

Children, Education and Families Portfolio Budget Monitoring Summary

2019/20 Actuals £'000	Service Areas	2020/21 Original Budget £'000	2020/21 Final Approved £'000	2020/21 Provisional Outturn £'000	Variation £'000	Notes	Variation Last Reported £'000	Full Year Effect £'000
	PEOPLE DEPARTMENT							
	Education Division							
Cr 350	Adult Education Centres	Cr 401	Cr 376	Cr 423	Cr 47	1	Cr 61	0
543	Schools and Early Years Commissioning & QA	715	715	644	Cr 71	2	Cr 90	0
8,206	SEN and Inclusion	6,597	6,949	6,827	Cr 122	3	263	0
74	Strategic Place Planning	103	103	126	23	4	0	0
8	Workforce Development & Governor Services	Cr 29	Cr 29	Cr 30	Cr 1		0	0
356	Access & Inclusion	156	156	202	46	5	2	0
Cr 1,243	Schools Budgets	Cr 1,528	Cr 1,528	Cr 1,416	112	6	0	0
10	Other Strategic Functions	717	217	146	Cr 71	7	Cr 12	0
7,604		6,330	6,207	6,076	Cr 131		102	0
	Children's Social Care							
1,427	Bromley Youth Support Programme	1,526	1,533	1,313	Cr 220	8	0	0
920	Early Intervention and Family Support	1,178	1,187	856	Cr 331		Cr 64	0
6,580	CLA and Care Leavers	6,252	6,326	6,379	53		271	664
16,846	Fostering, Adoption and Resources	16,808	16,808	16,919	111		183	3,474
3,581	Referral and Assessment Service	3,410	3,315	3,377	62		12	0
2,943	Safeguarding and Care Planning East	2,768	2,664	2,956	292		21	0
5,163	Safeguarding and Care Planning West	5,389	5,255	5,377	122		61	0
1,071	Safeguarding and Quality Improvement Management Action	Cr 1,454	Cr 1,056	Cr 889	167		Cr 156	0
38,531		35,877	36,032	36,288	256		268	4,138
46,135	TOTAL CONTROLLABLE FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES	42,207	42,239	42,364	125		370	4,138
8,817	Total Non-Controllable	1,812	8,893	8,893	0		0	0
8,541	Total Excluded Recharges	8,693	8,531	8,531	0		0	0
63,493	TOTAL CHILDREN, EDUCATION & FAMILIES PORTFOLIO	52,712	59,663	59,788	125		370	4,138
	Memorandum Item							
	Sold Services							
37	Education Psychology Service (RSG Funded)	Cr 115	Cr 35	80	115	9	233	0
43	Education Welfare Service (RSG Funded)	Cr 24	Cr 28	Cr 4	24		6	0
8	Workforce Development (DSG/RSG Funded)	Cr 31	Cr 30	1	31		0	0
27	Community Vision Nursery (RSG Funded)	61	61	0	Cr 61		Cr 30	0
47	Blenheim Nursery (RSG Funded)	94	92	Cr 2	Cr 94		Cr 24	0
162	Total Sold Services	Cr 15	60	75	15		185	0

REASONS FOR VARIATIONS**1. Adult Education - Cr £47k**

The underspend in Adult Education is due to reduced activity that includes a reduction in the exam expenditure (£78k) and income (£51k) for the year. This is offset by additional staffing costs of £82k.

Due to the COVID-19 lockdown all of the training courses in the summer term were delivered online. Since the start of the new academic year most of the training courses have returned to the classroom with smaller class sizes. The small number of remaining courses are either delivered as blended or online courses.

2. Schools and Early Years Commissioning & QA - Cr £71k

Early Years Service has underspend on staffing of £38k.

There is a non-ringfenced government grant that has not been spent in full during the year that has led to a further underspend of £32k.

The remaining underspend relates to running costs of £1k.

3. SEN and Inclusion - Cr £122k

The SEN Transport has underspent by £715k. This is following an extra £363k added to the budget to support the anticipated extra costs of renewing the transport contracts from the start of the new academic year. COVID has had an effect on the service this year, as the routes have been intermittent due to lockdown restrictions throughout the year. As the service returns back to 'normal' it is expected that this variance will not continue going forward.

The Education Psychologists have made progress in recruiting to the vacant posts in their team. The use of agency staff during the year has caused both the statutory service they are required to provide to overspend by £18k and the Trading Service they offer to the Schools to overspend by £80k. This is a net overspend of £98k. The remaining overspend has resulted from increases in staffing and support roles due to the increases in EHCP's in year. Additionally there were overspends on various running costs (including contracts payments) of £99k. This was offset by a small over collection of income of £9k.

The remaining underspend relates to running costs of £2k.

4. Strategic Place Planning - Dr £23k

The overspend is due to various running cost overspends.

5. Access & Inclusion - Dr £46k

Access and Inclusion Service has an overspend of £46k during the year. This is due to an overspend on staffing of £84k, with a underspend on Mainstream pupil transport of £44k.

The remaining overspend relates to running costs of £6k.

6. Other Strategic Functions - Cr £71k

The service has underspent by £71k. This is due to an overspend of £93k in staffing costs, that has been offset by an underspend in running costs of £273k during the year.

Additional, there is an overspend of £109k on modular classroom rental costs.

7. Schools Budgets (no impact on General Fund)

Expenditure on Schools is funded through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) provided by the Department for Education (DfE). DSG is ring fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget. Any overspend or underspend must be carried forward to the following years Schools Budget.

The DSG overspend in year is £4,021k. This will be offset by the £1,733k carried forward from 2019/20. There is also an adjustment of £301k of additional income to the carry forward figure for an Early Years Prior Year Adjustment. It was also agreed to use £252k of the brought forward balances to support the services in-year. It was also agreed to use the £1,100k of this years DSG allocation that was set aside to support future years pressures in year as the pressures were emerging faster than anticipated. This gives us an estimated DSG deficit balance to be carry forward of £1,139k into the new financial year. It should be noted that the DSG can fluctuate due to pupils requiring additional services or being placed in expensive placements.

The in-year overspend is broken down as follows:-

The in-year underspend on Early Years payments was £371k. This is split between the 2 years old funding (underspend of £70k) and 3 & 4 year old Funding (underspend of £301k).

There is currently projected to be an underspend of £83k in the Primary Support Team which is mainly due to staffing.

The Home and Hospital service has a projected overspend of £317k and this is mainly due to the need to use of agency staff to support the number of children being directly looked after by the team.

SEN placements has overspend by a total of £3,263k. These overspends are split as follows:-

Residential Placements - £366k

Top-Up Funding - £2,232k

Alternative Provisions - £665k

There is an overspend of £492k on the Schools Funding area for High Needs. This is for additional places at schools to prevent the need to place children in higher cost placements.

The Post 16 placements have overspend by £1,053k.

The High Needs Pre-school Service has underspend by £87k for the year which relates mostly to staffing.

The Darrick Wood Hearing Unit has overspent this year by £24k. Most of the overspend relates to additional staffing costs, but there is also a small amount that relates to running costs. This has been offset by underspends at SENIF, Sensory Support, and the Outreach & Inclusion Service are other areas across within SEN. The net effect of these cost centres is a £575k underspend.

There is also a small overspend of £12k in total.

	Variations £'000	High Needs £'000	Schools £'000	Early Years £'000	Central £'000
Free Early Education - 2 year olds	-70	0	0	-70	0
Free Early Education - 3 & 4 year olds (Inc. extr	-301	0	0	-301	0
Primary Support Team	-83	0	0	0	-83
Home & Hospital	317	317	0	0	0
Other Small Balances	5	0	2	0	3
SEN:					
- Placements & Alternative Programmes	1,031	1,031	0	0	0
- Top-Up Funding	2,232	2,232	0	0	0
- Support in FE colleges	1,053	1,053	0	0	0
- School Funding	492	492	0	0	0
- High Needs Pre-school Service	-87	-87	0	0	0
- Sensory Support	-68	-68	0	0	0
- SEN Inclusion Fund (SENIF)	-116	0	0	-116	0
- Darrick Wood Hearing Unit	24	24	0	0	0
- Outreach & Inclusion Service	-85	-85	0	0	0
- SEN Staff	-330	-330	0	0	0
- Other Small SEN Balances	7	8	0	0	0
Total	4,021	4,587	2	-487	-80

There will continue to be pressures in the DSG from 2021/22 onwards, especially in the High Needs Block. More children are coming through the system which will put additional pressure on DSG resources.

8. Children's Social Care - Dr £256k

The final budget variation for the Children and Families Division is an overspend of £256k. This is a decrease of £12k in the overspend reported previously which was £268k. Despite additional funding being secured in the 2020/21 budget, increases in the number of children being looked after together with the high cost of some placements has continued to put considerable strain on the budget.

Bromley Youth Support Programme - CR £220k

The underspend in this area is mainly due to the correction of the treatment to income that has meant extra income being realised in this years accounts resulting in an over collection of income of £250k. There is also an underspend on running costs of £20k. These underspends are offset by an overspend of £50k of staffing as additional support is going into the service as there is an anticipated inspection

Early Intervention and Family Support - Cr £331k

The underspend in this area of £331k relates to £140k underspend on staffing, £175k underspend on running costs (including premises and commissioning costs), and a small over collection of income (£16k).

CLA and Care Leavers - Dr £53k

The overspend in this area relates to Children Looked After placement support costs of £3k, accommodation costs of £17k and £55k on running costs that includes the cost of consultants. To offset this there is a £22k underspend on Staying Put.

Fostering, Adoption and Resources - Dr £111k

The final position for this area is an overspend of £111k. This is due to a net overspend of £2k across all of the various Residential, Fostering and Adoption Placements.

There is a £54k overspend on Regional Adoption Agency fees

Additional there are overspends of £55k on running costs

The budget for children's placements (Residential, Fostering and Adoption Placements) is projected to overspent this year, The analysis of this over the various placement types is shown below.

- Community Home's / Community Home's with Education - Cr £397k (Cr £870k)
- Boarding Schools - Dr £35k (Dr £94k)
- Secure Accommodation - Cr £272k (Cr £408k)
- Youth on Remand - Cr £697k (Cr £250k)
- Fostering services (IFA's) - Dr £1,443k (Dr £1,699k)
- Fostering services (In-house, including SGO's and Kinship) - Cr £23k (Cr £90k)
- Adoption placements - Cr £44k (Cr £44k)
- Transport and Outreach Services - Cr £43k (Dr £0k)

Referral and Assessment Service - Dr £62k

The overspend of £62k in this area that relates to support to families overspend of £11k and an overspend of £55k on running costs that This is being offset by an underspend of £4k on the subsistence and accommodation of NRPF.

Safeguarding and Care Planning East - Dr £292k

The overspend in this area of £292k relates PLO including pre-court assessments (£212k), support to families overspend of £25k and an overspend of £55k on running costs that includes the cost of consultants.

Safeguarding and Care Planning West- Dr £122k

The overspend in this area of £122k relates to a £44k overspend in Children's Disabilities Services, support to families overspend of £25k and an overspend of £53k on running costs that includes the cost of consultants regarding YOT and Ofsted.

Safeguarding and Quality Improvement - Dr £167k

This area has overspent by £167k and this is due to overspends of £87k on staffing and £80k on running costs including an increase in contribution to the BSCP and costs relating to the use of consultants for Ofsted review and preparation work.

9. Sold Services (net budgets)

Services sold to schools are separately identified in this report to provide clarity in terms of what is being provided. These accounts are shown as memorandum items as the figures are included in the appropriate Service Area in the main report.

Waiver of Financial Regulations

The Council's Contract Procedure Rules state that where the value of a contract exceeds £50k and is to be exempt from the normal requirement to obtain competitive quotations the Chief Officer has to obtain the agreement of the Director of Corporate Services, the Director of Finance and the Director of Commissioning and (where over £100,000) approval of the Portfolio Holder and report use of this exemption to Audit Sub-Committee bi-annually. Since the last report to the Executive, in Children's Social Care there were 7 waivers agreed for placements of between £50k and £100k, 2 between £100k and £150k, 1 between £150k and £200k and 10 for more than £200k.

Virements Approved to date under Director's Delegated Powers

Details of virements actioned by Chief Officers under delegated authority under the Financial Regulations "Scheme of Virement" will be included in financial monitoring reports to the Portfolio Holder. Since the last report to Executive, there have been no virements.