-26.2%	The regular programme continuously underspends and will be reviewed this year to identify on-going efficiency savings. There can be significant periodic and one-off costs for tree maintenance which need to be built into a medium term programme.
Staff car allowances and travel	406	333	(73)	-18.0%	Training was delivered at stations wherever possible reducing the cost of car mileage claims for station based staff.
Protective clothing and uniform	432	345	(87)	-20.2%	Further savings due to the successful introduction of the 'wear and tear' policy. The budget has not yet been profiled to the revised establishment and on-going savings are anticipated.
Furniture and fittings	42	18	(24)	-57.0%	Better use of recycled furniture and new furniture procured only when absolutely necessary.

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Printing and stationery	43	24	(19)	-45.0%	Due to other priorities such as the Shirley Towers inquest less staff resource has been available for corporate communications and community safety campaigns.
Hired and contracted services	255	144	(111)	-43.5%	Partly due to slippage in Network Fire Control Strategic Partnership (NFCSP) project costs (£37k Code of Connection compliance) and partly due to underspend in delegated budgets to Group Managers (£50k) and Risk Intelligence (£24k)
Operational equipment	908	582	(326)	-35.9%	Mainly due to slippage in planned expenditure for major items of equipment including items relating to the Shirley Towers incident for which a request to carry forward has been made. In addition the issue of stock items is significantly under spent continuing the trend over the last few years. It is anticipated there will be on-going efficiency but this will be confirmed when forward plans have been finalised.
Other			(23)		
Community Response Total			(836)		
Community Safety:					
Staff car allowances and travel	177	205	28	16.0%	More mobile working resulting in higher car mileage claims. Work was underway during the year to explore how this expenditure could be mitigated and reduced whilst supporting mobile working. This links with the Service project to reduce staff travel costs and work will be on-going in 2013/14.
Smoke detectors	104	82	(22)	-21.0%	Whilst the intended target for Home Safety visits was reached fewer smoke detectors were fitted than in previous years. This positively reflects on taking a risk assessed approach and will be built on in coming years. In 2013/14 targets have been removed for the number of Home Safety Visits and the emphasis will be on targeting the most vulnerable and higher risk groups. As well as continuing to provide smoke alarms this is likely to mean a more varied spend of the budget on other measures, such as flame retardant bedding.
Income	-40	-75	(36)	90.6%	Income from court cases (£10k) is uncertain so income is not budgeted for until it is received. Also income from a secondment to HCC was not budgeted for until the fourth quarter.
Other			(4)		
Community Safety Total			(33)		
Management and Support Services:					
Training expenses	692	669	(23)	-3.4%	Less spend than anticipated on scrap cars £19k.
Vehicle running expenses, workshop spares and consumables, repairs and maintenance of vehicles	889	843	(46)	-5.1%	An efficiency saving of £120,000 has already been taken from the fuel budget and fuel will be monitored this year to see if further efficiencies are available as a result of reduced operational activity.

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Hired and contracted services	536	321	(215)	-40.1%	£40k BA chambers upgrade deferred awaiting results of comprehensive condition survey. Continuous improvement budget £149k carry forward -see paragraph 8.2 , Access to Work reasonable adjustment £6k, Face to face (project to create an inclusive workplace) £4k, medical fees £4k, Business Partners management consultant fees £8k (used for training), CRB checks £21k expenditure planned to be completed by end of March however checks took longer to process than expected
IT and communications	2,551	2,484	(67)	-2.6%	Mobile phone rentals (£20k) savings achieved through renegotiated contracts. Hantsfirenet (£20k) due to delays in Hantsfile project. IT development - small works not fully used (£20k) due to capacity issues.
Miscellaneous Insurances	592	536	(56)	-9.5%	Insurance excess for fleet vehicles was underspent as there were only a few minor claims during the year. We will continue to monitor and improve awareness of cost to the Service.
Operational equipment	127	93	(34)	-26.7%	Refit of Fire Behavioural Training unit (£35,000) - costs met from within existing budgets.
Income	-388	-457	(69)	17.7%	Additional training course income and income from fitting out new HFRS vehicles and external vehicles by using excess capacity. Due to no new frontline appliances being purchased in 2012/13 and 2013/14 fleet income will not continue at this level.
Other			(54)		
Management and Support Services Total			(565)		
Other variances					
Contingency	51	0	(51)	-100.0%	Explained in the report - see paragraph 3.8. The corporate provision was kept for unexpected budget pressures. Fortunately this was not required.
Revenue Contributions to Capital	1,664	1,266	(398)	-23.9%	The contribution to the capital costs of the environmental works was not required following the transfer of the expenditure to the revenue account
Pensions	557	532	(25)	-4.5%	
Provisions	0	148	148	n/a	Explained in the report - see paragraph 7
Sale of Fixed Assets	23	0	(23)	-100.0%	This was the associated cost of selling Winchester Fire Station, however as this has been delayed this cost was not incurred this year.
Interest payable	49	48	1	2.0%	Slight difference in interest payable from estimated, just due to roundings on estimates
Interest receivable	(77)	(157)	(81)	105.2%	Explained in the report - see paragraph 3.9
Total			(1,862)		