
Decision Maker: PUBLIC PROTECTION & ENFORCEMENT PORTFOLIO
HOLDER

**For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by Public Protection & Enforcement PDS
Committee on:**

Date: 16th March 2021

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: BUDGET MONITORING 2020/21

Contact Officer: Keith Lazarus, Head of Finance ECS & Corporate
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Chief Officer: Colin Brand, Director of Environment & Public Protection

Ward: (All Wards);

1. Reason for report

This report provides an update of the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2020/21 for the Public Protection & Enforcement Portfolio, based on expenditure and activity levels up to 31 December 2020.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Public Protection & Enforcement Portfolio Holder is requested to:

- 2.1 Endorse the latest 2020/21 revenue budget monitoring for the Public Protection & Enforcement Portfolio.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: None directly from this report.
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Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Sound financial management
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council Quality Environment
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable
 2. Ongoing costs: Recurring Cost
 3. Budget head/performance centre: All Public Protection & Enforcement Portfolio Budgets
 4. Total current budget for this head: £3.25m
 5. Source of funding: Revenue budgets 2020/21
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 46.3fte
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement: The statutory duties relating to financial reporting are covered within the Local Government Act 1972; the Local Government Finance Act 1998; the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996; the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Government Act 2002
 2. Call-in: Applicable
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: N/A
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): The services covered in this report affect all Council Taxpayers, Business Ratepayers, those who owe general income to the Council, all staff, Members and Pensioners.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 This report sets out the results of the latest quarterly revenue budget monitoring exercise for the 2020/21 financial year for the Public Protection & Enforcement Portfolio based on financial information available as at 31 December 2020.
- 3.2 It should be noted the impact of Covid-19 on the Portfolio's budgets is not included as these details are reported separately to the Executive.
- 3.3 The projected outturn is detailed in Appendix 1A, which shows the forecast spend for each division within the Portfolio compared to the latest approved budget. Whilst Portfolio's overall budget is projected to be in balance, there are a number of offsetting variations within this as summarised in the table below:

	£'000
Staffing	Cr 128
Running costs	Cr 90
Contracted services	Cr 38
HMO licencing income	Cr 39
CCTV camera upgrades	295
Net Variation	-

- 3.4 Appendix 1B provides further detail and commentary on each of the projected variations within each service.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The "Building a Better Bromley" objective of being an Excellent Council refers to the Council's intention to provide efficient services and to have a financial strategy that focuses on stewardship and sustainability. Delivering Value for Money is one of the Corporate Operating Principles supporting Building a Better Bromley.
- 4.2 The "2020/21 Council Tax" report highlighted the financial pressures facing the Council. It remains imperative that strict budgetary control continues to be exercised to minimise the risk of compounding financial pressures in future years.
- 4.3 Chief Officers and Departmental Heads of Finance are continuing to place emphasis on the need for strict compliance with the Council's budgetary control and monitoring arrangements.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 A detailed breakdown of the projected outturn by service area is shown in Appendix 1A with explanatory notes in Appendix 1B.
- 5.2 No overall variation is projected on the Portfolio's budget based on the information available as at 31 December 2020.

6 COMMENTS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC PROTECTION

- 6.1 Like the rest of the Council, the Covid-19 pandemic and resultant restrictions have impacted on economic activity and impact on some of the Portfolio's services.
- 6.2 Although cases have again started to decrease and the current restrictions will begin to be eased, uncertainty remains. Nor it is yet clear what the longer term wider economic impacts will be and how this will affect services later in the year and beyond.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Legal, Personnel & Procurement Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	2020/21 budget monitoring files within E&CS Finance section