

Notice of a Meeting

Strategy & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee Thursday, 24 September 2009 at 10.00 am County Hall

Membership

Chairman - Councillor Dr Peter Skolar
Deputy Chairman - Councillor Melinda Tilley

<i>Councillors:</i>	Norman Bolster	Arash Fatemian	Larry Sanders
	Liz Brighthouse OBE	Jean Fooks	David Wilmshurst
	Nick Carter	A.M. Lovatt	

Notes:

Date of next meeting: 25 November 2009

What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

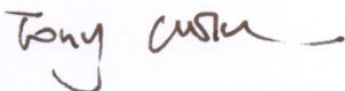
- Corporate and community leadership; corporate strategies; regional issues
- Local strategic partnerships and District Council liaison
- Social inclusion & equality; services for members
- Finance; procurement; property
- Culture change and customer focus; human resources; communications strategy; information and communications technology
- The elections and appointments functions of the Democracy & Organisation Committee
- The functions of the Pension Fund Committee

How can I have my say?

We welcome the views of the community on any issues in relation to the responsibilities of this Committee. Members of the public may ask to speak on any item on the agenda or may suggest matters which they would like the Committee to look at. **Requests to speak must be submitted to the Committee Officer below no later than 9 am on the working day before the date of the meeting.**

For more information about this Committee please contact:

Chairman	-	Councillor Dr Peter Skolar E.Mail: peter.skolar@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Committee Officer	-	Sue Whitehead, Tel: (01865) 810262 sue.whitehead@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Tony Cloke
Assistant Head of Legal & Democratic Services

September 2009

About the County Council

The Oxfordshire County Council is made up of 74 councillors who are democratically elected every four years. The Council provides a range of services to Oxfordshire's 630,000 residents. These include:

schools	social & health care	libraries and museums
the fire service	roads	trading standards
land use	transport planning	waste management

Each year the Council manages £0.9 billion of public money in providing these services. Most decisions are taken by a Cabinet of 9 Councillors, which makes decisions about service priorities and spending. Some decisions will now be delegated to individual members of the Cabinet.

About Scrutiny

Scrutiny is about:

- Providing a challenge to the Cabinet
- Examining how well the Cabinet and the Authority are performing
- Influencing the Cabinet on decisions that affect local people
- Helping the Cabinet to develop Council policies
- Representing the community in Council decision making
- Promoting joined up working across the authority's work and with partners

Scrutiny is NOT about:

- Making day to day service decisions
- Investigating individual complaints.

What does this Committee do?

The Committee meets up to 6 times a year or more. It develops a work programme, which lists the issues it plans to investigate. These investigations can include whole committee investigations undertaken during the meeting, or reviews by a panel of members doing research and talking to lots of people outside of the meeting. Once an investigation is completed the Committee provides its advice to the Cabinet, the full Council or other scrutiny committees. Meetings are open to the public and all reports are available to the public unless exempt or confidential, when the items would be considered in closed session

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting

A hearing loop is available at County Hall.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
2. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note on the back page**
3. **Minutes** (Pages 1 - 6)
 - (a) To note the minutes of the meeting of the former Corporate Governance Committee Scrutiny Committee held on 5 March 2009 (**CG3(a)**) and to note for information any matters arising on them.
 - (b) To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Strategy & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee (**CG3(b)**) held on 16 June 2009.
4. **Speaking to or petitioning the Committee**
5. **Future Work of Scrutiny** (Pages 7 - 8)

10:10

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Keith Mitchell will attend for a discussion on the future work of scrutiny.

6. **Financial Monitoring** (Pages 9 - 18)

11:30

To consider future monitoring arrangements.

11.45 Close of Meeting

Declarations of Interest

This note briefly summarises the position on interests which you must declare at the meeting. Please refer to the Members' Code of Conduct in Section DD of the Constitution for a fuller description.

The duty to declare ...

You must always declare any "personal interest" in a matter under consideration, ie where the matter affects (either positively or negatively):

- (i) any of the financial and other interests which you are required to notify for inclusion in the statutory Register of Members' Interests; or
- (ii) your own well-being or financial position or that of any member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association more than it would affect other people in the County.

Whose interests are included ...

"Member of your family" in (ii) above includes spouses and partners and other relatives' spouses and partners, and extends to the employment and investment interests of relatives and friends and their involvement in other bodies of various descriptions. For a full list of what "relative" covers, please see the Code of Conduct.

When and what to declare ...

The best time to make any declaration is under the agenda item "Declarations of Interest". Under the Code you must declare not later than at the start of the item concerned or (if different) as soon as the interest "becomes apparent".

In making a declaration you must state the nature of the interest.

Taking part if you have an interest ...

Having made a declaration you may still take part in the debate and vote on the matter unless your personal interest is also a "prejudicial" interest.

"Prejudicial" interests ...

A prejudicial interest is one which a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would think so significant as to be likely to affect your judgment of the public interest.

What to do if your interest is prejudicial ...

If you have a prejudicial interest in any matter under consideration, you may remain in the room but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter under consideration, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

Exceptions ...

There are a few circumstances where you may regard yourself as not having a prejudicial interest or may participate even though you may have one. These, together with other rules about participation in the case of a prejudicial interest, are set out in paragraphs 10 – 12 of the Code.

Seeking Advice ...

It is your responsibility to decide whether any of these provisions apply to you in particular circumstances, but you may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.

Agenda Item 3

ITEM SYP3(a)

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held on 5 March 2009 commencing at 10.00 am and finishing at 11.50 am.

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Lawrie Stratford - in the chair

Councillor Alan Armitage
Councillor Lynda Atkins
Councillor Norman Bolster
Councillor Liz Brighthouse
Councillor Nick Carter
Councillor Timothy Hallchurch MBE
Councillor Bob Johnston
Councillor Peter Skolar
Councillor David Wilmshurst

Other Members in Attendance: Councillor C.H. Shouler (for Agenda Item 8)

Officers:

Whole of meeting: G. Malcolm (Corporate Core)

Part of meeting:

Agenda Item	Officer Attending
5	Dr I. Alvi, Corporate Core
6	S. Capaldi, Corporate Core
7	N. Kirkwood, Corporate Core

The Scrutiny Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting and agreed as set out below. Copies of the agenda and reports are attached to the signed Minutes.

6/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS

Apologies for absence and temporary appointments were received as follows:

Apology from	Temporary Appointments
Councillor Lynda Atkins	-
Councillor Peter Skolar	-

7/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 8, Annex 8:

Councillor Johnston declared a personal interest by virtue of share ownership in two of the counterparties;

Councillor Brighthouse declared a personal interest by virtue of share ownership in one of the counterparties.

8/09 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 15 January 2009 were approved and signed.

Minute 51/08(c) - Better Offices Programme (BOP)

The Chairman reported that following consultation with Councillor Colin Lamont, Chairman of the Environment & Economy (E&E) Scrutiny Committee and the Head of Property there was a consensus that it was appropriate for this Scrutiny Committee, who already had the topic in its Work Programme, to take the lead on BOP and invite member/s of the E&E Scrutiny Committee through its Chairman as and when appropriate.

9/09 PARTNERSHIPS

(Agenda Item 5)

On 18 December 2008 the Committee asked the Partnerships Working Group to consider the report to Cabinet on behalf of the Committee and to make any observations or comments to the Cabinet.

The lead members of the Group (Councillors Brighthouse, Bryden, Carter, Stratford and Wilmshurst) gave an update on the current position. The report on the Review of Partnership Governance Arrangements had been rescheduled for Cabinet consideration on 17 March 2009. Councillors Wilmshurst and Brighthouse reported that the lead members were due to meet on 9 March 2009 with the aim of signing off the review work on this topic so far and considering scrutiny of the Community Strategy after the County Council elections in June 2009.

10/09 RESTRUCTURE OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

(Agenda Item 6)

The Committee had identified this topic for scrutiny on 18 December 2008.

The Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy) circulated an overview of the background and current progress on the Communications Review and responded to questions and comments.

The Committee thanked Mr Capaldi and **AGREED** to invite the new Head of Communications, Marketing & Public Affairs to a future meeting in order to outline his/her approach and key priorities.

11/09 PUBLICATIONS

(Agenda Item 7)

The lead members (Councillors Armitage, Atkins, Carter and Hallchurch) with the Head of Communications attended for this item.

The Head of Communications had submitted an initial report to the lead members on the provenance and cost of the publications which she had been asked to investigate as part of the proposed publications Review.

The lead members felt that this initial work had achieved their objectives and proposed that no further work be pursued at this stage in view of the wider restructure of Communications & Marketing (see Minute 10/09 above).

The Committee considered that after the June 2009 County Council elections scrutiny should not lose sight of this issue.

It was **AGREED** to commend the Committee at its next scheduled meeting (23 July 2009) to:

- maintain this topic in its Work Programme as a high priority;
- and
- consider a briefing by the lead members on the position and conclusions which they had reached.

12/09 FINANCIAL MONITORING

(Agenda Item 8)

The Committee had included in its Work Programme provision for the Cabinet Member for Finance to report on a quarterly basis any trends or concerns which the Cabinet have identified in relation to the Quarterly Financial Monitoring reports

The Committee considered the commentary by the Cabinet Member for Finance (CG8). Councillor Shouler presented his commentary and responded to questions.

The Committee **AGREED** to:

- (a) receive the commentary and thank Councillor Shouler, Ms. Baxter and the Finance Team for their helpful reports to the Committee; and
- (b) note with pleasure that the Council had retained its overall assessment score of 3 and in particular that the 'Use of Resources' score had improved from 3 to 4 and congratulated members, officers and all concerned with this outcome.

Forward Plan

13/09 TOPICS FOR FUTURE SCRUTINY

(Agenda Item 9)

The Committee considered if there were any items from the current Forward Plan on which it might wish to have an opportunity to offer advice to the Cabinet before any decision was taken. There were no items in the current Forward Plan on which the Committee wished to offer advice to the Cabinet.

Other topics suggested for future scrutiny work included those raised at Agenda items 5, 6 & 7 above and follow-up to the Committee's 'Customer Focus' scrutiny review outcomes.

14/09 OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES' WORK PROGRAMMES

(Agenda Item 10)

This item had been included in order to enable members to reflect on scrutiny committees' review work.

The Committee reflected on its scrutiny work (see Minutes for detail) and noted that a schedule of completed and ongoing scrutiny reviews would be appended to the Annual Scrutiny Report 2008/09.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

As this was the last scheduled meeting of this Scrutiny Committee before the County Council elections in June 2009 the Chairman thanked members and officers for their work and contributions to the Committee and the scrutiny process.

I hereby certify that the above minutes of the meeting of the

have been sent to all those members recorded as having been present at the meeting, and have been accepted by those members as a true record of the proceedings of the meeting.

Assistant Chief Executive & Solicitor to the Council

Date: 19

STRATEGY & PARTNERSHIP SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held on 16 June 2009

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor Peter Skolar - in the chair

Councillor Liz Brighthouse
Councillor Norman Bolster
Councillor Nick Carter
Councillor Arash Fatemian
Councillor Jean Fooks
Councillor A M Lovatt
Councillor Larry Sanders
Councillor Melinda Tilley
Councillor David Wilmshurst

Officers:

Whole of meeting: P G Clark and M Holyman (Corporate Core)

The Scrutiny Committee considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting and agreed as set out below. Copies of the agenda and reports are attached to the signed Minutes.

15/09 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2009/10 COUNCIL YEAR

Councillor Wilmshurst moved and Councillor Bolster seconded that Councillor Skolar be elected Chairman of the Committee for the 2009/10 Council Year.

Councillor Fooks moved and Councillor L Sanders seconded that Councillor Brighthouse be elected Chairman of the Committee for the 2009/10 Council Year.

Seven members having voted in favour of Councillor Skolar and three members having voted in favour of Councillor Brighthouse, it was:

RESOLVED: that Councillor Skolar be elected Chairman of the Committee for the 2009/10 Council Year.

16/09 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2009/10 COUNCIL YEAR

Councillor Carter moved and Councillor Lovatt seconded that Councillor Tilley be elected Deputy Chairman of the Committee for the 2009/10 Council Year.

Councillor Brighthouse moved and Councillor L Sanders seconded that Councillor Fooks be elected Deputy Chairman of the Committee for the 2009/10 Council Year.

Seven members having voted in favour of Councillor Tilley and three members having voted in favour of Councillor Fooks, it was:

RESOLVED: that Councillor Tilley be elected Deputy Chairman of the Committee for the 2009/10 Council Year.

.....in the Chair

Date of signing.....2009

Briefing Note to Strategy & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

24 September 2009

The Buckinghamshire Model

Members have asked for a short outline of the scrutiny model introduced in Buckinghamshire.

1. Buckinghamshire had a similar scrutiny structure to Oxfordshire's current one. Buckinghamshire reviewed their structure to achieve the following aims:

- Strengthen the role of members
- Agendas more member led
- Improve enthusiasm and commitment of members
- Ability to take on new tasks/issues as and when they arrive
- Quicker to organise
- Higher attendance record
- Far more flexible
- Make witnesses more at ease
- Same cost envelope as current structure, or less
- Far more mobile

2. The amended scrutiny structure in Buckinghamshire is as follows:

- Health O/S the same (mirrors ours)
- One commissioning committee (in addition to health)
- Members of the commissioning committee chair task and finish groups.
- Task and finish groups made up from lists of members
- Each task group takes an average of three months.
- All call-ins dealt with by commissioning committee.

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STRATEGY AND PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
24 September 2009

FINANCIAL MONITORING OVERVIEW

COMMENTARY BY THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE

Introduction

1. This report provides a commentary on the Council's forecast financial position for the 2009/10 financial year. In this first report for 2009/10 the Outturn Report for 2008/09 and the 2010/11 Service and Resource Planning process are also considered as context. However, it is important to note that changes made to 2009/10 budgets during the last Service & Resource Planning process, mean we are not necessarily comparing like with like when looking at different years. The forecast position for 2009/10 is based on four months of actual expenditure and income to the end of July 2009 and is consistent with the position reported to Cabinet on 15 September 2009.

Looking Back: 2008/09 Outturn

2. The Outturn position from 2008/09 is set out in below and was reported to Cabinet on 23 June 2009.

Original Budget 2008/09 £m		Latest Budget 2008/09 £m	Provisional Outturn 2008/09 Variance £m	Provisional Outturn 2008/09 Variance %
79.552	Children, Young People & Families	92.588	-0.457	-0.49
151.118	Social & Community Services	164.467	-0.965	-0.59
60.450	Environment & Economy Community Safety & Shared	67.980	-0.866	-1.27
34.228	Services	29.380	-0.785	-2.67
12.512	Corporate Core	15.485	-0.415	-2.68
337.860	In year total	369.900	-3.488	-0.94

Plus: City Schools Reorganisation	1.369	
ICT Investment Fund	-0.800	
Total Variation	1.368	

3. For comparison the Directorate revenue variation at the end of 2007/08 was -£3.281m representing -1.0% of the budget. The -0.94% variation at the end of 2008/09 was consistent with that position.
4. Carry forwards from 2008/09 were approved by Cabinet on 23 June 2009 as part of the Provisional Outturn Report for 2008/09 and are now included in the latest budget. These are summarised by directorate in the table below:

Directorate	Overspends to be carried forward	Approved underspends to be carried forward	Approved underspends to be held in balances until required	Net total to be carried forward
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Children, Young People & Families	1.548	-2.005	0	-0.457
City Schools Reorganisation	1.369	0	0	1.369
Social & Community Services	0	-0.965	0	-0.965
Environment & Economy	0	-0.866	0	-0.866
Community Safety	0	-0.785	0	-0.785
Corporate Core		-0.347	-0.068	-0.415
Total	2.917	-4.968	-0.068	-2.119

5. £1.049m of the overspend carried forward by Children, Young People and Families related to Asylum Seekers.

The Current Year: 2009/10

6. The in – year Directorate forecast for 2009/10 is an overspend of £4.013m. This increased by £1.270m compared to the forecast overspend of £2.743m at the end of May but was consistent throughout June and July. The in-year forecast excludes the variance on the City Schools Reorganisation. In addition £2.421m Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) has been reallocated to core areas to offset a forecast overspend of £1.303m on DSG funded services. To aid the overall position, the remainder will be used to fund eligible expenditure that would otherwise have been funded from the base budget. A more detailed analysis of the overall position is provided in Annex 1.

Original Budget 2009/10 £m		Latest Budget 2009/10 £m	Forecast Outturn 2009/10 £m	Variance Forecast July 2009 £m ¹	Variance Forecast July 2009 % ¹
98.277	Children, Young People & Families	97.603	99.950	+2.347	+2.40%
166.800	Social & Community Services	167.392	168.736	+1.344	+0.80%
68.631	Environment & Economy	69.771	70.053	+0.282	+0.40%
29.908	Community Safety & Shared Services	30.635	30.675	+0.040	0.13%
9.426	Corporate Core	10.286	10.286	0	0
373.042	In year total	375.687	379.700	+4.013	+1.07%

Plus: City Schools Reorganisation		0.775	
Plus: Reallocation of Dedicated Schools Grant to core areas (see paragraph 15)		2.421	
Total Variation		+7.209	

7. The forecast position takes into account the supplementary estimate of £0.215m agreed to the end of June to address a DSG inflation imbalance in the non devolved schools budget. A further supplementary estimate of £0.160m was approved by Cabinet on 15 September 2009. This is to cover third party legal costs incurred in Property Services and was agreed in line with Council policy to meet legal fees over £0.025m from balances.

Children, Young People & Families

8. After taking account of the reallocation of DSG and excluding the ongoing effect of the City School's Review the total forecast overspend across Children & Families is £2.347m.
9. Children & Families, and within that Placements, is the highest risk area and experiencing the most significant pressure across all Directorates in 2009/10. The forecast overspend of £2.737m on Placements has increased from the £2.188m forecast at the end of May but has not increased significantly from June to July. £0.523m of this pressure could be offset by carry forward from 2008/09 that was placed in the CYP&F reserve to offset pressures within the directorate. There is a further pressure of £1m on Asylum Seekers.
10. Due to a recent judicial review (the "Southwark Judgement") authorities will have to consider homeless children as looked after children. There is a risk that the full year financial implication of this could be as much as £3m to £4m per annum. With appropriate management action and clear structuring of the additional service provision and additional assessment staffing, the service

believes that the full year implication can be constrained to £1.5m. For 2009/10 the part year effect of this is estimated to be £0.5m. A supplementary estimate to cover this will be considered in late 2009 once the impact is clearer.

11. Given the requirement to make additional savings in 2010/11 and onwards, an action plan to bring the overspend across Children & Families back into balance will be included in the next monitoring report.

Social & Community Services

12. Social & Community Services are reporting an overspend of £1.344m or 0.8%. Just over £1m of the total overspend relates to a range of pressures within Adult Social Care. An action plan to bring this back into balance will be included with the next Cabinet report.

Pooled Budgets

Older People's and Physical Disabilities Pool

13. Following the appointment of the Primary Care Trust's Turnaround Director work is continuing on the position on this pool. The outcome will be included in future monitoring reports.
14. The overspend on equipment has now risen to £0.602m for the first four months. Further work has been commissioned to identify the reasons for this over spend and to develop an action plan to bring the budget under control.

Learning Disabilities Pool

15. The Learning Disabilities Pooled Budget is forecasting an overspend of £0.842m. This reflects an overspend of £0.480m carried forward from 2008/09 and the effect of new client packages agreed in July. The forecast does not take into account future panel decisions. Further efficiency savings are to be made during the year and it is expected that the overspend will reduce to £0.200m by the end of the year.

Environment & Economy

16. Environment & Economy are forecasting an overspend of £0.282m or 0.40% against a budget of £69.771m. This is expected to reduce further during the year.
17. Within Sustainable Development, Waste Management are forecasting an underspend of -£0.386m on tonnage related activities. There is a further saving of -£0.130m relating to new contracts for Waste Recycling Centres. These underspends are offset by a shortfall of £0.129m on planning application income.
18. The forecast overspend within Property Services is £0.398m. £0.160m of this reflects third party legal costs that will need to be met by the Council. A

supplementary estimate has now been agreed in line with Council policy to meet legal fees over £0.025m from balances.

Community Safety & Shared Services

19. The directorate is forecasting a small overspend of £0.040m.
20. Shared Services remains on track to deliver its remaining savings in full by next year.
21. School meals figures for Food with Thought from April to Jul 2009 are 9.5% higher than in the equivalent period of 2008 and meal costs below budget. QCS Cleaning Services is forecast to break even.

Corporate Core

22. There are pressures in several areas of Corporate Core. However, services are expected to be able to manage these and a nil variance is currently forecast based on figures for the first quarter of the year.

Balances

23. In setting the 2009/10 budget the risk assessed level of balances was calculated to be £12.5m. As balances were higher than the risk assessed sum, £5.1m was utilised as part of the budget. In addition the balance brought forward from 2008/09 was £20.187m. This was higher than the £19.0m budgeted for, so £1.187m has been transferred to a new reserve to fund efficiency savings. After these adjustments balances were £14.5m at the beginning of 2009/10. It is estimated that up to £2.0m could be called from balances in year giving a year end position of £12.5m as per the risk assessment.
24. After taking account of supplementary estimates, the actual position on balances as at the end of July was £14.166m. After taking account of the forecast Directorate overspend the consolidated revenue balances forecast is £10.153m. This is lower than the £12.5m required based on the risk assessment so it is important that action plans are in place and followed through to reduce the current overspend in 2009/10.

Strategic Measures

25. The average cash balance during June 2009 was £217.9m and this reduced to £197.1m in July. The average rate of return for June was 1.62%, and for July 1.48%. The trend is reducing from the 1.87% reported as at the end of May and reflects the longer term deposits placed at higher rates last year coming to an end and being replaced by deposits at much lower rates. However, the average rate of return remains higher than the current base rate of 0.5% and the budgeted average rate of return of 1.30%.

Capital

26. An updated Capital Programme was included with the July monitoring report and now shows a cumulative deficit of -£6.080m. This is primarily due to a

decrease in the valuation of capital receipts within the agreed disposal programme.

27. Currently the Capital finance team is working with the Capital Programme Manager and with the challenge panels to revise the overall capital programme schedules. It is expected that this will enable us to manage the cashflow and deficit position and hence shift the deficit position beyond the medium term period. However, there may be a residual element of deficit that will need to be considered as part of the Service and Resource Planning process.

28. The capital monitoring position shows forecast expenditure for 2009/10 of £92.5m (excluding schools), a decrease of -£6.6m when compared to the latest capital programme. The table below summarises the variations by directorate.

	Latest Capital Programme (To end of May 2009)	Forecast Expenditure (As at end of July 2009)	Variation	% Variation
CYP&F	£41.5m	£40.3m	-£1.2m	-3%
S&CS	£8.9m	£7.8m	-£1.1m	-12%
E&E	£47.0m	£42.7m	-£4.3m	-9%
Community Safety	£0.7m	£0.7m	£0.0m	0%
Corporate Core	£1.0m	£1.0m	£0.0m	0%
Sub-total	£99.1m	£92.5m	-£6.6m	-7%
Schools Capital/Devolved Formula/Reserves	£11.6m	£11.6m	£0.0m	0%
Total	£110.7m	£104.1m	-£6.6m	-6%

29. The in-year forecast for Environment & Economy shows a decrease of £4.3m. The revised programme for Didcot Station Parkway (-£3.081m) shows a delay of 8 months compared to the original dates. Cogges Link Road (-£0.406m) has been delayed as a result of the Town Green Planning Application, whilst in Oxford, Phase 3 of the London Road Corridor has been delayed by two months (-£0.340m) to address the issues raised during the public consultation. All three schemes are predominantly developer funded so there is no impact on other funding sources.

30. Oxfordshire County Council has been ranked 22nd out of 70 Local Authorities for entry into the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme. The Readiness to Deliver Statement was submitted to Partnership for Schools on 17 September 2009. A detailed BSF report will be submitted to Cabinet in

October 2009 and further reports will be taken to Cabinet to seek approval in line with the Council's constitution.

Other Financial Issues

Savings Targets 2010/11 to 2013/14

31. The global financial position will impact on our Medium Term Financial Planning, and on our ability to maintain the assumptions underpinning that. As part of the draft Business Plans Directorates have been asked to identify savings of £60m over the medium term to help meet additional pressures over and above those already built into the published plan. Draft plans will be taken to the directorate Star Chambers over the coming weeks and will be developed further through the 2010/11 Service & Resource Planning process.
32. Of the £60m additional savings, around two thirds will be re-invested into service budgets to deliver key services. However, around a third will cause real reductions in available resources, and will be met through reductions in the total budget requirement. Whilst the intention is to protect front line services and avoid compulsory redundancies it is anticipated that it will be necessary to reduce jobs in the council. It will also be imperative that we get the best from our procurement of services to make the Council a leaner and better organisation.

Green Book Pay Award

33. The Employers' final offer in settlement of the 2009/10 claim was made on 22 July 2009 and has now been agreed with Unison. The increase is 1.25% for Scale Points 4-10 inclusive and 1.0% above Scale Point 10. Since 1.5% was allowed for in the budget the saving arising will be removed and placed in reserves to contribute to efficiency savings.

Conclusion

34. Against the backdrop of the wider economic environment, and savings that are being sought over the medium term, there are currently significant overspends in 2009/10 particularly in CYP&F, but also in Social & Community Services. In light of available balances it is important that these pressures are managed and reduced both in the current year and beyond. Given the spending patterns of the past couple of years it is anticipated that the Directorates will be able to balance most of these pressures, but this position will be closely monitored throughout the Service and Resource Planning process.

Charles Shouler
Cabinet Member for Finance
September 2009.

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FINANCIAL MONITORING OVERVIEW
STRATEGY & PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 24 September 2009
REVENUE BUDGETS, FORECASTS AND VARIATION BY DIRECTORATE

Annex 1

Ref	Directorate	BUDGET 2009/10					Outturn Forecast Year end Spend/Income	Projected Year end Variation	Profiled Budget (Net) July 2009	Actual Expenditure (Net) July 2009	Variation to Budget July 2009	Projected Year end Variance Traffic Light Indicator
		Original Budget	Brought Forward from 2008/09 Surplus + Deficit -	Virements to Date	Supplementary Estimates to Date	Latest Estimate						
(1)	(2)	£000 (3)	£000 (4)	£000 (5)	£000 (6)	£000 (7)	£000 (8)	£000 (9)	£000 (10)	£000 (11)	£000 (12)	(13)
	Children, Young People & Families											
	Gross Expenditure	501,408	-867	11,486	0	512,621	518,113	5,492	172,632	167,399	-5,233	A
	Gross Income	-403,131	0	-11,508	215	-415,018	-414,967	51	-140,223	-178,639	-38,416	G
	Net Expenditure	98,277	-867	-22	215	97,603	103,146	5,543	32,409	-11,240	-43,649	R
	Social & Community Services											
	Gross Expenditure	212,820	1,094	-1,543	0	212,371	213,715	1,344	70,839	62,040	-8,799	G
	Gross Income	-46,394	0	1,041	0	-45,353	-45,353	0	-15,242	-15,517	-275	G
	Net Expenditure	166,426	1,094	-502	0	167,018	168,362	1,344	55,597	46,523	-9,074	G
	Supporting People											
	Gross Expenditure	12,571	0	0	0	12,571	12,571	0	4,440	4,273	-167	G
	Gross Income	-12,197	0	0	0	-12,197	-12,197	0	-4,066	-7,276	-3,210	G
	Net Expenditure	374	0	0	0	374	374	0	374	-3,003	-3,377	G
	Environment & Economy											
	Gross Expenditure	98,435	966	572	0	99,973	99,725	-249	33,325	30,083	-3,242	G
	Gross Income	-29,804	0	-398	0	-30,202	-29,672	530	-10,067	-9,136	931	A
	Net Expenditure	68,631	966	174	0	69,771	70,053	282	23,257	20,947	-2,310	G
	Community Safety & Shared Services											
	Gross Expenditure	54,024	820	653	0	55,497	55,537	40	18,498	18,350	-148	G
	Gross Income	-24,116	0	-746	0	-24,862	-24,862	0	-8,287	-8,286	1	G
	Net Expenditure	29,908	820	-93	0	30,635	30,675	40	10,211	10,064	-147	G
	Corporate Core											
	Gross Expenditure	35,212	352	-326	0	35,238	35,238	0	11,744	18,268	6,524	G
	Gross Income	-25,786	0	834	0	-24,952	-24,952	0	-8,319	-9,554	-1,235	G
	Net Expenditure	9,426	352	508	0	10,286	10,286	0	3,425	8,714	5,289	G
	Less recharges to other Directorates	-30,191	0	0	0	-30,191	-30,191	0	-7,200	0	7,200	G
		30,191	0	0	0	30,191	30,191	0	7,200	0	-7,200	G
	Directorate Expenditure Total	884,279	2,365	10,842	0	898,080	904,708	6,628	304,278	300,413	-3,865	G
	Directorate Income Total	-511,237	0	-10,777	215	-522,393	-521,812	581	-179,005	-228,408	-49,403	G
	Directorate Total Net	373,042	2,365	65	215	375,687	382,896	7,209	125,273	72,005	-53,268	G

Less: City Schools Reorganisation
Less: DSG funded services overspend (included above)
Less: DSG reallocation to core areas
In-Year Directorate Variation

-775
-1,303
-1,118
4,013

Budget	On track to be within +/- 1% of year end budget	G
	On track to be within +/- 5% of year end budget	A
	Estimated outturn showing variance in excess of +/- 5% of year end budget	R