

GENERAL FUND - PROVISIONAL OUTTURN FOR 2023/24

Portfolio	2023/24	Budget	2023/24		2023/24	Variation	
	Original Budget	Variations allocated in year #	Approved Budget	Latest	Provisional Outturn	reported	previously reported Exec
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adult Care & Health	84,178	1,754	85,932	87,243	1,311	1,925	
Children, Education & Families (incl. Schools' Budget)	55,253	3,064	58,317	65,224	6,907	7,721	
Environment & Community	38,033	1,305	39,338	39,348	10	552	
Public Protection & Enforcement	3,228	129	3,357	3,204	Cr 153	0	
Renewal, Recreation & Housing	15,611	684	16,295	21,898	5,603	3,721	
Resources, Commissioning & Contracts Management	48,840	481	49,321	49,368	47	287	
Total Controllable Budgets	245,143	7,417	252,560	266,285	13,725	14,206	
Capital, Insurance & Pensions Costs (see note 2)	16,604	Cr 14,699	1,905	1,812	Cr 93	0	
Non General Fund Recharges	Cr 938	Cr 11	Cr 949	Cr 949	0	0	
Total Portfolios (see note 1)	260,809	Cr 7,293	253,516	267,148	13,632	14,206	
Adjustment for Carry forwards from 2023/24 to 2024/25	0	0	0	888	888	0	
Reversal of net Capital Charges (see note 2)	Cr 9,878	9,878	0	0	0	0	
	250,931	2,585	253,516	268,036	14,520	14,206	
Central Items:							
Income from Investment Properties	Cr 8,777	2,391	Cr 6,386	Cr 6,386	0	0	
Interest on General Fund Balances	Cr 9,841	0	Cr 9,841	Cr 14,715	Cr 4,874	Cr 4,500	
Total Investment Income	Cr 18,618	2,391	Cr 16,227	Cr 21,101	Cr 4,874	Cr 4,500	
Contingency Provision (see Appendix 4)	26,631	Cr 13,392	13,239	0	Cr 13,239	Cr 9,619	
Other central items							
Additional Capital Grants Funding Rev Exp under statute	Cr 4,832	4,832	0	0	0	0	
New Homes Bonus Support for Revenue	9	0	9	9	0	0	
Homes for Ukraine allocation	0	0	0	Cr 2,200	Cr 2,200	Cr 2,200	
Contribution to earmarked reserves future cost pressures HFU	0	0	0	2,200	2,200	2,200	
Dual running of Civic Centres	0	1,923	1,923	1,306	Cr 617	0	
Transfer of funding to capital programme	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0	
Transfer of funding to capital programme - Library	0	244	244	244	0	0	
Levies	1,301	0	1,301	1,301	0	0	
Total other central items	Cr 3,522	8,999	5,477	4,860	Cr 617	0	
Carry Forwards from 2023/24 to 2024/25	0	0	0	Cr 888	Cr 888	0	
Prior Year Adjustments							
Energy and utilities cost pressure in Housing	0	0	0	0	0	Cr 173	
Release of Prior Year Provisions - ASC	0	0	0	295	295	0	
Grant repayment provision no longer required - various	0	0	0	Cr 569	Cr 569	0	
Bad debt provision no longer required (Car parking)	0	0	0	Cr 3,288	Cr 3,288	0	
Total Prior Year Adjustments	0	0	0	Cr 3,562	Cr 3,562	Cr 173	
Total all central items	4,491	Cr 2,002	2,489	Cr 19,803	Cr 22,292	Cr 14,292	
Bromley's Requirement before balances	255,422	583	256,005	248,233	Cr 7,772	Cr 86	
Carry Forwards from 2022/23 (see note 3)	0	Cr 583	Cr 583	0	583	644	
Adjustment to Balances	0	0	0	0	Cr 0	Cr 147	
	255,422	0	255,422	248,233	Cr 7,189	411	
Business Rates Retention Scheme (Retained Income, Top-up and S31 Grants)	Cr 47,000	0	Cr 47,000	Cr 43,929	3,071	0	
Additional one off business rate adj (LGovt Settlement)	0	0	0	Cr 401	Cr 401	Cr 411	
Use of Business Rate Risk Reserve	0	0	0	Cr 2,670	Cr 2,670	0	
New Homes Bonus	Cr 9	0	Cr 9	Cr 9	0	0	
One off 2023/24 Services Grant	Cr 1,556	0	Cr 1,556	Cr 1,556	0	0	
Council Tax Support - Collection Fund surplus	Cr 2,300	0	Cr 2,300	Cr 2,300	0	0	
Use of Specific Earmarked reserve to fund additional Social Workers	Cr 870	0	Cr 870	0	870	0	
Collection Fund Surplus	Cr 14,511	0	Cr 14,511	Cr 8,192	6,319	0	
Bromley's Requirement	189,176	0	189,176	189,176	Cr 0	0	
GLA Precept	58,215	0	58,215	58,215	0	0	
Council Tax Requirement	247,391	0	247,391	247,391	Cr 0	0	

Budget Variations allocated to portfolios in year consists of:

1) Carry forwards from 2022/23	583	(see note 3)
2) Capital, Insurance and Pension Accounting requirements	Cr 9,878	(see note 2)
3) Allocations from the central contingency provision	2,002	(see Appendix 4)
	Cr 7,293	

1) NOTES

Portfolio Final Approved Budgets analysed over Departments as follows:

	2023/24	Budget	2023/24	2023/24	Variation
	Original Budget	Variations allocated in year #	Approved Budget	Projected Outturn	reported previously
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
People Department	155,814	3,628	159,442	167,315	7,873
Place Department	81,753	Cr 10,622	71,131	77,163	6,032
Chief Executive's Department	23,242	Cr 299	22,943	22,670	Cr 273
	260,809	Cr 7,293	253,516	267,148	13,632

2) Reversal of net Capital Charges

This is to reflect the technical accounting requirements contained in CIPFA's Code of Practice for Local Authority Accounting and has no impact on the Council's General Fund.

3) Carry Forwards from 2022/23

Carry forwards from 2022/23 into 2023/24 totalling £644k were approved by Council and the Executive. Full details were reported to the July meeting of the Executive in the "Provisional Final Accounts 2022/23" report.

Comments from the Director of Environmental Services & PPE

The key departmental budgetary pressures are sitting within Highways, Parking Services and Arboriculture. The weather over the last year impacted heavily on service delivery with the hottest June on record, and more than our fair share of rain with impactful storms like Babet and Ciaran affecting a range of front-line operations and then, albeit a short but very cold winter spell that again disrupted front line operations. In particular, the highways maintenance service, street and drainage cleaning, grounds maintenance and trees required additional non-routine works during the past year.

The trend in the reduction in waste volumes has continued with waste officers confirming that waste volumes have continued to hold at pre-Covid levels. The income through recycled material has fluctuated this year, particularly with processing recycled paper with a reduction in commodity prices over the year. Material prices can vary and whilst an over achievement was made for 2022/23, this position cannot be guaranteed going forward.

Pothole repairs have added a pressure on the Highways budgets. The number of highways defects (carriageway and footway) has nearly doubled in the first 6 months of the year and these projects have statutory requirements.

There was a downward trend in numbers of vehicles parking in our car parks, reflecting national trends. Officers will continue to monitor and analyse the data trends to ensure the correct tariffs are in place to help with demand per location. The longer term trend means that income is unlikely to return to budgeted levels and future budget setting should take account of this.

The TfL LIP grant has, it seems, settled to a consistent level, but at about 40% less than it was pre-2020. This means fewer highway improvement schemes can be undertaken, along with less road safety education, and several posts are held vacant accordingly.

Public Protection maintained a stable position throughout 2023-24.

A key challenge has been overcoming the national shortage of professional officers with the skills required within Public Protection. Agency has been used to backfill with limited success as there is also a shortage of competent temporary staff. To mitigate alternative, commissioned service provision is being piloted within Environmental Protection and Food Safety.

Comments from the Director of Adult Social Care

As can be seen, pressures on the budget have continued but at the end of Q4 show a slightly improved position. There remain three main pressure areas, hospital discharge, community equipment and costs relating to the transition of young people into adult services.

Whilst pressures are being managed in relation to hospital discharge, the current pressures within the health system may have a knock on to the adult's budget. Systems are in place to monitor this on a very regular basis and any impacts will be challenged and managed through the One Bromley Executive. The Director is currently chairing this board so has a direct influence on information provided to the board for all partners. Where appropriate, funding has been drawn down from joint pots of money with health to minimise the impact on the Councils budget.

The new Integrated Community Equipment Service continues to generate some concerns and alternative options for the delivery of this service are currently being explored, including managing a move away from the current collaborative approach across London. The risk highlighted at the end of the last quarter around the non-payment of credits did not materialise and all credits were received before the end of the financial year.

It is important to note also that the Directorate overdelivered against the Transformation savings, which is credit to all staff within the Directorate at a time of increased demand and cost. I am proud of what has been delivered within the year.

Comments from the Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration

£1,589k of growth was included in the housing budget for 2023/24 to reflect the continuing pressures in relation to homelessness and the provision of temporary accommodation. A total of £1,745k savings was also included to mitigate these pressures.

Despite ongoing prevention work, the number of homeless approaches is starting to rise with an increase of 210 new approaches during the first half of 2023/24 compared to the same period in the preceding year. This is projected to equate to a 10% rise for the financial year.

The supply of temporary accommodation is under increased pressure meaning that the majority of new placements can only be secured through the nightly paid market. There is increased pressure on nightly paid accommodation rates across London and the South East which have risen steeply during the past 12 months with roughly a 30% increase in average rates. The Council is now regularly being forced to make emergency placements into commercial hotels as there is simply insufficient accommodation becoming readily available. This has resulted in a £4,806k overspend on temporary accommodation in 2023/24, with a £5,296k overspend on housing overall. As has been reported, work is ongoing to increase the supply of affordable housing to continue to mitigate and reduce the current pressures relating to temporary accommodation particularly in relation to the increased ability to secure leased accommodation within temporary accommodation subsidy rates.

A substantial part of Planning Services' work attracts a fee income for the Council, for example the planning application fees. The fee income and volume of work reflects the wider economic circumstances affecting development pressures in the Borough. There is a risk of income variation beyond the Council's immediate control; however, trends are regularly monitored in order that appropriate action can be taken. Action has successfully been taken to negate the risk of Government Designation for Special Measures due to Planning performance for the current year. However, this is based on the actions identified being implemented to reduce the risk of Government Designation in future years.

There is a risk of substantial planning appeal costs being awarded against the Council by the Planning Inspectorate if the Council is found to have acted unreasonably. For major appeals, which can arise unpredictably, there is often a need for specialist external consultant's advice which creates additional costs.

The key risks in the Renewal, Recreation and Housing Portfolio continue to be:

- i) Increased homelessness and the associated costs particularly relating to the increased demand for placements from all London Councils. In particular significant increases in the cost of procuring temporary accommodation.
- ii) Increased rent arrears arising from inflation and increased costs of utilities and so forth
- iii) Reduced vacant housing association properties coming forward for letting and insufficient capacity within the private sector to meet the shortfall.
- iv) Increased maintenance and repairs costs in relation to the travellers site required to maintain health and safety standards.
- v) Increases being seen in construction and maintenance costs.

Comments from the Director of Childrens Services

The Children, Education and Families Portfolio has a projected overspend of £6,907k for the year.

The Education Division (core funding) has a projected overspend of £669k.

SEN Transport continues to be a risk area. There are a number of causal factors affecting the position on transport:

An increase in number and complexity of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities over the past five years. The national increase in EHCPs is widely acknowledged as unsustainable and the rate of increase is accelerating across the country. In Bromley, the rate of increase had reached 17% in 2021/22. We have taken significant steps to reduce the rate of increase in EHCPs, including the introduction of new guidance on Ordinarily Available Provision and the expectations of support before statutory assessment is considered. This multi-agency approach has helped to reduce the rate of increase to 10% (January 2022-January 2023). Furthermore, we have put in place additional measures over the past 12 months to support families and provide alternative services at an earlier stage. Nevertheless, we continue to see the impact of increasing numbers of EHCPs, leading to c120 additional children or young people requiring transport in the financial year 2023/24. This pressure is exacerbated by the shortage of local specialist provision leading to high numbers of placements to out of Borough and independent non-maintained providers, which increases transport costs.

The complexity of children and young people's needs continues to be at a higher level than prior to the Covid pandemic. These high levels of demand have continued for the past 3 years. A number of these cases have acute social, emotional and mental health needs, which require specialist provision which is typically costly independent provision outside of Bromley. Transport is often required and although officers seek to minimise costs, transport is often statutorily required to meet children's needs.

There are continued transport provider pressures linked to the cost of fuel and wages. The reduced availability of drivers has resulted in more expensive providers having to be used from the call off framework.

Significant management action has been taken to reduce the costs of SEN Transport. Following agreement by Members within 2022/23, the implementation of these measures has led to cost reductions as per the savings targets in the MTFS.

There is a current projected in year overspend in Education (DSG funding) of £3,516k in year. This will be added to the £12,706k carried forward in the reserves from 2022/23. This gives us an estimated DSG reserve of £16,222k at the end of the financial year.

The in-year deficit position for 2023/24 was lower than forecast, reflecting effective management action taken, with the support of Finance officers. In June we will meet again with representatives from the DfE to review our management of the DSG over-spend. At all previous meetings, DfE officials confirmed that they were satisfied with the steps that we continue to take and are content to meet with Bromley on an annual basis. DfE officials were asked whether their experience directly monitoring 20-30 other LAs through Safety Valve and Delivering Better Value highlighted any additional mitigations for Bromley to consider, but none were put forward.

The impact of additional legal duties from the SEND Reforms, has led to unsustainable financial pressures on High Needs costs within the DSG. The increase in Government funding is not sufficient to meet the increased costs. We are aware that Bromley was one of the last London Boroughs to incur a deficit in the DSG, with some local authorities having incurred deficits well in excess of £30m. The SEND legal framework is heavily weighted in favour of parental preference, which is often for costly independent day and residential provision. We continue to assess all cases carefully and with a view to carefully balancing the education needs of young people and ensuring the best value for money from specialist education placements. Where it is appropriate to do so we continue to defend our decisions at Tribunal.

The demand management mitigations referenced earlier in this report are anticipated to have a sustained impact on the further growth in costs of provision for children and young people with an EHCP. We have sought to commission additional local specialist provision, including a new special free school, with successive delays encountered for this DfE-led capital scheme. The needs and tribunal challenges are such that we have no choice but to continue placing children in more costly provision to ensure we are not in default of our legal statutory duties.

A review of High Needs Funding Bands is nearing conclusion, with oversight from the SEND Governance Board and CEF PDS. Recommendations will be made how the funding bands can be simplified and to identify where any savings can be made. We continue to work on increases to local specialist provision, including the special free school and increases in Additionally Resourced Provisions, which are specialist classes within mainstream schools.

In Children's Social Care the projected overspend is £6,238k.

The ongoing pressures that relate to emotional and mental health concerns for young people, combined with the impact of inflation and cost of living pressures continues, especially in respect of contacts into our MASH. These continue to remain consistently around 1,100 -1,200 contacts per month with little sign of a reduction. This compares to around 600 in April 2020 and it is the increasing complexity of need from the families and children that have an added dimension.

Although much reduced from the previous year, the financial pressures across CSC continue to be primarily driven by placement costs for young people and by the cost of agency staff.

Nationally, the cost of residential placements increased by 18.78% in 2022/23 (ADCS 2023) as demand continues to be greater than the number of placements available, particularly for children with complex or specialist requirements. The two key factors driving increasing costs of placements to keep children safe, are the mental health of children and the criminal exploitation of children.

Although our recruitment of permanent staff has increased and we now have fewer agency staff than in the past two years, our spend on agency staff still contributes to the pressures on the CSC staffing budget. As previously outlined to PDS, we are currently exploring options for the Council to set-up its own Children's home and/or agree the block booking of beds at a competitive rate in order to more actively influence costs and sufficiency.

There also continues to be a high level of demand for support particularly in Children with Disabilities (CWD) which has meant a rise in demand for our short break provision. In response we have sought to increase the number of nights available for the number of families requiring this. Whilst these continued pressures have meant an increase in our looked after population in CWD despite the innovative and expensive care packages put in to support with health provision short breaks. The resilience for some families is now being significantly tested following two years of Covid challenges. This is primarily seen in families for children with profound and complex health and challenging sometimes aggressive behaviour.

The risks in the Children, Education & Families Portfolio are:-

Recruitment and retention of permanent staff/ ability to recruit skilled staff for the posts vacant and competitive salaries being paid at this time.

Limited supply and increasing costs of residential placements – including the specialist placements for very complex young people. The cost of placements that a Deprivation of Liberty Order (DOLS) is required are increasingly high . The judiciary still have delays with families being retained in residential placements beyond the assessment.

Continued complexity of children (SEND)

Shortage of local school places (particularly for Specialist schools).

Increasing High Needs Block expenditure not matched by a commensurate increase in Government Grant.

Adult Care and Health Portfolio Budget Monitoring Summary

2022/23 Actuals £'000	Division Service Areas	2023/24 Original Budget £'000	2023/24 Latest Approved £'000	2023/24 Projected Outturn £'000	Variation £'000	Notes	Variation Last Reported £'000	Full Year Effect £'000
PEOPLE DEPARTMENT								
Adult Social Care								
23,554	Assessment and Care Management	22,816	24,400	25,413	1,013	1	970	4,637
118	Direct Services	117	116	200	84	2	0	0
2,334	Quality Assurance & Safeguarding	2,075	2,695	2,539	Cr 156	3	Cr 160	0
43,807	Learning Disabilities	48,075	47,944	47,769	Cr 175	4	155	2,367
8,650	Mental Health	8,415	8,415	9,748	1,333	5	960	529
907	Placement and Brokerage	979	659	709	50	6	0	0
Cr 255	Better Care Fund - Protection of Social Care	0	0	Cr 123	Cr 123		0	0
79,115		82,477	84,229	86,255	2,026		1,925	7,533
Integrated Commissioning Service								
1,299	Integrated Commissioning Service Information & Early Intervention	1,400	1,400	1,297	Cr 103	7	0	0
1,205	- Net Expenditure	3,761	3,870	3,719	Cr 151	8	0	0
Cr 1,205	- Recharge to Better Care Fund	Cr 3,756	Cr 3,735	Cr 4,196	Cr 461		0	0
Better Care Fund								
25,602	- Expenditure	28,226	28,048	28,048	0	9	0	0
Cr 25,622	- Income	Cr 28,246	Cr 28,068	Cr 28,068	0		0	0
Improved Better Care Fund								
10,327	- Expenditure	8,130	8,130	8,130	0	10	0	0
Cr 10,327	- Income	Cr 8,130	Cr 8,130	Cr 8,130	0		0	0
1,279		1,385	1,515	800	Cr 715		0	0
Public Health								
16,166	Public Health	15,927	16,308	16,308	0		0	0
Cr 15,876	Public Health - Grant Income	Cr 15,611	Cr 16,120	Cr 16,120	0		0	0
290		316	188	188	0		0	0
80,684	TOTAL CONTROLLABLE ADULT CARE & HEALTH	84,178	85,932	87,243	1,311		1,925	7,533
421	TOTAL NON CONTROLLABLE	559	441	441	0		0	0
4,092	TOTAL EXCLUDED RECHARGES	3,494	3,413	3,413	0		0	0
85,197	TOTAL ADULT CARE & HEALTH PORTFOLIO	88,231	89,786	91,097	1,311		1,925	7,533

Reconciliation of Latest Approved Budget

£'000

2023/24 Original Budget

88,231

Carry forwards:

Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment & Recovery Funding

- expenditure	57
- income	-57

Improved Better Care Fund (IBCF)

- expenditure	1,911
- income	-1,911

Public Health Grant

- expenditure	2,874
- income	-2,874

LD/Autism Funding from South East London ICB

- expenditure	30
- income	-30

Discharge Transformation Funding from South East London ICB

- expenditure	256
- income	-256

Winter Resilience Funding

- expenditure	400
- income	-400

Charging Reform Implementation Support Grant

- expenditure	104
- income	-104

Omicron Support Fund

- expenditure	136
- income	-136

Test and Trace service support grant

- expenditure	368
- income	-368

Contain Outbreak Management Fund grant		
- expenditure		54
- income		-54
Contingency:		
Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund		2,788
Adult Social Care Discharge Fund	Cr	1,084
Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund - Workforce Fund		
- expenditure		1,810
- income	Cr	1,810
ICB Funding for Hospital Discharges		
- expenditure		1,511
- income	Cr	1,511
Work Safe Project		
- expenditure		65
- income	Cr	65
Social Care grant re ASC reforms	Cr	720
Adult Social Care grant		1,400
Other:		
Transfer of Staff from LD Care Management to Children's 0-25 years' service	Cr	144
Transfer of Care Placements Team Staff to Children's Services	Cr	320
Wake up to Care Funding to Corporate Services	Cr	38
Public Health Funding for inflation	Cr	128
Memorandum Items:		
Capital Charges	Cr	201
Insurance		88
Repairs & Maintenance		9
Rent income	Cr	14
Excluded Recharges	Cr	81
Latest Approved Budget for 2023/24		<u><u>89,786</u></u>

1. Assessment and Care Management - Dr £1.013k

The overspend in Assessment and Care Management can be analysed as follows:

		<u>Final</u> <u>Variation</u> £'000
<u>Physical Support / Sensory Support / Memory & Cognition</u>		
Services for 65 +		
- Placements	Cr	222
- Domiciliary Care / Direct Payments		3,172
		<u>2,950</u>
Services for 18-64		
- Placements	Cr	268
- Domiciliary Care / Direct Payments		1,068
		<u>800</u>
Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund (MSIF)		
- 23/24 MSIF allocation	Cr	1,368
- 23/24 MSIF Workforce Fund allocation	Cr	1,810
		<u>3,178</u>
Hospital Discharge Packages		
- Placements		2,178
- Domiciliary Care		1,327
- Enhanced Care		1,147
- LBB Discharge Funding	Cr	654
- ICB Discharge Funding	Cr	779
- Adult Social Care Reform growth	Cr	1,000
- BCF use of underspend	Cr	1,300
- Winter Resilience funding	Cr	400
		<u>519</u>
Other		
Staffing		503
Extra Care Housing	Cr	253
Day Care	Cr	350
Adult Transport	Cr	305
Community Equipment		389
Other	Cr	62
		<u>78</u>
		<u>1,013</u>

The 2023/24 budget includes funding for the full year effect of the September 2022 overspend as reported to Members in the September Budget Monitoring report.

Services for 65+ - Dr £2,950k

Numbers in residential and nursing care were approximately 3 placements below budget during the year, finishing with an underspend of £152k. Placements continued to be made above the guide rates due to market demands, and costs were also incurred for additional 1:1 support packages required for some service users in their placements. In addition to this, emergency and temporary placements underspent by £19k and respite care by £51k.

The overall position on the domiciliary care and direct payments budgets (65+) is a final overspend of £3,172k. Domiciliary care overspent by £2,511k and direct payments by £661k.

Services for 18-64 - Dr £800k

Placements for 18-64 age group overspent by £30k this year. Offsetting this was an underspend on emergency and temporary placements of £283k and respite care of £15k.

The overall position on the domiciliary care and direct payments budgets is a final overspend of £1,068k. Domiciliary care overspent by £662k and direct payments overspent by £406k.

The Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund funding from central government has been utilised during the year to support increasing costs of services, with £3.178m made available for this purpose.

Hospital Discharge - Dr £519k

Discharges from hospital continued to follow the new pathway set up with Health ending the year with an overspend of £4,652k, split between placements of £2,178k, domiciliary care of £1,327k and enhanced domiciliary care of £1,147k.

Additional funding of £4.133m was identified during the year to offset some of this cost: Hospital Discharge funding (£654k from LBB and £779k from the ICB); use of Better Care Fund reserve (£1,300k); additional Adult Social Care Reform funding of £1m and Winter Resilience funding brought forward of £400k, resulting in a net overspend of £519k.

Officers continue to ensure that service users are moved on from these packages to normal packages of care as soon as possible, ensuring that client contributions are being maximised. Use of expensive Enhanced care packages was also reduced significantly during the year. The numbers of residents being discharged are broadly within trend for Bromley, however, the packages of care are more expensive and for longer duration. Action is ongoing to reduce the length of stays in all hospital discharge placements to reduce the costs going into 2024/25.

Staffing - Dr £503k

The final position on staffing budgets for the Assessment and Care Management Division within Adult Social Care is an overspend of £503k. A combination of the use of more expensive agency staff and the non-achievement of the turnover saving (due to not carrying vacancies) of 3% built into the budget has resulted in this overspend.

Extra Care Housing - Cr £253k

Extra Care Housing underspent by £253k as a result of the net impact of voids (reduced care hours offset by Void payments to housing provider).

Day Care - Cr £350k / Transport - Cr £305k

Day Care services underspent by £350k, with numbers attending day centres being down on pre-covid numbers as service users switched to other services (such as Direct Payments) when the centres were closed during covid. This has also impacted the transport budget, which is showing a final underspend of £305k.

Community Equipment - Dr £389k

The community equipment budget has ended the year with a net overspend of £389k. A gross pressure of £1,732k is reported, which has been offset by an additional contribution from the ICB of £275k and a drawdown from Health reserves of £1.068m. There are expected to be continued pressures on this budget going into 2024/25.

Other - Cr £62k

The budget for administration of the Taxicard scheme run by London Councils underspent by £35k at year end. Additionally there were other minor under and overspends within Assessment and Care Management, across various premises and supplies and services budgets, that underspent by a net £27k.

2. Direct Services - Dr £84k

The Reablement Service ended the year with a small overspend of £9k relating mainly to staffing costs, due to increased activity in the service.

The Carelink Service ended the year with an overspend of £75k. Staffing costs were overspent by £7k, supplies and services underspent by £42k and income underachieved by £110k.

3. Quality Assurance & Safeguarding - Cr £156k

The final year end outturn for QA&S is an underspend of £156k. and is due to the following factors :-

The combined budget for DoLS assessments has ended the year with an underspend of £305k.

Staffing across the teams within the service has overspent by £100k, this includes a one off settlement

The remaining budgets across the service has resulted in an overspend of £49k, which mainly relates to Legal fees.

4. Learning Disabilities - Cr £175k

The 2023/24 Learning Disabilities (LD) budget included funding for 2023/24 demand-related pressures and the full year effect (FYE) of the 2022/23 overspend but also reductions relating to planned savings, significantly £0.5m on review of High cost placements.

An underspend of £175k achieved (Q3 £155k overspend variance forecast) based upon the current level of costs and service user numbers. Work still on-going around transitions in order to scrutinise any future impact on costs.

LD savings target of £500k built in the 2023/24 budget were achieved, in light of the outturn, with constant review of high residential and supported living placements, compounded by Direct Payments reviews.

5. Mental Health - Dr £1,333k

The 2023/24 budget included an adjustment for the full year effect of the September 2022 underspend reported to Members as part of the September Budget Monitoring report.

Placements for 65+ age group overspent by £657k (increase of £355k from Q3) on 64 service users (increased by 12 from Q3).

The overall position on the domiciliary care and direct payments budgets (65+) is an overspend of £70k. Domiciliary care overspent by £220k and direct payments to underspend by £150k. Budget will be realigned in 2024-25, with a shift from contracted service to DP.

Placements for the 18-64 age group overspent by £83k this year based on current service user numbers of 107 (also 107 in Q3), and mainly relates to placements in Nursing homes.

Domiciliary care and direct payments budgets (18-64) overspent by £343k as follows; Domiciliary care overspent by £265k and direct payments overspent by £77k. There is currently high demand with 40% of the cost invoiced in the last quarter.

There was an underspend of £85k achieved on recruitment and retention, and a £46k underspend on contingency budgets.

A savings target of £324k has not been achieved in 2023/24.

Transport costs underspent by £13k.

6. Placement and Brokerage - Dr £50k

A £50k overspend has arisen due to reliance on high cost agency staff to cover vacancies and partly utilised supernumerary post to cover work stream demands.

7. Integrated Commissioning Service - Cr £103k

Vacancy savings of £86k being one post vacant all year and another recruited into later in year.
Savings on Direct Payments contracts expenses of £17k

8. Information & Early Intervention - Cr £612k

Saving of £599k on Information and Early intervention, 22% of Primary and Secondary Intervention Services recharged to Public Health.
Saving of £13k on Primary and Secondary Intervention Service contracts.

9. Better Care Fund (BCF) - Nil variation

Other than variations on the protection of social care element, any underspends on Better Care Fund budgets will be carried forward for spending in future years under the pooled budget arrangement with South East London ICB.
The final 2023/24 allocation included a 5.66% increase above 2022/23 levels.

10. Improved Better Care Fund (IBCF) - Nil Variation

The total amount of funding available in 2023/24 is:

	£'000
2023/24 IBCF allocation	7,731
Carry forward from previous years	1,911
	<u>9,642</u>

The total spend in 23/24 was £8,014k, and therefore approval is sought to carry forward the unspent balance of £1,628k to 2024/25.

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. The Director of Adult Social Care has additional authority in respect of placements.

Since the last report to the Executive, 6 waivers for Adult placements have been agreed for between £50k and £100k and 10 for more than £100k.

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. There have been no virements since the last report to Executive.

Children, Education and Families Portfolio Budget Monitoring Summary

2022/23 Actuals £'000	Service Areas	2023/24 Original Budget £'000	2023/24 Latest Approved £'000	2023/24 Projected Outturn £'000	Variation £'000	Notes	Variation Last Reported £'000	Full Year Effect £'000
	CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND FAMILIES PORTFOLIO							
	Education Division - Core funding							
Cr 347	Adult Education Centres	Cr 430	Cr 344	Cr 304	40	1	20	0
576	Schools and Early Years Commissioning & QA	739	977	708	Cr 269	2	Cr 69	0
2,771	SEN and Inclusion	2,525	3,604	3,207	Cr 397	3	Cr 240	0
100	Strategic Place Planning	56	139	44	Cr 95	4	0	0
17	Workforce Development & Governor Services	Cr 22	Cr 2	28	30	5	0	0
7,516	Access & Inclusion	8,134	8,975	10,303	1,328	6	1,684	2,015
196	Other Strategic Functions	459	242	179	Cr 63	7	Cr 215	0
Cr 40	Central School Costs	Cr 60	Cr 60	35	95	8	0	0
10,789		11,401	13,531	14,200	669		1,180	2,015
	Children's Social Care							
1,911	Bromley Youth Support Programme	1,798	1,841	1,688	Cr 153	9	62	0
1,260	Early Intervention and Family Support	1,545	1,520	1,593	73	10	Cr 46	0
10,034	CLA and Care Leavers	11,485	12,352	12,603	251	11	831	2,526
22,122	Fostering, Adoption and Resources	23,880	24,380	25,767	1,387	12	1,794	4,545
5,184	0-25 Children Service (Disability Services)	3,714	4,313	6,017	1,704	13	1,427	1,528
5,073	Referral and Assessment Service	4,765	5,280	6,166	886	14	463	Cr 105
4,582	Safeguarding and Care Planning East	4,181	4,181	5,233	1,052	15	901	0
2,998	Safeguarding and Care Planning West	2,493	2,134	3,096	962	16	774	0
Cr 2,489	Safeguarding and Quality Improvement	Cr 6,255	Cr 6,427	Cr 6,351	76	17	335	0
50,675		47,606	49,574	55,812	6,238		6,541	8,494
61,464	TOTAL CONTROLLABLE FOR CEF CORE FUNDING	59,007	63,105	70,012	6,907		7,721	10,509
129	Total Non-Controllable	1,424	464	464	0		0	0
11,182	Total Excluded Recharges	7,208	6,165	6,165	0		0	0
72,775	TOTAL CEF PORTFOLIO CORE FUNDING	67,639	69,734	76,641	6,907		7,721	10,509
	Education Division - DSG Funding							
21,691	Schools and Early Years Commissioning & QA	21,512	22,404	20,963	Cr 1,441	18	Cr 535	0
39,401	SEN and Inclusion	40,787	40,003	43,542	3,539	19	4,501	0
3,272	Access & Inclusion	3,635	3,376	2,970	Cr 406	20	Cr 143	0
22	Strategic Place Planning	94	11	Cr 5	Cr 16	21	0	0
6	Workforce Development & Governor Services	20	0	0	0		0	0
130	Other Strategic Functions	481	348	219	Cr 129	22	Cr 1	0
Cr 97,312	Schools Budgets	Cr 103,139	Cr 104,474	Cr 100,682	3,792	23	0	0
17,840	Special Schools and Alternative Provision	18,983	19,723	18,760	Cr 963	24	0	0
7,847	Primary Schools	10,075	10,023	8,634	Cr 1,389	25	35	0
4,005	Secondary Schools	3,798	3,798	4,327	529	26	0	0
0	Charge to Reserves	0	0	Cr 3,516	Cr 3,516	27	Cr 3,857	0
Cr 3,098		Cr 3,754	Cr 4,788	Cr 4,788	0		0	0
Cr 3,098	TOTAL CONTROLLABLE FOR CEF - DSG FUNDING	Cr 3,754	Cr 4,788	Cr 4,788	0		0	0
11	Total Non-Controllable	81	14	14	0		0	0
3,087	Total Excluded Recharges	3,673	4,774	4,774	0		0	0
0	TOTAL CEF PORTFOLIO - DSG FUNDING	0	0	0	0		0	0
	TOTAL CEF PORTFOLIO	67,639	69,734	76,641	6,907		7,721	10,509

Reconciliation of Latest Approved Budget

£'000

Original Budget 2023/24

67,639

Contingency:

Carry forwards:

Deed Settlement for Hawes Down Site expenditure		5
Virtual School - CIN Grant Carry Forward expenditure	Cr	5
Homes for Ukraine DfE Grant expenditure		82
BAEC upgrading hardware and supporting software - GLA Grant expenditure	Cr	82
YOT NHS Money expenditure		1,187
COVID Recovery Grant expenditure	Cr	1,187
National Tutoring Programme expenditure		26
GLA Adult Ed Grant Repayment expenditure	Cr	26
		29
	Cr	29
		130
	Cr	130
		22
	Cr	22
		16

income	Cr	16
Supporting Families; Investing in Practice Grant		
expenditure		475
income	Cr	475
Homes for Ukraine Main Grant		
expenditure		300
income	Cr	300
Other:		
Transfer of Staff from LD Care Management to Children's 0-25 years' service		144
Transfer of Care Placements Team Staff to Children's Services		320
S31 Leaving Care Uplift Grant		
expenditure		68
income	Cr	68
GLA free school meal payment		
expenditure		6,036
income	Cr	6,036
UKSPF funding		
expenditure		275
income	Cr	275
Above Inflation Pressures on Children Placements		1,370
Drawdown of SEN Transport		1,000
Early Years Supplementary Grant		
expenditure		1,669
income	Cr	1,669
Extended Personal Advisor Grant		
expenditure		11
income	Cr	11
Homes for Ukraine Main Grant - Adult Education		
expenditure		80
income	Cr	80
Reducing Parental Conflict Grant		
expenditure		30
income	Cr	30
Adult Education GLA Grant Funding		
expenditure		82
income	Cr	82
Uplift to Youth Justice Board Grant		
expenditure		12
income	Cr	12
Change in DSG Early Years and High Needs Block		
expenditure - Early Years		1,077
expenditure - High Needs		258
income	Cr	1,335
Draw Down from Reserve to meet demand in EHCP's / High Needs		
Expenditure		525
Income	Cr	525
Increase in Fuel Costs		187
Increase in Fuel Costs		44
Autism Funding transferred from ACH		
expenditure		42
income	Cr	42
Youth Justice Grant Increase		
expenditure		3
income	Cr	3
DFE Delivery Support Fund		
expenditure		66
income	Cr	66
Strengthening Multi-Agency Leadership Grant		
expenditure		47
income	Cr	47
Supporting Families; Investing in Practice Grant		
expenditure		473
income	Cr	473
Memorandum Items:		
Capital Charges		-1,070
Insurance		-14
Repairs & Maintenance		69
Rent income		-12
Excluded Recharges		57
Latest Approved Budget for 2023/24		69,734

REASONS FOR VARIATIONS

1. Adult Education Centres - Dr £40k

This area has overspent by £40k and this is due to an shortfall of fees income of £191k. This is being offset by an underspend on staffing of £22k and £129k on running costs.

2. Schools and Early Years Commissioning & QA - Cr £269k

The in-house nursery is currently expected to overspend by £7k, and this is down to an under collection of income of £98k being offset by an underspend on staffing of £77k and running costs of £14k.

Across the rest of the service there is a £276k underspend relating to staffing (£155k) running costs (£55k) and additional income of (£66k).

3. SEN and Inclusion - Cr £397k

The staffing in this area is currently forecasting an underspend by £142k - this is due to a number of posts that are currently or have been vacant during the year. There is also an underspend of £344k on running costs that is then offset by a shortfall in income of £150k.

The Education Psychologists currently have a number of vacant posts in their team. This is causing the statutory service they are required to provide to be underspent by £300k and the Trading Service they offer to the Schools to be overspent by £239k. This is a net underspend of £61k.

4. Strategic Place Planning Cr £95k

This area has underspent by £95k and this is due to underspends on staffing of £64k and £31k on running costs.

5. Workforce Development and Governors Services - Dr £30k

This area has overspent by £30k and this is due to a shortfall of fees income of £22k, along with overspends on both staffing (£2k) and running costs (£6k).

6. Access & Inclusions - Dr £1,328k

The overspend in this area is due to the costs of SEN Transport that has overspent by £1,394k due to the increasing number of children qualifying for this service, and the under collection of income of £125k. This is then offset by underspends on staffing of £56k and other running costs of £135k.

7. Other Strategic Functions - Cr £63k

This area has underspent by £63k. This is due to underspends on staffing (£39k) and running costs of (£110k). This is then being offset by an under collection of income of £86k.

8. Central School Costs Dr £95k

This area has overspent by £95k due to an under collection of income (£51k) and overspends on running costs (£44k).

Children's Social Care - Dr £6,238k

The current budget variation for the Children's Social Care Division is projected to be an overspend of £6,238k, this is an decrease of £303k from the quarter three position. Additional funding has been identified of £1,370k during the year due to above inflationary increases in prices across the board in CSC. This has been applied but pressures/demands still remain.

9. Bromley Youth Support Programme - Cr £153k

The BYSP has underspent by £153k this year. The service is currently looking at transformational savings that have not yet been realised and this is the main cause behind the overspend on running costs of £125k. This is being offset by an underspend on staffing costs of £131k and an over collection on income of £147k.

10. Early Intervention and Family Support - Dr £73k

The service has overspent on staffing by £441k, that is then being offset but underspends on running costs of £42k and additional income of £326k.

11. CLA and Care Leavers - Dr £251k

The budget for placements in this area have overspent by £357k this year. This amount is analysed by placement type below.

- Staying Put - Dr £52k (Dr 435k)

- Direct Accommodation - Dr £821k (£Dr 1,118k)

- Placement Support Leaving Care - Cr £516k (Cr £661k)

This leave an underspend of £106k across the rest of the area, and this is made up of a £226k overspend on staffing and £523k on running costs that is then being offset by additional income of £855k.

12. Fostering, Adoption and Resources - Dr £1,387k

The budget for children's placements is currently projected to overspend by £808k this year. This amount is analysed by placement type below.

- Community Home's / Community Home's with Education - Dr £2,672k (Dr £3,169k)
- Boarding Schools - Cr £208k (Cr £184k)
- Secure Placement - Cr £209k (Cr £250k)
- Remand Placement - Cr £506 (Cr £0k)
- Fostering services (IFA's) - Dr £213k (Dr £105k)
- Fostering services (In-house, including SGO's and Kinship) - Cr £548k (Cr £833k)
- Adoption placements - Cr £197k (Cr £200k)
- Outreach Services - Cr £89k (Dr £109k)
- Transport Costs - Dr £23k (Cr £154k)
- Dom Care - Cr £343k (Cr £63k)

Additionally there is an extra £155k worth of grant income - most of which relates to the cost of the placements. This is then being offset by overspends in staffing of £689k and running cost of £45k.

13. 0-25 Children Service - Dr £1,704k

The main area of overspend was the use of Direct Payments (£296k) and Dom Care (£709k) to support our clients. There is also a overspend in staffing of £136k and running costs of £94k and an under collection of income of £469k.

14. Referral and Assessment Service Dr £886k

The main variances in this area relate to an overspend on staffing of £809k, with additional pressure on running costs of £135k. This was then offset by a £58k underspend related to No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) clients.

15. Safeguarding and Care Planning East Dr £1,052k

The budget is overspent by £1,052k, and is due to staffing overspends of £544k and £57k on running costs. Additionally there is an overspend of £451k related to various costs related to supporting our clients.

16. Safeguarding and Care Planning West Dr £962k

The variances in this area relates to an overspend on staffing of £942k and £20k on running costs.

17. Safeguarding and Quality Improvement Dr £76k

The overspend of £76k in this area mainly relates to a shortfall in fees income of £187k that were then offset by underspends on staffing of £44k, (and this includes the costs of recruiting and retaining social workers across the whole of Children's Social Care), and £67k relating to general running costs.

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 overspent by £3,516k in 2023/24. This will be added to the £12,706k carried forward in the reserves from 2022/23. This gives a DSG deficit reserve at the end of 2023/24 of £16,222k at the end of the financial year.

18. Schools and Early Years Commissioning & QA Cr £1,441k

There was an underspend on the costs of child care payments for 2, 3 and 4 year olds of £1,136k at the end of the year. This includes the costs related to the Early Years Supplementary Grant.

Additionally there are underspends of £46k on staffing, £255k on running costs and £4k additional income collected.

19. SEN and Inclusion Dr £3,539k

SEN placements has overspent by a total of £3,983k. The overspend is being caused by the Maintained Day (£1,194k), Independent Day (£815k), Alternative Programmes (£1,685k), Maintained Boarding School (£205k), Direct Payment (£252k), and Matrix funding (£1,140k). This is then slightly offset by an underspend on Independent Boarding Schools (£418k) and other various underspends (£890k).

In addition to the placement costs, there are underspends on staffing across a number of units of £17k, on running costs of £425k, and £2k extra income collected.

20. Access & Inclusion Cr £406k

The £406k underspend in this area is due to an overspend of £186k on running costs and an under collection of income of £21k. These are being offset by staffing underspends of £613k.

21. Strategic Place Planning Cr £16k

This area has underspent by £16k on running costs due the year.

22. Other Strategic Functions Cr £129k

The year end position for this area is an underspend of £129k. This is made up of an underspend on running costs of £221k that is then offset by an overspend of £92k on staffing.

23. Schools Budgets Dr £3,792k

This area has overspent by £3,792k mainly due to the amount charged to the DSG Reserve now being shown separating. This has caused a running cost overspend of £4,123k that is being offset by additional income of £331k during the year.

24. Special Schools and Alternative Provision Cr £963k

This area has an underspend variance due to additional grant income (£402k) and an underspend on running costs (£561k) that is mainly down to lower number of payments to academies for top up funding than budgeted.

25. Primary Schools Cr £1,389k

The cost pressure in this area relates to the deficit in one of schools when it converted to academy and joined a trust (£38k). This area has an underspend variance due to payments to schools (including academies) being less than that budgeted for (£3,035k) and this was offset by lower than expect grant income by £1,608k. The lower than expect grant income is a contributory factor to the lower than expected payments.

26. Secondary Schools Dr 529k

This area has an underspend variance due to additional grant income (£365k) that is then offset by an overspend on running costs (£894k) that will include the additional grant we have received.

27. Charge to Reserves Cr £3,516k

This is the amount that has been transferred to the DSG Reserve at year end. This offsets some of the overspend in the Schools Budget area.

Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the Section 151 Officer to report on the robustness of the budget calculations and adequacy of reserves. The 151 Officer within that commentary is now required to consider the Councils DSG deficit position, despite the statutory override being in place.

The statutory override effectively means that any DSG deficits are not included in the Councils main revenue budgets. However funding will ultimately need to be identified

In effect the Council has to still set aside resources to meet the DSG deficit and where no ongoing funding is identified such funding will need to come from the Councils reserves. On that basis the budget monitoring report identifies a deficit of £3,516k which has to ultimately be funded from the Councils reserve.

Although DSG is effectively ring fenced the ongoing increase through funding by reserves (general and earmarked) creates a financially unsustainable position in the medium to longer term

The External Auditor as part of the annual accounts, are required to comment on the Councils Value for money arrangements and will be required to consider any DSG deficit and the impact on the Councils finances

In terms of presentation of the DSG deficit of £12,706k up to 31/3/2023 and the estimated in year sum of £3,516k in 2023/24, there will need to be adequate funding from the Councils reserves unless alternative savings can be found. The use of reserves have been assumed in this report, although the specific reserves to use have not been identified at this stage.

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, there has been in Children's Social Care 10 waivers agreed for placements of between £50 and £100k, 1 between £100k and £150k, 1 between £150k and £200k, and 18 for a value of over £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 processed.

Environment & Community Portfolio Budget Monitoring Summary

2022/23 Actuals £'000	Service Areas	2023/24 Original Budget £'000	2023/24 Latest Approved £'000	2023/24 Projected Outturn £'000	Variation £'000	Notes	Variation Last Reported £'000	Full Year Effect £'000
	ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY PORTFOLIO							
	Street Scene & Green Spaces							
1,151	Arboriculture Management	814	822	987	165	1	100	0
92	Business Support and Markets	26	42	134	92	2	134	0
1,189	Senior Management	1,331	1,331	1,300	Cr 31	3	0	0
211	Performance Management and Business Support	224	224	218	Cr 6	4	0	0
6,439	Parks and Green Spaces	6,854	7,108	7,016	Cr 92	5	0	0
79	Carbon Management	155	156	105	Cr 51	6	0	0
18,503	Waste Services	20,722	20,722	20,589	Cr 133	7	Cr 897	0
6,491	Neighbourhood	6,961	7,087	7,049	Cr 38	8	0	0
34,155		37,087	37,491	37,398	Cr 94		Cr 663	0
	Transport Operations and Depot							
552	Transport Operations and Depot Management	632	692	546	Cr 145	9	Cr 57	0
552		632	692	546	Cr 145		Cr 57	0
	Traffic, Parking and Highways							
-140	Traffic & Road Safety	161	161	0	Cr 161	10	Cr 122	0
Cr 8,209	Parking	Cr 9,186	Cr 9,177	Cr 9,024	153	11	708	0
8,979	Highways (including London Permit Scheme)	9,339	10,171	10,428	257	12	686	0
630		314	1,155	1,404	249		1,272	0
35,337	TOTAL CONTROLLABLE	38,033	39,338	39,348	10		552	0
1,673	TOTAL NON-CONTROLLABLE	6,743	2,675	2,675	0		0	0
2,284	TOTAL EXCLUDED RECHARGES	2,343	2,167	2,167	0		0	0
39,294	PORTFOLIO TOTAL	47,119	44,180	44,190	10		552	0

Reconciliation of Latest Approved Budget
Original Budget 2023/24 £'000 47,119 9

Carry Forward Requests approved from 2022/23
Highways Income for Road Maintenance 245

Central Contingency Adjustments
Inflationary Uplifts 219
Electricity Inflation Uplift 841

Other Budget Movements
Hill Car Park Repair - Infrastructure Investment Fund 250
Hill Car Park Repair - Infrastructure Investment Fund Cr 250

Memorandum Items:
Capital Charges -5,192
Insurance 110
Repairs & Maintenance 868
Rent income 146
Excluded Recharges -176

Latest Approved Budget for 2023/24 44,180

REASONS FOR VARIATIONS

1. Arboriculture Dr £165k

Works to trees are identified through a triennial inspection programme or through reactive inspections where required, and these works are raised in accordance with the policies set out in the adopted Tree Management Strategy. The Strategy is designed to ensure that the Council's statutory responsibilities are discharged and to manage health and safety related risks when maintaining the borough's trees. Overspend is therefore a risk depending on a range of factors affecting the health of the Council's maintained tree stock and in 2023/24 there continued to be issues with disease. Additionally, in 2023/24 there were several storms, including Storms Henk and Isha, which resulted in a high number of emergency call outs and the need to bring in an additional contractor to support storm clear up works, with the storm works costing approximately £90k.

2. Business Support & Markets Dr £92k

The service is reporting an underachievement of income across Advertising, Street Trading and Markets of £131k, which is partly offset by underspends on staffing and ICT Software. There is also an overspend on the security of premises.

Street Trading income remains affected by the continuation, under the Business and Planning Act 2020 (Pavement Licences) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2021, of pavement licences. This was a temporary measure, originally introduced during the Covid pandemic but now extended into 2023 and being made permanent. In 2024-2025 there is a provision of £80k to cover the shortfall of the licensing income in street trading and markets.

The Market Income is underachieving due to a tough retail environment and depressed footfall in the Town Centre, which has led to a higher number of booking cancellations from market traders than normal.

3. Senior Management Cr £31k

The Senior Management service is reporting an underspend of £31k. This is related to employee costs due to vacancies for part of the year while recruitment activity was undertaken.

4. Performance Management and Business Support Cr £6k

The Performance Management and Business Support service is reporting an underspend of £6k which is related to supplies and services costs (stationery and mobile phone costs).

5. Parks and Green Spaces Cr £92k

The Parks and Green Spaces service is reporting an underspend of £92k. The majority of the underspend is a consequence of the transfer of Crystal Palace Park to the Crystal Palace Park Trust in September 2024; this funding is now committed to support the costs of delivering the Regeneration Plan (see report **HPR2022/022**).

6. Carbon Management Cr £51k

The Carbon Management service is reporting an underspend of £51k. This is due to vacancies for part of the year while recruitment activity was undertaken. There is also an underspend on IT related budgets.

7. Waste Services Cr £133k

The service is reporting a £133k underspend, this is a significant reduction from the reported underspend in Q3. This is mainly due to underachievement of income across the service totalling just under £600k (trade and commercial waste and green garden waste) There was also an overspend on backdated container charges for £130k. There is a growing concern regarding the number of customers who access fee-based waste services as there appears to be a downward trend, prices have been increased for 2024-25 which may affect demand even more greatly.

8. Neighbourhood Cr £38k

The service is reporting an underspend of £38k. This is due to an overachievement of income generated by fixed penalty notices (FPNs) and underspends on the Transport related expenditure budgets (transport costs for staff).

9. Transport Operations and Depot Management Cr £145k

The service is reporting a £148k underspend on staffing costs, where we have officers who have moved to part time, freeing up some budget. The premises related expenditure budgets, such as cleaning or security of premises also report a favourable variation to the budget.

10. Traffic & Road Safety Cr £161k

There has been an over achievement from temporary traffic orders due to road closures. There has been an overachievement of the budget from the advertising income.

The service will submit a request for a carry forward of £31k into FY24-25. This is for outstanding work to remove redundant signs that could not be started in 2023-2024.

11. Parking, Dr £153k

Summary of variations within Parking	£'000
Off Street (incl. Multi Storey Car Parks)	370
On Street	-233
Parking fees total:	137
Moving Traffic Contraventions (MTCs)	255
CCTV- Schools/ Bus Stops	-82
CEO Enforcement (PCN's)	-440
Bus Lanes	534
Parking Shared Services	-203
Enforcement total:	64
Other variations, including permits	-48
Total variations	153

11a. Car Parks (off street and multistorey car parks) Dr £370k

For a number of years, there has been an ongoing decrease in car park usage. Officers will continue to monitor and analyse the data trends to ensure the correct tariffs are in place to help with demand per location.

As well as the above, the Hill Multistorey car park was closed due to health and safety concerns for 2 months (October to December 2023) and West Wickham Station Road car park permanently closed at the start of this financial year.

Despite managing to maintain income levels this year, the longer term trend means that income is unlikely to return to budgeted levels and future budget setting should take account of this.

11b. On Street Car Parks Cr £233k

On street parking income has overachieved the budget with the demand for on street parking sessions remaining steady. Officers will continue to monitor and analyse the data trends to ensure the correct tariffs are in place to help with demand per location.

Due to the continued strong performance here, we will look to re-align this budget in the future to allow the additional income to mitigate pressures in other parts of the parking service.

11c. Moving Traffic Contraventions (MTCs), Dr £255k

The trend of two years of enforcement has shown that driver compliance with moving traffic regulations has improved since the cameras first went live in October 2021, therefore fewer PCNs are being issued, with an average of 2,188 p/m in 2023-2024.

Although income levels could be maintained in the future as the Council reviews other locations where there are congestions or safety concerns, it is unlikely to ever achieve the budgeted target due to continued compliance by road users. Therefore future budget setting should take account of this.

11d. CCTV - Schools/ Bus Stops, Cr 82k

Compliance around schools has continued to improve with fewer PCNs being issued. A similar decrease has been recorded at one bus stop that is currently enforced.

Where compliance has been achieved, Officers will consider new locations for cameras.

11e. CEO Enforcement (PCN's), Cr £440k

From May 2023 some additional CEOs have been deployed around the Borough to help to achieve an improved compliance in the Borough. CEOs have been employed on different working patterns to help achieve this. Officers have assessed that at present any new CEOs will result in additional costs without the benefit of any more PCNs being issued, but this is regularly reviewed.

11f. Bus Lanes Dr £534k

As has been reported previously, compliance by drivers in bus lanes continues to improve. This is an area where the budgets have to be reviewed.

11g. Shared Services Cr £203k

There is an underspend on the Shared Service budget due to vacant posts, however the budget needs to be flexible to allow for changes in workflow demands to allow the service to cover busy periods and meet statutory deadlines. An increasing backlog in appeals will result in the team recruiting more staff in the new financial year. An increased number of staff will achieve a better customer services by appeals being processed quicker, resulting in PCNs being settled quicker.

12. Highways, including London Permit Scheme Dr £257k

There is an overspend of £257k in Highway Services, as the number of highway defects (carriageway and footway) has nearly doubled in the first 6 months of the year and these projects have statutory requirements. A second contractor had to be employed to clear the existing backlog from the main supplier, J B Riney.

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 Subcommittee bi-annually. Since the last report to the Executive, no waivers over £50k have been actioned.

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, no virements have been actioned.

Public Protection & Enforcement Budget Monitoring Summary

2022/23 Actuals £'000	Service Areas	2023/24 Original Budget £'000	2023/24 Latest Approved £'000	2023/24 Projected Outturn £'000	Variation £'000	Notes	Variation Last Reported £'000	Full Year Effect £'000
	Public Protection							
483	Community Safety	540	585	596	11	1	0	0
152	Emergency Planning	157	157	157	0		0	0
823	Mortuary & Coroners Service	939	939	939	0		0	0
1,251	Public Protection	1,592	1,676	1,512	Cr 164	2	0	0
2,709	TOTAL CONTROLLABLE	3,228	3,357	3,204	Cr 153		0	0
3	TOTAL NON CONTROLLABLE	12	2	2	0		0	0
950	TOTAL EXCLUDED RECHARGES	816	924	924	0		0	0
3,662	PORTFOLIO TOTAL	4,056	4,283	4,130	Cr 153		0	0

Reconciliation of Latest Approved Budget

£'000

Original Budget 2023/24

4,056

Out of Hours Noise Service in Community Safety 50

Carry Forward Requests approved from 2022/23

POCA confiscation orders from the courts 61

POCA confiscation orders from the courts Cr 61

HMO income 78

Other

Environmental Protection-DEFRA grant

- expenditure 12

- income Cr 12

Licensing-Home Office grant

- expenditure 10

- income Cr 10

Food Standards- DEFRA Grant

- expenditure 4

- income Cr 4

Memorandum Items:

Insurance Cr 9

Excluded Recharges 108

Latest Approved Budget for 2023/24

4,283

REASONS FOR VARIATIONS

1. Community safety Dr £12k

The overspend in Community Safety is due to the need to use more expensive agency staff to cover vacant posts. Two posts have now been filled and a third is advertised to mitigate the risk of an overspend in 2024/25

2. Public Protection Cr £164k

The underspend in Public Protection is due to the overachievement of income from Houses with Multiple Occupancy licenses.

The service will submit a number of carry forward requests for the POCA confiscation orders funding from the court, as well implementation funding for various new burdens. The total value of the carry forward requests is £87k.

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 Subcommittee bi-annually. Since the last report to the Executive, no waivers over £50k have been actioned.

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, no virements have been actioned.

Renewal, Recreation & Housing Budget Monitoring Summary

2022/23 Actuals £'000	Division Service Areas	2023/24 Original Budget £'000	2023/24 Latest Approved £'000	2023/24 Projected Outturn £'000	Variation £'000	Notes	Variation Last Reported £'000	Full Year Effect £'000
	PLACE DEPARTMENT							
	Planning							
27	Building Control	70	70	377	307	1	243	0
Cr 63	Land Charges	Cr 117	Cr 117	20	137	2	70	0
1,823	Planning	986	1,106	1,523	417	3	226	0
	Building Control and Land Charges transfer of in-year deficit to reserves	0	0	Cr 444	Cr 444			
1,787		939	1,059	1,476	417		539	0
	Culture & Regeneration							
1,384	Culture	1,120	1,120	1,042	Cr 78	4	Cr 88	0
5,570	Libraries	5,174	5,612	5,577	Cr 35	5	0	0
87	Town Centre Management	44	44	47	3		0	0
7,041		6,338	6,776	6,666	Cr 110		Cr 88	0
	Operational Housing							
1,276	Housing Strategy, Advice and Enabling	1,522	1,412	1,374	Cr 38	6	0	0
Cr 1,502	Housing Benefits	Cr 1,586	Cr 1,586	Cr 1,627	Cr 41	7	0	0
Cr 54	Housing Improvement	Cr 20	Cr 20	Cr 53	Cr 33	8	Cr 25	0
7,046	Allocations and Accommodation	5,356	5,401	10,369	4,968	9	3,295	8,743
921	Supporting People	1,134	1,134	961	Cr 173	10	Cr 148	Cr 148
1,095	Housing Options and Support	1,671	1,862	1,642	Cr 220	11	Cr 175	0
0	Housing Schemes	257	257	1,090	833	12	323	0
8,782		8,334	8,460	13,756	5,296		3,270	8,595
17,610	Total Controllable	15,611	16,295	21,898	5,603		3,721	8,595
Cr 412	TOTAL NON CONTROLLABLE	Cr 541	Cr 487	Cr 487	0		0	0
5,691	TOTAL EXCLUDED RECHARGES	5,583	5,600	5,600	0		0	0
22,889	TOTAL RR & H PORTFOLIO TOTAL	20,653	21,408	27,011	5,603		3,721	8,595

Reconciliation of Latest Approved Budget

£'000

Original budget 2023/24

20,653

Carry Forward Requests approved from 2022/23

Homelessness Reduction Grant	89
Homelessness Reduction Grant	Cr 89
Accommodation for ex-Offenders Expenditure	64
Accommodation for ex-Offenders Grant	Cr 64
Rough Sleepers Initiative Grant expenditure	43
Rough Sleepers Initiative Grant income	Cr 43
Homes for Ukraine Grant	2,644
Homes for Ukraine Grant	Cr 2,644
Defra Biodiversity Net Gain Grant	13
Defra Biodiversity Net Gain Grant	Cr 13
New Homes Bonus Funded LEP Programme	73
New Homes Bonus Funded LEP Programme	Cr 73
Local Plan Implementation	120

Central Contingency Adjustments

2023-24 Accommodation for Ex-Offenders expenditure	74
2023-24 Accommodation for Ex-Offenders income	Cr 74
2023-24 Rough Sleepers Initiative Grant expenditure	214
2023-24 Rough Sleepers Initiative Grant income	Cr 214
HFU Thank you payments expenditure	804
HFU Thank you payments income	Cr 804
2023-24 Rough Sleepers Initiative Grant expenditure confirmed total allocation	214
2023-24 Rough Sleepers Initiative Grant income confirmed total allocation	Cr 214

Homelessness Prevention Grant - 2023-24 additional allocation		361
Homelessness Prevention Grant - 2023-24 additional allocation	Cr	361
HPG– 2023/2024 Homes For Ukraine Funding Top-Up		1,117
HPG– 2023/2024 Homes For Ukraine Funding Top-Up	Cr	1,117
2023-24 Household Support Fund expenditure		3,736
2023-24 Household Support Fund income	Cr	3,736
Inflation - Libraries contract		191
Provision for Increase in Fuel Costs		330
Housing Revenue Account Policies and Allocation Policy		43

Other Budget Movements

Memorandum Items:

Capital Charges		37
Insurance	Cr	17
Repairs & Maintenance		49
Rent income	Cr	15
Excluded Recharges		17

Latest Approved Budget for 2023/24

21,408

REASONS FOR VARIATIONS

With higher interest rates and the cost of living affecting the economy, there is pressure on income budgets across the Property and Planning Divisions.

1. Building Control Dr £307k

Building Control fees were increased in 2022/23 in order to realign the budgeted income target with a more realistic outcome, but in 2023/24 an agreed saving increased the income budget target by £79k overall. Based on the activity in the past months and as anticipated throughout the year, income has fallen short of the budgeted amount by £307k.

2. Land Charges Dr £137k

Similar to Building Control, we anticipated a variation overspend and the final figure was £137k. Historically this has been the case over the past a few years and the activity has not improved in the final quarter.

3. Planning Dr £417k

Planning Pre-Apps & Planning 'Significant' Major Apps We are reporting a final shortfall of income of £417k compared to the £226k declared in Q3. It should be noted that the Government's planning application fees draft regulations consultation may increase future fee levels by 30%, however, any increase in fees is not currently expected to come into force until after April 2024.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2023/9780348250404>

4. Culture Cr £78k

Culture reported a underspend of £78k, however there is a carry forward request of £72.5k for the Penge Wayfinding project, if approved this will reduce the underspend to £6k.

5. Libraries Cr £35k

There is a £35k underspend in Libraries because of utilities costs coming in lower than anticipated. This positive outcome was driven by favourable rates, particularly during the latter part of the year.

6. Housing Strategy, Advice and Enabling Cr £38k

There was a £38k underspend on running costs within this service area.

7. Housing Benefits Cr £41k

There was a £41k underspend within this service area.

8. Housing Improvement Cr £33k

There was a £33k underspend on salary costs within the Housing Improvement service.

9. Allocations and Accommodation Dr £4,968k

There was an overspend of £4,806k in all Temporary Accommodation in 2023-24. At the end of the financial year, there were 1,348 households in nightly paid Temporary accommodation. This figure was 1,224 in Q3, 1,161 in Q2 and 1,125 in Q1. The average annual cost was £11,155 per household per annum at the end of the financial year (this compares to a figure of £9,761 for Q3, £8,857 for Q2 and £8,268 for Q1). In the last two months of this financial year, the average cost of new temporary accommodation placements had increased to £15,216 per annum.

These figures exclude other schemes like More Homes Bromley, Pinnacle (formerly Orchard & Shipman), ex-residential care homes, and the Bromley Private Sector Leasing Scheme. Once these have been included there are currently over 1,558 households in Temporary Accommodation.

Transformation Programme savings were achieved during the year to provide a longer term alternative to expensive nightly paid accommodation. Other earlier schemes in the programme have been completed and are contributing to the housing options available.

	£'000
Summary of overall variations within Allocations and Accommodation:	
Temporary Accommodation	4,806
Additional costs of utilities, building and other works	221
PSL Incentive Payments and Furniture Storage and other misc. underspends	Cr 59
Total variation for Allocations and Accommodation	<u>4,968</u>

10. Supporting People Cr £173k

There was a £173k underspend in the Supporting People service area mainly as a result of procurement exercises during 2021/22 and 2022/23 containing costs within inflation that had accumulated in the budget. The full retendering exercise has been completed and the current underspend will remain in this budget to cover potential future pressures.

11. Housing Options and Support Cr £220k

There was an underspend on the Homelessness Prevention service of £157k as currently options are not available for this preventative support to households. There were also total underspends of £63k across Housing Options and Support on running costs and salaries where some posts remain difficult to fill.

12. Housing Schemes Dr £833k

More Homes Bromley Shortfall Payments £491k

Under the More Homes Bromley scheme, LBB is liable for the shortfall in rent as result of the reduced number of acquisitions compared to the original financial model. For 2023-24 the total net rental income shortfall paid was £491k. Previously this shortfall has been met by the rent guarantee contingent liability, but this has been fully utilised and is no longer available.

Beehive and LBB Owned Affordable Housing £275k

There are overspends the Beehive and LBB owned schemes on additional Service Charges, Council Tax on vacant properties, property repairs and rental income.

Meadowship Homes 2 Nomination Penalty Payments £67k

In line with the nominations agreement, the managing agent applied penalty fees where LBB has failed to nominate clients within the agreed timescales. This is the first time such charges have been applied and total for 2023/24 was £67k.

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 Subcommittee bi-annually. Since the last report to the Executive, no waivers have been actioned.

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, no virements have been actioned.

Resources, Commissioning & Contracts Management Portfolio Budget Monitoring Summary

2022/23 Actuals £'000		2023/24 Original Budget £'000	2023/24 Latest Approved £'000	2023/24 Projected Outturn £'000	Variation £'000	Notes	Variation Last Reported £'000	Full Year Effect £'000
	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT							
	FINANCIAL SERVICES DIVISION							
265	Director of Finance & Other	267	267	254	Cr 13	1	0	0
5,953	Exchequer - Revenue & Benefits	6,831	6,792	6,735	Cr 57	2	0	0
2,249	Exchequer - Payments & Income	2,295	2,436	2,204	Cr 232	3	0	0
582	Financial Accounting	1,233	1,233	1,163	Cr 70	4	0	0
1,730	Management Accounting	1,991	1,997	1,882	Cr 115	5	0	0
848	Audit	1,073	1,073	989	Cr 84	6	0	0
11,627	Total Financial Services Division	13,690	13,798	13,227	Cr 571		0	0
	CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION							
6,911	Information Systems & Telephony	7,238	7,238	7,254	16	7	70	0
	Legal Services & Democracy							
1,221	Electoral	512	512	502	Cr 10		0	0
1,473	Democratic Services	1,607	1,607	1,548	Cr 59	8	Cr 53	0
179	Mayoral	184	184	193	9		0	0
2,986	Legal Services	2,525	2,835	3,205	370	9	272	0
529	Procurement and Data Management	585	585	531	Cr 54	10	Cr 50	0
219	Management and Other (Corporate Services)	235	235	238	3		0	0
13,518	Total Corporate Services Division	12,886	13,196	13,471	275		239	0
	HR AND CUSTOMER SERVICES DIVISION							
2,429	Human Resources	2,499	2,537	2,661	124	11	272	0
	Customer Services							
1,185	Contact Centre	1,249	1,304	1,334	30	12	0	0
Cr 99	Registration of Births, Deaths & Marriages	Cr 131	Cr 131	Cr 129	2	13	Cr 44	0
306	CE - Consultation & Communication	326	326	406	80	14	0	0
3,821	Total HR & Customer Services Division	3,943	4,036	4,272	236		228	0
	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DIVISION							
826	Management and Other (C. Exec)	1,162	1,162	1,159	Cr 3		0	0
826	Total Chief Executive's Division	1,162	1,162	1,159	Cr 3		0	0
	CENTRAL ITEMS							
808	CDC & Non Distributed Costs (Past Deficit etc.)	1,361	1,361	1,159	Cr 202		0	0
5,964	Concessionary Fares	7,320	6,982	6,974	Cr 8		0	0
36,564	TOTAL CONTROLLABLE CE DEPT	40,362	40,535	40,262	Cr 273		467	0
14	TOTAL NON CONTROLLABLE	449	12	12	0		0	0
Cr 22,246	TOTAL EXCLUDED RECHARGES	Cr 17,569	Cr 17,604	Cr 17,604	0		0	0
14,332	TOTAL CE DEPARTMENT	23,242	22,943	22,670	Cr 273		467	0
	CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT							
	Strategy and Corporate Projects							
133	Commissioning	237	237	156	Cr 81	15	Cr 125	0
1,781	Strategy, Performance and Engagement	1,884	1,884	1,713	Cr 171		Cr 28	0
1,914	TOTAL CONTROLLABLE CEF DEPT	2,121	2,121	1,869	Cr 252		Cr 153	0
3	TOTAL NON CONTROLLABLE	1	2	2	0		0	0
Cr 2,152	TOTAL EXCLUDED RECHARGES	Cr 2,178	Cr 2,056	Cr 2,056	0		0	0
Cr 235	TOTAL CEF DEPARTMENT	Cr 56	67	Cr 185	Cr 252		Cr 153	0
	ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT							
	Total Facilities Management							
2,134	Admin Buildings & Facilities Support	1,727	1,885	2,395	510	16	0	0
1,147	Investment & Non-Operational Property	823	823	1,543	720	17	0	0
Cr 270	Strategic & Operational Property Services	1,020	1,170	Cr 395	Cr 1,565	17	0	0
2,191	TFM Client Monitoring Team	1,957	1,957	2,750	793	17	0	0
Cr 1,528	Other Rental Income - Other Portfolios	Cr 1,683	Cr 1,683	Cr 1,569	114	18	0	0
2,626	Repairs & Maintenance (All LBB)	2,513	2,513	2,513	0		0	0
6,300	TOTAL CONTROLLABLE ECS DEPT	6,357	6,665	7,237	572		0	0
64	TOTAL NON CONTROLLABLE	7,919	Cr 916	Cr 916	0		0	0
Cr 872	TOTAL EXCLUDED RECHARGES	Cr 4,308	Cr 4,332	Cr 4,332	0		0	0
Cr 1,696	Less: R&M allocated across other Portfolios	Cr 1,726	Cr 1,726	Cr 1,726	0		0	0

1,528	Less: Rent allocated across other Portfolios	1,683	1,569	1,569	0	0	0
5,324	TOTAL ECS DEPARTMENT	9,925	1,260	1,832	572	0	0
19,421	TOTAL RCCM PORTFOLIO	33,111	24,270	24,317	47	314	0

Cr 8,841

Reconciliation of Latest Approved Budget**£'000****Original budget 2023/24****33,111****Carry Forward Requests approved from 2022/23**

Electoral Services - New Burdens Grant

- Expenditure	15
- Income	Cr 15

Local Digital Cyber Fund

- Expenditure	50
- Income	Cr 50

BEIS - EBSS AF and AFP

- Expenditure	847
- Income	Cr 847

Legal Services - ULEZ

140

140**Central Contingency Adjustments**

Legal support - children and adults social care	170
Provision for Increase in Fuel Costs	158
Inflation - Concessionary Fares	-338
Inflation - Liberata contract - Exchequer Services	102
Inflation - Liberata contract - Contact Centre	55
Inflation - Liberata contract - School Finance	6
Star Lane works	150

Other Budget Movements

Wake Up to Care Funds Budget Transfer from Adults	38
IT Drawdown from reserves	336
IT Drawdown from reserves	Cr 336
Legal Drawdown from Reserves	65
Legal Drawdown from Reserves	Cr 65
R&M Building Infrastructure Fund 22/23 Drawdown from Reserve	852
R&M Building Infrastructure Fund 22/23 Drawdown from Reserve	Cr 852
Funding from Loneliness Reserves (Strategy)	47
Funding from Loneliness Reserves (Strategy)	Cr 47

24,317

Cr 21,101

1,306

4,522

Cr 4,522

0

Memorandum Items:

Capital	Cr 8,284
Insurance	9
Repairs & Maintenance	Cr 996
Rental Income	Cr 114
Excluded Recharges	63

Latest Approved Budget for 2023/24**24,270**

REASONS FOR VARIATIONS

1. Director of Finance & Other Cr £13k

The service is reporting an underspend of £13k due to the service underspending on its membership and subscription budget.

2. Exchequer - Revenue & Benefits Cr £57k

There has been an underspend on customer and clients receipts, which offsets a pressure on supplies and services.

3. Exchequer - Payments & Income Cr 232k

The underspend of £232k predominately relates to underspend on contract payments.

4. Financial Accounting Cr £70k

There has been underspending on salaries and on supplies and services during 2023/24.

5. Management Accounting Cr £115k

The significant underspend of £115k in this area primarily stems from ongoing staff vacancies within the service throughout the year.

6. Audit Cr £84k

The underspend of £84k in this area was due to the service carrying vacancies.

7. Information Systems & Telephony Dr £16k

The overspend of £16k in IT is largely due to the costs of the digital strategy project and Microsoft licences partially offset by underspends on the Azure project. The reduction in the overspend compared to Q3 is partly due to Microsoft licence fees lower at the year-end than expected in Q3.

8. Democratic Services Cr £59k

The service recorded an underspend of £33k on its Members Allowances budget, alongside a £12k underspend on the Supplies and Services budget. Furthermore, there was a £14k underspend on its salary budget.

9. Legal Services Dr £370k

Due to the increased instructions to legal services on contracts, contract disputes, housing, regeneration, education capital projects and commercial property-related matters arising, the Legal team has had to engage locum lawyers to meet the increased demand, thereby putting pressure on the staffing budget.

Legal projected a £272k overspend on their legal budget in Q3, however there has been a further pressure of £98k on the legal budget resulting in a outturn position of £370k overspend against their budget.

The additional overspend was due to even more pressure on the Court Fees budget due to HMCT introducing additional fees, resulting in a overspend of £145k in the Court Fees budget, this was an increase of £35k from £110k reported in Q3.

The financial year 2023- 2024 also saw an exponential increase in the number of court hearings which took place. By way of comparison there were in year 22-23, 260 hearings outsourced in addition to hearings done in house. In 23-24 there were 485 hearings outsourced with an additional circa 122 hearings undertaken in house. The tail end of the last year also saw the significant increases in LBLA fees.

Lastly, there was a further pressure on the salaries budget of £56k from that reported in Q3 due to the reasons above.

10. Procurement and Data Management Cr £54k

The underspend of £54k in this area is due to the service carrying a vacant post.

11. Human Resources Dr £124k

The HR Department is reporting an outturn position of £124k which is an improvement of £148k from the Q3 reported position. The decrease was due to two agency staff that were engaged in the Oracle project which were incorrectly charged to revenue, moving their cost to capital is the reason for the outturn position improvement.

12. Contact Centre Dr £30k

There is a net overspend of £30k primarily due to budget pressure from recharge to capitalise of £56k not being received this financial year, this pressure of £56k was mitigated by underspends in supplies and services.

13. Registration of Births, Deaths & Marriages Dr £2k

The service is reporting a small overspend of £2k on its outturn position which is an adverse movement £46k from that reported in Q3, this is due to income slightly falling in March and deferred income being higher than that forecasted.

14. CE – Consultation & Communication Dr £80k

The overspend in this area is attributable to the cost of the Our Bromley Magazine not being recovered fully with advertising costs and therefore resulting in a overspend of £52k, although it should be noted that there is a net saving to the Council given the savings from Environment Matters are not included in this calculation. Additionally the service incurred licence fees, which are legally required, with the costs exceeding the budget by c£30k.

15. Strategy, Performance and Engagement Cr £252k

The underspend of £252k in this area is due to an underspend on staffing of £57k, running costs of £130k and additional income of £65k.

16. Admin Buildings & Facilities Support Dr £510k

There are overspends on Security (£310k) and Cleaning Services (£277k). This is partly offset by underspends against supplies and services. Budget realignment is required across Property Services in 24/25 to reflect current service delivery.

17. Total Property Services Cr52

The following areas have a combined variance of £52k underspend, however individually they show the following positions at year end, Investment & Non-Operational Property Dr £720k, Strategic & Operational Property Services Cr £1,565k, TFM Client Monitoring Team Dr £793k. This is because the property services division needs a complete budget re-alignment to accurately reflect the spend incurred. This is a hangover from when the service was outsourced as has not been rectified since the service came back in house in 2022-23, this will be corrected in the current financial year.

18. Other Rental Income - Other Portfolios Dr £190k

The other rental income position is overspent by £190k this financial year, this is predominantly down to the crystal palace park and park café income not achieving their budgeted targets due to the park undergoing redevelopments work and the transfer of the park to the trust from September 2023.

Waiver of Financial Regulations:

The Council's Contract Procedure Rules state that where the value of a contract exceeds £50k and is to be exempted from the normal requirement to obtain competitive quotations, the Chief Officer has to obtain the agreement of the Director of Resources and Finance Director and (where over £100,000) approval of the Portfolio Holder, and report use of this exemption to Audit Subcommittee bi-annually. Since the last report to the Executive, no waivers have been actioned.

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, no virements have been actioned.

Allocation of Contingency Provision for 2023/24

Item	Original Contingency Provision	Allocations				Variation to Original Contingency Provision	Provisional request to carry forward
		Previously Approved Items	New Items Requested this Cycle	Items Projected for Remainder of Year	Total Allocations/Projected for Year		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
General							
Provision for Unallocated Inflation	9,080,000	1,655,000	Cr 128,000		1,527,000	(4)&(5)&(7) Cr 7,553,000	
Provision for increase in fuel costs	2,624,000	254,000	1,306,000		1,560,000	(6)&(7) Cr 1,064,000	
Adult Social Care Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund	2,800,000	2,788,000			2,788,000	(1) Cr 12,000	
General Provision for Risk/Uncertainty	3,500,000	1,400,000	42,500		1,442,500	(5)&(7) Cr 2,057,500	
SEND Transport Growth	1,000,000	1,000,000			1,000,000	(1) 0	
Social Care grant re ASC reforms	Cr 720,000	Cr 720,000			Cr 720,000	(5) 0	
ASC Discharge Fund	Cr 1,083,000	Cr 1,084,000			Cr 1,084,000	(4) Cr 1,000	
Building Infrastructure Fund	2,000,000	2,000,000			2,000,000	(4) 0	
Property income recovery/rent variations	500,000	500,000			500,000	0	
Legal support - children and adults social care	170,000	170,000			170,000	(4) 0	
Revenue impact of Capital Financing Programme	6,600,000	2,500,000	Cr 609,000		1,891,000	(4)&(6)&(7) Cr 4,709,000	
Star Lane works	0	150,000			150,000	(4) 150,000	
Dual running of Civic Centre	0	1,800,000	123,000		1,923,000	(4)&(7) 1,923,000	
Additional contribution to capital to West Wickham Library	0	244,000			244,000	(6) 244,000	
Renewal, Recreation & Housing							
Property Valuation	100,000				0	Cr 100,000	
Planning Appeals - change in legislation	60,000				0	Cr 60,000	
	26,631,000	12,657,000	734,500	0	13,391,500	Cr 13,239,500	0
Grants included within Central Contingency Sum							
Rough Sleeping Initiative							
Grant Related Expenditure	104,000	428,000			428,000	(4) 324,000	
Grant Related Income	Cr 104,000	Cr 428,000			Cr 428,000	Cr 324,000	
Homeless Prevention Initiatives							
Grant Related Expenditure	784,000	361,000			361,000	(4) Cr 423,000	
Grant related Income	Cr 784,000	Cr 361,000			Cr 361,000	423,000	
Supporting Families; Investing in Practice Grant							
Grant Related Expenditure	1,030,000		473,130		473,130	(7) Cr 556,870	475,170
Grant related Income	Cr 1,030,000		Cr 473,130		Cr 473,130	556,870	Cr 475,170
Renewal, Recreation & Housing							
2023-24 Accommodation for Ex-Offenders expenditure							
Grant Related Expenditure		74,000			74,000	(4) 74,000	
Grant Related Income		Cr 74,000			Cr 74,000	Cr 74,000	
Homes for Ukraine Grant - Thank you payments							
Grant Related Expenditure		605,900	197,600		803,500	(5)&(7) Cr 803,500	
Grant Related Income		Cr 605,900	Cr 197,600		Cr 803,500	Cr 803,500	
Homes for Ukraine Grant - payment to LA							
Grant Related Expenditure		80,000	444,218		524,218	(5)&(6)&(7) Cr 524,218	667,382
Grant Related Income		Cr 80,000	Cr 444,218		Cr 524,218	Cr 524,218	Cr 667,382
Household Support Fund							
Grant Related Expenditure			3,736,000		3,736,000	(7) 3,736,000	
Grant Related Income			Cr 3,736,000		Cr 3,736,000	Cr 3,736,000	
HPG- 2023/2024 Homes For Ukraine Funding Top-Up							
Grant Related Expenditure		1,117,000			1,117,000	(4) 1,117,000	
Grant Related Income		Cr 1,117,000			Cr 1,117,000	Cr 1,117,000	
Children, Education and Families							
S31 Leaving Care Uplift Grant							
Grant Related Expenditure		68,000			68,000	(4) 68,000	
Grant Related Income		Cr 68,000			Cr 68,000	Cr 68,000	
GLA free school meal payment							
Grant Related Expenditure		6,036,000			6,036,000	(4) 6,036,000	
Grant Related Income		Cr 6,036,000			Cr 6,036,000	Cr 6,036,000	
UKSPF funding							
Grant Related Expenditure		275,000			275,000	(3) 275,000	
Grant Related Income		Cr 275,000			Cr 275,000	Cr 275,000	
Early Years Supplementary Grant							
Grant Related Expenditure		1,669,000			1,669,000	(5) 1,669,000	
Grant Related Income		Cr 1,669,000			Cr 1,669,000	Cr 1,669,000	
Adult Education GLA Grant Funding							
Grant Related Expenditure		82,000			82,000	(5) 82,000	
Grant Related Income		Cr 82,000			Cr 82,000	Cr 82,000	
Early Years and High Needs DSG							
Grant Related Expenditure		1,335,000			1,335,000	(5) 1,335,000	
Grant Related Income		Cr 1,335,000			Cr 1,335,000	Cr 1,335,000	
DFE Delivery Support Fund							
Grant Related Expenditure		65,703			65,703	(6) 65,703	
Grant Related Income		Cr 65,703			Cr 65,703	Cr 65,703	
Adult Social Care							

Work Safe Project								
Grant Related Expenditure		65,000			65,000	(2)	65,000	
Grant Related Income	Cr	65,000		Cr	65,000		Cr	65,000
Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund - Workforce Fund								
- expenditure		1,810,000			1,810,000	(4)	1,810,000	
- income	Cr	1,810,000		Cr	1,810,000		Cr	1,810,000
ICB Funding for Hospital Discharges								
- expenditure		1,511,000			1,511,000	(4)	1,511,000	
- income	Cr	1,511,000		Cr	1,511,000		Cr	1,511,000
Public Protection								
Environmental Protection-DEFRA grant								
- expenditure			11,710		11,710	(7)	11,710	
- income			Cr	11,710	Cr		Cr	11,710
Licensing-Home Office grant								
- expenditure			10,404		10,404	(7)	10,404	
- income			Cr	10,404	Cr		Cr	10,404
Food Standards- DEFRA Grant								
- expenditure			4,480		4,480	(7)	4,480	
- income			Cr	4,480	Cr		Cr	4,480
TOTAL CARRIED FORWARD		26,631,000	12,657,000	734,500	0		13,391,500	0

Notes:

- (1) 29th March 2023
- (2) 17th May 2023
- (3) 5th July 2023
- (4) 20th September 2023
- (5) 29th November 2023
- (6) 27th March 2024
- (7) 22nd May 2024

Allocation of Contingency Provision for 2023/24 (continued)

Item	Carried Forward from 2022/23	Allocations				Total Allocations/Projected for Year	Variation to Original Contingency Provision
		Previously Approved Items	New Items Requested this Cycle	Items Projected for Remainder of Year			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
TOTAL BROUGHT FORWARD	26,631,000	12,657,000	734,500	0	13,391,500	Cr 13,239,500	
Items Carried Forward from 2022/23							
Adult Care & Health Portfolio							
Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment & Recovery Funding							
- Expenditure		57,217		0	57,217	0	
- Income	Cr 57,217	Cr 57,217		0	Cr 57,217	(1) 0	
Improved Better Care Fund (IBCF)							
- Expenditure		1,911,026		0	1,911,026	0	
- Income	Cr 1,911,026	Cr 1,911,026		0	Cr 1,911,026	(1) 0	
Public Health							
- Expenditure		2,874,494		0	2,874,494	0	
- Income	Cr 2,874,494	Cr 2,874,494		0	Cr 2,874,494	(1) 0	
LD/Autism Funding from South East London ICB							
- Expenditure		207,904		0	207,904	0	
- Income	Cr 207,904	Cr 207,904		0	Cr 207,904	(1) 0	
Discharge Transformation funding from South East London ICB							
- Expenditure		256,065		0	256,065	0	
- Income	Cr 256,065	Cr 256,065		0	Cr 256,065	(1) 0	
Winter Resilience Funding							
- Expenditure		400,000		0	400,000	0	
- Income	Cr 400,000	Cr 400,000		0	Cr 400,000	(1) 0	
Omicron Support Fund							
- Expenditure		136,212		0	136,212	0	
- Income	Cr 136,212	Cr 136,212		0	Cr 136,212	(1) 0	
Test and Trace service support grant							
- Expenditure		368,138		0	368,138	0	
- Income	Cr 368,138	Cr 368,138		0	Cr 368,138	(1) 0	
Charging Reform Implementation Support Grant							
- Expenditure		104,250		0	104,250	0	
- Income	Cr 104,250	Cr 104,250		0	Cr 104,250	(1) 0	
Contain Outbreak Management Fund grant							
- Expenditure		54,300		0	54,300	0	
- Income	Cr 54,300	Cr 54,300		0	Cr 54,300	(1) 0	
Renewal, Recreation & Housing Portfolio							
Accommodation for ex-Offenders							
- Expenditure		63,669		0	63,669	0	
- Income	Cr 63,669	Cr 63,669		0	Cr 63,669	(1) 0	
Defra Biodiversity Net Gain Grant							
- Expenditure		13,216		0	13,216	0	
- Income	Cr 13,216	Cr 13,216		0	Cr 13,216	(1) 0	
Homelessness Reduction Grant							
- Expenditure		89,000		0	89,000	0	
- Income	Cr 89,000	Cr 89,000		0	Cr 89,000	(1) 0	
New Homes Bonus Funded LEP Programme							
- Expenditure		72,521		0	72,521	0	
- Income	Cr 72,521	Cr 72,521		0	Cr 72,521	(1) 0	
Rough Sleepers Initiative							
- Expenditure		42,663		0	42,663	0	
- Income	Cr 42,663	Cr 42,663		0	Cr 42,663	(1) 0	
Homes for Ukraine grant							
- Expenditure		5,415,265	2,500,000		2,500,000	0	
- Income	Cr 5,415,265	Cr 2,500,000			Cr 2,500,000	(1) Cr 2,915,265	
Children, Education and Families Portfolio							
COVID Recovery Grant							
- Expenditure		130,091		0	130,091	0	
- Income	Cr 130,091	Cr 130,091		0	Cr 130,091	(1) 0	
National Tutoring Programme							
- Expenditure		21,721		0	21,721	0	
- Income	Cr 21,721	Cr 21,721		0	Cr 21,721	(1) 0	
GLA Adult Ed Grant Repayment							
- Expenditure		15,664		0	15,664	0	

Item	Carried Forward from 2022/23	Allocations				Total Allocations/Projected for Year	Variation to Original Contingency Provision
		Previously Approved Items	New Items Requested this Cycle	Items Projected for Remainder of Year			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
- Income	Cr 15,664	Cr 15,664		0	Cr 15,664		0
Deed Settlement for Hawes Down Site							
- Expenditure	5,370	5,370		0	5,370	(1)	0
- Income	Cr 5,370	Cr 5,370		0	Cr 5,370		0
Supporting Families; Investing in Practice Grant							
- Expenditure	475,140	475,140		0	475,140	(1)	0
- Income	Cr 475,140	Cr 475,140		0	Cr 475,140		0
Virtual School - CIN Grant Carry Forward							
- Expenditure	82,151	82,151		0	82,151	(1)	0
- Income	Cr 82,151	Cr 82,151		0	Cr 82,151		0
Homes for Ukraine DfE Grant							
- Expenditure	1,187,034	1,187,034		0	1,187,034	(1)	0
- Income	Cr 1,187,034	Cr 1,187,034		0	Cr 1,187,034		0
BAEC upgrading hardware and supporting software - GLA Grant							
- Expenditure	25,575	25,575		0	25,575	(1)	0
- Income	Cr 25,575	Cr 25,575		0	Cr 25,575		0
YOT NHS Money							
- Expenditure	29,300	29,300		0	29,300	(1)	0
- Income	Cr 29,300	Cr 29,300		0	Cr 29,300		0
Resources, Commissioning and Contracts Portfolio							
Electoral Services - New Burdens Grant							
- Expenditure	14,583	14,583		0	14,583	(1)	0
- Income	Cr 14,583	Cr 14,583		0	Cr 14,583		0
Local Digital Cyber Fund							
- Expenditure	49,837	49,837		0	49,837	(1)	0
- Income	Cr 49,837	Cr 49,837		0	Cr 49,837		0
BEIS - EBSS AF and AFP							
- Expenditure	847,200	847,200		0	847,200	(1)	0
- Income	Cr 847,200	Cr 847,200		0	Cr 847,200		0
General							
POCA confiscation orders from the courts	60,637	60,637	Cr 60,637	0	0	(1) Cr	60,637
HMO income	78,000	78,000		0	78,000	(1)	0
Legal Services - ULEZ	140,000	140,000		0	140,000	(1)	0
Local Plan Implementation	120,000	120,000		0	120,000	(1)	0
Highways income	245,000	245,000		0	245,000	(1)	0
Total Carried Forward from 2022/23	643,637	643,637	Cr 60,637	0	583,000		Cr 60,637
GRAND TOTAL	27,274,637	13,300,637	673,863	0	13,974,500		Cr 13,300,137

Notes:

(1) Various PDS reports across the Portfolios

Description	2023/24 Latest Approved Budget £'000	Variation To 2023/24 Budget £'000	Potential Impact in 2024/25
Housing Allocations and Accommodation- Temporary Accommodation	6,418	4,806	The full year effect of Temporary Accommodation is currently estimated to be an overspend of £8,743k. This estimate only takes into account the projected activity to the end of this financial year and not any projected growth in client numbers beyond that point. This does not include the impact of mitigation though the Housing Development and Acquisition Programme.
Supporting People	1,070	Cr 173	The full year effect of Supporting People is currently estimated to be a credit of £148k. This is a result of the estimated savings from retendering of the contracts that has taken place.
Assessment and Care Management - Care Placements	31,464	1,090	The full year impact of the current overspend is estimated at £4,637k. Of this amount Cr £69k relates to residential and nursing home placements for 65+ and Dr £160k for the 18-64's. Domiciliary care & direct payments 65+ is £2,540k overspent and for 18-64 £889k. There is also a £1,117k FYE of current level of Discharge to Assess costs.
Learning Disabilities - including Care Placements, Transport and Care Management	42,273	Cr 175	The full year effect (FYE) variation is estimated at a net overspend of £2,367k. This figure is greater than the in-year underspend as demand-related growth pressures, for example transition and increased client needs, have only a part year impact in 2023/24 but a greater financial impact in a full year. There is net 62 new services in 23/24 which account for the net pressure.
Mental Health - Care Placements	6,598	1,330	A full year overspend of £529k is anticipated on Mental Health care packages, with residential, nursing and supported living placements £412k overspent and domiciliary care and direct payments £117k overspent.
Children's Social Care	49,574	2,263	The overall full year effect of the Children's Social Care overspend is a net £8,494k, analysed as Residential Care, Fostering and Adoption of £4,545k, Leaving Care costs of £2,526k, CWD costs of £1,528k, and referral and assessment of Cr £105k.
SEN Transport	10,324	1,394	The overall full year impact is £2,015k

Carry Forwards from 2023/24 to 2024/25**MEMBERS' APPROVAL REQUIRED****Grants with Explicit Right of Repayment****ADULT CARE AND HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

1	Accelerating Reform Fund Accelerating Reform Fund, provides funding over 2023/24 and 2024/25 for scaling up innovation in care, and to kick-start improvements in support for unpaid carers. Funding awarded to a consortium, Bexley, Bromley (Lead), Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark - (1) To identify and help unpaid carers access the right information, advice, guidance and support to enable the safe and timely discharge of patients to their homes. (2) To build on local approaches to HomeFirst to take forward preventative offers in an evidenced based way and focusing in on where to intervene earlier.	546,769
2	Work Safe Project Funding A one-off ringfenced grant was allocated to the Council in 2023/24 by the South East London ICB for the proposed Work Safe Project under a Section 256 agreement. As this amount was not spent in year it is now requested to be carried forward for spending in 2024/25.	65,000

Adult Care and Health Portfolio	611,769
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CHILDREN EDUCATION & FAMILIES PORTFOLIO

3	COVID Recovery This is an academic year grant. This allows LA's to carry forward all or part of the grant to be used in the remainder of the current academic year.	114,289
4	National Tutoring Programme This is an academic year grant. This allows LA's to carry forward all or part of the grant to be used in the remainder of the current academic year.	26,019

Childrens, Education and Families Portfolio	140,308
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RENEWAL, RECREATION AND HOUSING PORTFOLIO

5	Homes for Ukraine grant The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) launched the Homes for Ukraine scheme on the 14th March 2022. The scheme allows people living in the UK to sponsor a Ukrainian national or family to come and live in the UK providing there is suitable accommodation available. The grant also covers any additional costs that the Authority may incur. Part of the funding was a one off payment that can be carried forward into the new financial year to continue to support the impact on services for Ukrainians living in Bromley over the following three years (one off funding)	3,582,647
6	Penge Wayfinding Project - New Homes Bonus funding for maintenance costs £72.5k would cover installation costs, 10 years of maintenance costs plus the costs of disposal. New Homes Bonus funding rules, and says that the funding can be used for capital and revenue but wants to check that maintenance costs would be permitted.	72,500

Renewal, Recreation and Housing Portfolio	3,655,147
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Total Expenditure to be Carried Forward	4,407,224
Total Grant Income	-4,407,224

Grants with no Explicit Right of Repayment**ADULT CARE AND HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

7	Improved Better Care Fund (IBCF)	1,627,904
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A total of £9,641k Improved Better Care Funding (IBCF) was available for spending in 2023/24, including an amount brought forward from 2022/23. In line with the original IBCF report to the Executive in October 2017, underspends can be carried forward to support expenditure in future years.

8	LD/Autism Funding from South East London ICB	30,180
	SELICB made available financial support to help provide the borough with funding to support services to adults and children with autism and to support admission avoidance and prevention into adult Assessment and Treatment Units or children's CAMHS in-patient provision; this is the second tranche after £247k received 2022/23. It is requested that £30k of these funds is carried forward into 2024/25. In agreement with SELICB it is planned to spend the funds as follows; Needs Assessment - CYP Adult Mental Health/Adult LD £30k	
9	Public Health Grant	2,726,923
	The cumulative underspend for the ring-fenced Public Health Grant brought forward from 2022/23 was £2,874k. During the year some of this balance was used to fund Public Health initiatives, with a balance of £2,727k to be carried forward to fund public health initiatives in future years.	
10	Discharge Transformation Funding from South East London ICB	256,065
	In December 2022 the Council was allocated £992,046 by the Department for Health and Social Care for Discharge Transformation Funds. These funds were ringfenced to support the safe and timely discharge of residents from hospital with monies spent on additional care packages and other activities in support of hospital discharge. It is requested that £256k of these funds is carried over into the next financial year to support the cost of hospital discharge pressures that have continued into 2024/25, and also to part fund an approved contract variation on the Primary & Secondary Intervention Service (PSIS) contract.	
11	Charging Reform Implementation Support Grant	24,250
	A carry forward of the balance of the Charging Reform Implementation Support Grant of £24k is requested to continue the work needed to prepare for the implementation of the charging reform.	
12	Omicron Support Fund	86,965
	The Council received £297k of Omicron Support Fund grant in January 2022 of which £136k was carried forward to 23/24. A further £49k was spent during the year and it is requested that the remaining balance of £87k is carried forward to 2024/25 to assist with the Patient Safety Alert Project.	
13	Test and Trace service support grant	321,756
	The Council received an allocation of £1,370k for the Test and Trace Service Support Grant to cover expenditure in relation to the mitigation against and management of local outbreaks of COVID-19. A total of £1,048k has been spent to date and the balance of £322k is requested to be carried forward to 2024/25.	
	Adult Care and Health Portfolio	5,074,043
	<u>CHILDREN EDUCATION & FAMILIES PORTFOLIO</u>	
14	Supporting Families, Investing in Practise Grant	475,170
	The new programme, Supporting Families; Investing in Practice, will help families work on issues together, including those impacted by domestic violence, substance misuse or addiction, in order to help create stability in the home for young people and prevent them being taken into care, where that is in their best interests. This is part of wider Government work to improve outcomes for children in need of support of a social worker, by creating home and school environments in which they can thrive.	
15	Virtual School - CIN Grant Carry Forward	105,000

Two years ago the LA were given new duties to promote the education to ALL children with a social worker. To recognise the significant extra work the LA were allocated an annual grant of £100k. This money is intended solely for this purpose, and the DCS has signed the memorandum of understanding that commits to this.

This is mainly used to pay for staff, although there has been issues with recruitment over the last financial year.

16	GLA Adult Education Grant The £82k is needed to support staffing and IT infrastructure needs at BAEC in the financial year 2024/25. The £82k was received late in 2023/24 (January 2024) as the funds BAEC operates with cover academic year. The funding will ensure the financial sustainability to fulfil the operational staffing and IT infrastructure needs of the service	82,000
17	Delivery Support Fund The DFE awarded in the Autumn term the sum of £65,703 to support the rollout of the expanding childcare funding streams. We have so far committed £29K of this grant, to pay for a full Childcare Sufficiency assessment over the summer term. The contract for this has only just been signed and works will commence in April. It is crucial that we conduct a full childcare assessment to be able to determine the childcare needs in Bromley, which is one of our core duties as a Local Authority. To be able to spend this grant effectively, the local need will have to be understood.	65,703
18	PDP3 Payment Grant The DFE have provided a backfill grant for students from Early Years settings to undertaking training. Two payments were made this year based upon student take up. Some progress payments have been made but not all progress has been confirmed by the trainer, so some are outstanding.	9,419
19	GLA Free Schools Meal Grant The GLA UFSM allocation of £183,532 needs to be carried over to allow sufficient time to ensure remaining funds are calculated and distributed to our schools in proportion to eligibility criteria and latest data	183,532
Childrens, Education and Families Portfolio		920,824
<u>RESOURCES, COMMISSIONING AND CONTRACTS</u>		
20	ICT - Cyber Security Grant The Cyber Security grant needs to be carried forward again. IT have had a long phase 1 for the last part of the work under this grant and are heading into phase 2 which is the implementation of technical policies and configuration.	42,820
Resources, Commissioning & Contracts Management		42,820
Total Expenditure to be Carried Forward		6,037,687
Total Grant Income		-6,037,687
<u>OTHER CARRY FORWARD REQUESTS</u>		
<u>RENEWAL & RECREATION AND HOUSING PORTFOLIO</u>		
21	Contract variation - phase 2 of the HRA policies and allocation policy In June 2023 (report HPR2023/028), the Portfolio Holder (RRH) was recommended to approve a contract variation to Campbell Tickell for the provision of consultancy services to continue the development of the various housing policies and work relating to the allocation policy at a value up to £42,500. This funding has been identified from an underspend in contingency in 23/24 and is requested to be carried forward to 24/25 which is when the cost of this contract variation will be incurred.	42,500
		42,500
<u>CHILDREN EDUCATION & FAMILIES PORTFOLIO</u>		
22	The Youth Support Programme Mobile and Detached Team Van	60,000

The Youth Support Programme Mobile and Detached Team provide a resource to engage with young people and target support within the borough where it is required. The service offers an accessible positive activities programme designed to meet the

The funding is from underspends and use of grant in 2023/24 that will not be replicated in 2024/25, so the funding is requested to be carried forward to support the cost of the vehicle.

The arrangements for the vehicle have been made but could not be completed before the end of the financial year

 60,000

PUBLIC PROTECTION AND ENFORCEMENT PORTFOLIO

23 POCA confiscation orders from the courts 60,737
 The amount allocated to Public Protection & Enforcement has not been spent in 2023-2024. This consists of two confiscation orders that will be used to finance Trading Standards project work in 2024-2025, as this is restricted funding.

24 PPE Funding for New Regulatory Burdens for Implementation 26,600
 Income received to implement new regulatory burdens for pavement licensing, Food Allergen labelling and Environmental Protection under EPA 90 for Smoke Control. The income was received at the end of the financial year; therefore, the service was unable to plan for spend in year. The service intend to carry this income forward in order to implement the changes in the coming year.

 87,337

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

25 Traffic and Road Safety underspend 31,128
 The request is for meeting the cost of removing the obsolete parking guidance information signs from around Bromley and Orpington town centres. The work has been negotiated at a discounted price with the contractor J B Rinney, but it could not be started before the end of the financial year.

RESOURCES, COMMISSIONING AND CONTRACTS

 31,128

26 Maintenance & Liability works on Churchill Court 617,000
 Delays in maintenance work budgeted for in 2023-24 not yet started, carry forward request is being made to cover the cost of these works in 2024-25, these are maintenance works which cannot be capitalised against the accommodation project.

27 Audit Plan 2024-25 50,000
 There were savings in the Audit budget of £84k which mainly relates to staff vacancies which has had an impact on the delivery of the audit plan. There is a request of £50k carry forward as a contribution to the cost of meeting the delivery of the outstanding work in 2024/25

 667,000

Total Other

 887,965

TOTAL CARRY FORWARD TO 2024/25

 887,965

EARMARKED GENERAL FUND BALANCES - 2023/24

Description	Balance at 31/03/23	Expenditure	Income		Balance at 31/03/24
			Contribs.	Interest	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
EARMARKED BALANCES					
Technology Fund	1,229	-98	0	60	1,191
Investment to Community	228	-1	0	0	227
Planning Services Charging Account	-155	-444	0	0	-599
Government Grants	8,481	-8,481	5,132	0	5,132
Invest to Save	18,274	0	0	0	18,274
One off Member Initiatives	654	-83	16	0	587
Infrastructure Investment Fund	412	-240	0	0	172
Health & Social Care 'Promise Programme'	3,953	0	0	0	3,953
Winter Pressures	2,010	0	0	0	2,010
Key Health & Social Care Initiatives	1,700	0	0	0	1,700
Integration of Health & Social Care Initiatives	1,614	0	0	0	1,614
Collection Fund Surplus Set Aside	37,155	-2,809	0	0	34,346
Healthy Bromley Fund	2,465	-566	0	0	1,899
Parallel Fund	3,097	0	152	0	3,249
					1,480
Health & Social Care Integrated Commissioning Fund	3,030	-2,000	450	0	
Financial Planning & Risk Reserve	10,000	0	2,200	0	12,200
Bromley Welfare Fund	753	-233	0	0	520
					572
Payment in Lieu Reserve for Temporary Accommodation	536	-469	505	0	
Business Rates Risk Reserve	4,200	-2,670	0	0	1,530
					3,158
Various Joint Schemes and Pump Priming Investments	5,091	-2,368	435	0	
Transition Fund	2,560	0	0	0	2,560
Environmental Initiatives	425	-35	4	0	394
Professional Advice for Future Schemes	122	0	0	0	122
Utilisation of New Homes Bonus	2,238	0	9	0	2,247
Future Pensions Risk on Outsourcing	1,729	0	282	0	2,011
					623
West Wickham Leisure Centre & Library Redevelopment	623	0	0	0	
Income Equalisation Reserve	9,030	0	4,210	0	13,240
Transformation Fund	1,224	-27	11	0	1,208
Growth Fund	21,061	0	0	0	21,061
Transformation Programme	251	0	0	0	251
Housing Investment Fund	1,185	-128	84	0	1,141
High Street & Parks Improvement Fund	71	0	0	0	71
Health Facilities Fund	993	0	0	0	993
Health & Social Care Transformation Fund	1,500	0	0	0	1,500
Housing feasibility and viability	36	-36	0	0	0
Carbon Neutral Initiatives Fund	875	0	0	0	875
Hospital Discharge Funding	5,031	0	0	0	5,031
COVID recovery Fund	8,443	-4,178	0	0	4,265
Platinum Jubilee Fund	854	0	0	0	854
Capital Fund	1,251	0	0	0	1,251
Investment Fund	8	0	65	0	73
Tremendous Fund	595	0	13	0	608
Strategy Transformation Fund	149	-48	0	0	101
Social Care Staffing Fund	1,700	-870	0	0	830
IT Procurement Fund	336	-336	0	0	0
Legal Fund	635	-65	0	0	570
Education Fund	630	-525	0	0	105
Building Infrastructure Fund	2,000	-852	0	0	1,148

Arboricultural Backlog Fund	400	0	0	0	400
New Reserves Set Up in 2023/24					
Education Staffing Restructure	0	0	600	0	600
LBB Owned Affordable Housing Reserve	0	0	469	0	469
Sub-Total	170,682	-27,562	14,637	60	157,817
Schools	3,070	-959	0	0	2,111
Insurance Fund	3,912	-238	500	377	4,551
Sub-Total	177,664	-28,759	15,137	437	164,479
Collection Fund Deferred Costs Reserve *	2,283	-2,283	0	0	0
DSG Adjustment Account (Unusable Reserve) **	-12,706	-3,516	0	0	-16,222
TOTAL	167,241	-34,558	15,137	437	148,257

* This Reserve represents grants received and accrued for in 2021/22 & 2022/23, which will be used to fund costs that will accrue during 2023/24 & 2024/25.
 override. It is therefore shown here as if/when the override ends then any deficit will have to be met from revenue reserves.

SECTION 106 RECEIPTS

Section 106 receipts are monies paid to the Council by developers as a result of the grant of planning permission where works are required to be carried out or new facilities provided as a result of that permission (e.g. provision of affordable housing, healthcare facilities & secondary school places). The sums are restricted to being spent only in accordance with the agreement concluded with the developer.

The major balances of Section 106 receipts held by the Council are as follows:

31st March 2023 £000	Service	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers to/(from) Capital £000	Actual as at 31st March 2024 £000
<u>Revenue</u>					
408	Highway Improvement Works	237			645
1	Landscaping				1
8	Local Economy & Town Centres				8
82	Parking				82
169	Education				169
1,275	Healthcare Services	292	257		1,310
0	Community Facilities				-
89	Housing				89
959	Other	198			1,157
2,991		727	257	-	3,461
<u>Capital</u>					
4,744	Education	414			5,158
20	Highways				20
2,392	Housing				2,392
686	Local Economy & Town Centres				686
60	Other				60
7,902		414	0	-	8,316
10,893		1,141	257	0	11,777

SCHOOLS' DELEGATED BUDGETS

Consistent Financial Report (CFR) is a framework of income and expenditure items and balances, which provides schools with a benchmark facility to allow them to promote self-management and value for money. A CFR return has been produced by all schools maintained by the LA as at 31 March 2024.

The CFR framework details five balances which provide an overall picture of the resources available to the school from one year to the next and give information about any carried forward balances. The balances are categorised as follows:

- B01: Committed Revenue Balances
- B02: Uncommitted Revenue Balances
- B03: Devolved Formula Capital Balances
- B05: Other Capital Balances
- B06: Community Focussed Extended Schools Balances

N.B. B04 Other Standards Fund Capital Balances has now been removed as Standards Funds no longer exist.

The following table shows schools' reserves as at 31 March 2024, the end of the 2023/24 financial year. The table below shows an overall decrease in balances of £959k (from £3,070k to £2,111k). This decrease can be seen to be across both revenue and capital balances and mainly in special schools sectors, detailed below.

	Nos	Accrued Balances at 1 April 2023 £'000	Under/ Over (-) Expenditure in 2023/24 £'000	Accrued Balances at 31 March 2024 £'000	Analysis of Balances as at 31 March 2024						Nos
					Committed Revenue £'000	Uncommitted Revenue £'000	Devolved Formula Capital £'000	Other Capital £'000	Community Focussed Extended Services £'000	Total Balances £'000	
Primary Schools	3	1,117	61	1,178	163	959	56	0	0	1,178	3
Secondary Schools	1	215	-66	149	26	123	0	0	0	149	1
Special Schools	2	1,738	-954	784	208	316	24	42	194	784	2
Total	6	3,070	-959	2,111	397	1,398	80	42	194.0	2,111	6

THE DSG BUDGET

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

There is a total in year overspend of £3,516k on DSG funded services as outlined below.

An analysis of the main variations is provided below:

	£000 Outturn Variance
Special Education Needs Pre 16 Placements	3,983
Special Education Needs Post 16 Placements	109
Early Years	-1,136
Hearing Service	30
Education Welfare	44
Deficit in one of Schools When it Converted to Academy	38
Other Small Balances	448
Final Outturn	3,516

INVEST TO SAVE FUND

This earmarked reserve was set up with a sum of £14m, as approved by Council in October 2011, to enable "loans" to be provided for Invest to Save initiatives. Advances are to be repaid within a "reasonable" period with schemes providing on-going revenue savings to contribute towards reducing the budget gap. In February 2012, Executive agreed that the one-off Council Tax Freeze grant in 2012/13 be added to the Fund, bringing the total contributions up to £17,304k.

7 schemes have been approved to date and, as at 31st March 2024, the actual balance on the Fund stood at £18,275k as detailed in the table below:

Scheme	Approval date (Council/Exec)	To 31st March 2024				
		Contributions	Approved "loans"	Advanced from Fund	Repaid to Fund	Net "loan" 31/03/2024
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Approved funding</u>						
Initial Funding allocation	Oct-11	14,000				
Council Tax Freeze grant	Feb-12	3,304				
<u>Approved schemes</u>						
Green waste/textile collection service	Dec-11		220	220	220	0
Replace street lighting columns	Nov-12		8,507	11,366	12,337	-971
Bellegrave - refurbishment	Jan-13		400	508	508	0
Statemented pupils - travel training	13 & Jul 14		460	272	272	0
Transfer CSC to Liberata	Sep-13		330	322	322	0
Salix street lighting upgrade	Aug-19		500	500	500	0
Street Lighting LED conversion programme	Jul-21		3,200	771	771	0
			17,304	13,617	13,959	14,930
						-971
Actual Fund balance 31/03/24						18,275