

Financial Monitoring March 2019

Budget Monitoring: Children, Education & Families - Action Plan

PLAN TO ADDRESS OVERSPEND Children's Services Net Budget: £337.3m (£107.7m Children's Services) Net forecast overspend at year end: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underlying budget pressures £0.9m • Slippage in delivery of savings £1.9m • UASC grant shortfall £0.8m • Demand Management £4.4m • (increased numbers of Looked after Children and increased placement costs, increased support costs, Home to School Transport • Action plan – Troubled Families -£0.2m <p style="text-align: right;">Total</p>	Effect of action taken on forecast overspend £'m	Action and direct or indirect Impact on Service Delivery	Person responsible for action
Action taken to address overspend in 2018/19			
1. Vacancy Management: circa £0.3 to £0.4m by year end.	£0.3m - £0.4m	Management action to reduce agency staff spend. Savings delivered without a negative impact on statutory social work provision.	Hannah Farncombe/ Lara Patel
2. Regular management action to tackle overspends; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAC demand & placement costs; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Entry to care panel (£1m already in the MTFP savings) – Monitoring and tracking of all residential high cost placements 	Cost control measure – £0.14m	Panel maintained and chaired by Deputy Director to ensure robust and consistent access to LAC provision. Senior management oversight providing robust challenge to cost and accurate budget projection of cost	Lara Patel

CA7

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of National Citizen Service 	£0.1m	Review of service delivery within the service has resulted in reduction in variance following action to increase uptake for the latest course.	Hannah Farncombe
3. Increase troubled Families income	-£0.2m	<p>Troubled Families has been set an increased target as part of the service action plan, to increase payment by results income by £0.2m. This is a challenging target which would require targets to be achieved and evidenced in an additional 188 families.</p> <p>The outcome won't be known until March 2019 when the final claim is verified and submitted for 2018/19.</p>	Hannah Farncombe/ Lara Patel
4. Implement robust budget monitoring across the social care teams	Cost control measure - Specific impact not quantified	<p>Line by line review of all service area budgets in social care to be completed by end Feb 2019</p> <p>All Tier 3s to prepare actions to mitigate overspend in budget lines</p> <p>Summary report to be presented to DCS at Finance and Performance DLT March 2019. Monthly review to be implemented for 2019/20</p>	Vince Clark/ Sarah Fogden
5. Further Education actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use one-off reserve Management of Home to School Transport 	£0.4m Cost control measure - Specific impact not quantified	<p>Transfer of one-off reserve to be used to offset budget pressure.</p> <p>Review of ICT to provide more effective and accurate budget projections for home to school transport provision.</p>	David Clarke
Total Estimated impact of actions in 2018/19	£1.14m to 1.24m		

CA7

Ongoing action to be taken to address pressures	<p>In 2019/20 pressures of £10.2m have been agreed as part of the MTFP, which will address many of the pressures experienced in 2018/19.</p> <p>During 2019/20 planning is underway to deliver a new model of practice (Family Safeguarding Plus) for children's social care. It is expected that through adopting a new model it will be possible to better control demand across the service and reduce the pressure on budgets across Children's Social Care in the longer-term.</p>	Hannah Farncombe
--	---	------------------