

**Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Council Fund Variances**

**MONTH 8 - SUMMARY**

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
<b>Social Services</b>						
<b>Older People</b>						
Localities	15.990	15.584	(0.406)	(0.484)	Domiciliary Care reflects a projected underspend of £0.068m based on existing service users. Other underspends include a projected underspend of £0.104m on Intake/First Contact of which £0.071m is due to part year vacancy savings from within the Single Point of Access team. Locality Teams staffing reflects a projected underspend of £0.230m due to short term vacancy savings for a number of posts. Overall net minor variances £0.004m.	Continue to monitor and review.
Reablement Services	0.469	0.395	(0.074)	(0.085)	Reablement reflects a projected underspend of £0.074m which is due to additional Continuing Health Care (CHC) funding from BCUHB	Continue to monitor and review.
Community Equipment Contribution	0.478	0.378	(0.100)	(0.100)	Following review and implementation of an updated Section 33 partnership agreement for the North East Wales Community Equipment Store (NEWCES), the contribution levels of partners have been updated resulting in a reduced level of contribution from FCC going forward. In the longer term this saving has been earmarked for funding of some of the revenue costs for the new extra care facilities.	Continue to monitor and review.
Resources & Regulated Services	5.983	5.513	(0.470)	(0.521)	The main influences on the projected underspend of £0.470m are short term vacancy savings within extra care schemes £0.215m, due to recruitment and retention difficulties in the care sector. Additional residential client contributions amount to £0.264m, together with a further projected underspend of £0.016m on Residential Care due mainly to short term vacancy savings. Other minor variances amount to a net £0.025m.	Continue to monitor and review.
Minor Variances	0.234	0.232	(0.002)	(0.002)		
<b>Disability Services</b>						
Resources & Regulated Services	19.744	19.947	0.202	0.320	There are long standing and ongoing demand influenced pressures within the externally provided Supported Living services amounting to £0.145m. Work Opportunities and Day Services show a pressure of £0.088m, which is due to the delay in letting a new contract under an alternative delivery model (ADM). There is also a projected underspend of £0.076m on externally purchased care on Physical Disabilities and Sensory Impairment (PDSI), and a projected overspend of £0.045m on in house supported living.	Continue to monitor and review.
Disability Services	0.716	0.530	(0.186)	(0.157)	Increased CHC Funding for two service users under Transition to Adulthood from BCUHB. In addition, the contribution the Council is required to make for four high cost Transition service users to Welsh Government for residential college placements has reduced.	Following recent feedback from Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny committee, a full review will be undertaken of the reasons for this overspend and an action plan will be drawn up with a view to early remedial action.
Administrative Support	0.168	0.015	(0.153)	(0.152)	The projected underspend is due mainly to short term vacancy savings.	Continue to monitor and review.
Minor Variances	0.692	0.689	(0.003)	(0.010)		

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<b>Mental Health Services</b>						
Residential Placements	1.140	1.505	0.365	0.298	Ongoing pressure due to the numbers of long term residential placements, despite maximisation of opportunities to secure joint funding contributions from BCUHB	Following recent feedback from Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny committee, a full review will be undertaken of the reasons for this overspend and an action plan will be drawn up with a view to early remedial action.
Professional Support	0.736	0.686	(0.050)	(0.049)	Aggregate saving due to a number of short term vacancy savings	Continue to monitor and review.
Minor Variances	1.789	1.748	(0.041)	(0.026)		
<b>Children's Services</b>						
Family Placement	2.464	2.652	0.188	0.185	There is a long standing and ongoing pressure due to sustained demand influences beyond the level of the allocated budget.	Following recent feedback from Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny committee, a full review will be undertaken of the reasons for this overspend and an action plan will be drawn up with a view to early remedial action.
Family Support	0.296	0.369	0.073	0.042	There are pay pressures due to a combination of new contractual arrangements having been implemented for sessional workers and a number of the staff working significant additional hours.	Continue to monitor and review.
Professional Support	4.808	5.018	0.209	0.193	The projected overspend is due mainly to ongoing service pressures particularly within Prevention and Support, and is influenced by the need to support wider regional work on child protection issues	Following recent feedback from Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny committee, a full review will be undertaken of the reasons for this overspend and an action plan will be drawn up with a view to early remedial action.
Out of County Placements	3.641	5.006	1.365	1.230	This pressure is a continuation of the experience in 2016/17, where there was a significant increase in the number of high cost placements which was partly influenced by interpretations of additional responsibilities under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.	Following recent feedback from Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny committee, a full review will be undertaken of the reasons for this overspend and an action plan will be drawn up with a view to early remedial action.
Minor Variances	1.291	1.298	0.007	0.003		
<b>Development &amp; Resources</b>						
Charging Policy income	(2.641)	(2.788)	(0.148)	(0.125)	The projected underspend is due to surplus income which is mainly caused by the full year impact of changes to disregard rules on financial assessments which came into effect from August 2016	Continue to monitor and review.
Safeguarding Unit	0.810	0.908	0.098	0.114	There are continued significant demand influenced pressures on this service particularly within Adults safeguarding due to a significant increase in the numbers of referrals and the ongoing impact of the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguarding (DoLS) assessments.	Following recent feedback from Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny committee, a full review will be undertaken of the reasons for this overspend and an action plan will be drawn up with a view to early remedial action.
Good Health	0.941	0.824	(0.116)	(0.124)	The projected underspend is due to a number of short term vacancy savings and from recouping an overpayment from a Voluntary Organisation.	Continue to monitor and review.
Minor Variances	2.704	2.718	0.014	0.021		
<b>Total Social Services</b>	<b>62.454</b>	<b>63.227</b>	<b>0.773</b>	<b>0.570</b>		

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<b>Community &amp; Enterprise</b>						
Customer And Housing Services	1.568	1.601	0.033	0.014	Minor variances only.	
Council Fund Housing	(0.372)	(0.433)	(0.061)	(0.023)	Variance relates to the Telecare contract changes, management decision not to run new and existing contracts parallel until April.	This will be closely monitored in 2018/19.
Regeneration	0.412	0.509	0.097	0.046	Variance relates to Markets income review £0.054m and unachieved framework income for Energy Efficiency projects within 2017/18 £0.050m. Includes other minor variances £0.007m.	Continue to closely monitor income levels.
Revenues & Benefits	10.792	9.791	(1.001)	(0.669)	Variance relates to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme £0.530m and conclusion of the Single Person Discount review work £0.466m. Includes other minor variances of £0.005m from across the service.	Continue to monitor closely as these areas are highly volatile and projections are likely to change throughout the year.
Housing Programmes	0.140	0.149	0.009	0.005	Minor variance only.	
Minor Variances				0.000		
<b>Total Community &amp; Enterprise</b>	<b>12.540</b>	<b>11.617</b>	<b>(0.923)</b>	<b>(0.627)</b>		
<b>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>						
<b>Ancillary Services &amp; Performance</b>						
Waste Collection	7.118	7.558	0.440	0.417	Adverse variance of £0.200m relating to lower than anticipated energy production at the Landfill sites and reduced electricity sales from reducing levels of gas extraction.  Environment and Sustainable Development (ESD) grant pressure £0.111m due to the reduction of the grant in 17/18 of 3.7%.  Delay in the development of the new Rockcliffe HRC site resulting in additional running costs of two existing sites continuing to operate £0.050m.  Increase in CPI apply to the waste treatment contract of 2.8% above the 1% built into the monitoring, 0.030m.  £0.020m pressure from additional NNDR costs due to the reassessment of two Household Recycling sites.  Minor variances £0.029m	Energy production income levels being monitored monthly and contracts being prepared for the service to be outsourced. Reported in Programme Board Efficiency Tracker Keep under review as part of MTFS Indicative reduction in ESD grant for 18/19 - £0.299m
Parking & Enforcement	(0.084)	0.024	0.109	0.108	Shortfall of income from Flint Car Parking £0.100m. Pressure due to the town centre re-development being ongoing and impacting on the rollout of changes across the town. Minor variances £0.009m.	Keep under review as part of MTFS Reported in Programme Board Efficiency Tracker
Other Minor Variances	0.798	0.796	(0.003)	(0.006)		

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<b>Highways Network</b>						
Highways Network	7.466	7.810	0.344	0.335	<p>Due to ongoing discussions on Community Asset Transfers (CATs), the maintenance liability being transferred for Cemeteries to Town/Community Councils totalling £0.050m has not yet been implemented.</p> <p>Street lighting energy prices above the 2% standard with an increase of 16% resulting in a pressure of £0.131m.</p> <p>Public conveniences at Holywell and Mold (New Street) were due to close in April this year, however they will not close until March 2018 resulting in a pressure of £0.063m.</p> <p>The balance is the a cumulative amount of minor variances.</p> <p>Potential risk of overspend in the winter maintenance budget due to the recent snow event which may result in the use of winter maintenance reserves. Average winter consists of 70 turnouts and 5 snow days. The service has currently had 54 turnouts to date with the potential for further adverse weather over the next few months. 2,024 tonnes of salt was spread during the snow period in December.</p>	Keep under review as part of MTFS. Reported in Programme Board Efficiency Tracker. Continue to monitor street lighting energy prices.
<b>Transportation &amp; Logistics</b>						
Logistics & Resource Services	4.518	4.706	0.188	0.182	Shared specialist plant with neighbouring Authorities has not materialised from 16/17 business planning proposal £0.050m. Increase in Fleet insurance premium for 17/18 £0.100m. Minor variances £0.038m.	Keep under review as part of MTFS
School Transport	4.734	4.919	0.185	0.185	Ongoing additional subsidy costs following re-procurement for covering various school transport routes £0.185m.	No additional funding from WG due to Statutory provision requirements. Ongoing consideration will be required in the MTFS taking account of the cost for future years. Hoping to reduce cost through the Transportation retendering exercise.
Transportation	1.598	2.439	0.841	0.841	Ongoing additional subsidy costs following re-procurement for covering various public transport routes and the delay in introducing the Bus Subsidy efficiency in 17/18 £0.840m	Keep under review as part of MTFS. Reported in Programme Board Efficiency Tracker
Other Minor Variances	1.432	1.431	(0.000)	(0.002)		
<b>Total Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>	<b>27.580</b>	<b>29.684</b>	<b>2.104</b>	<b>2.061</b>		

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<b>Planning &amp; Environment</b>						
<b>Business</b>						
Pollution Control	0.476	0.532	0.056	0.050	An increase in prosecutions for unlicensed and unsafe residential properties has resulted in two temporary Environmental Health Officers being recruited to deal with this increase in demand.	Invest to Save funding bid for 2018/19
Minor Variances	1.086	1.067	(0.019)	(0.015)		Continue to monitor committed expenditure and reduce/remove expenditure where possible
<b>Community</b>						
Pest Control	0.004	0.054	0.050	0.044	Despite the the fact that the service has seen an increase in referrals during 2016/17 and onwards into 2017/18, the income target is unlikely to be achieved, based on current projections.	
Minor Variances	0.898	0.852	(0.046)	(0.061)	Minor variances.	Continue to monitor committed expenditure and reduce/remove expenditure where possible
<b>Development</b>						
Development Management	(0.384)	(0.129)	0.255	0.243	The projected Planning Fee Income shortfall is currently £0.255m as the economy has not continued to recover to the extent which the 3 year Business Plan forecast but the number of applications has increased. The annual income target for non-statutory Pre-Application Fees was met in Q1 and income has continued to increase only slowing down in recent weeks.	Continue to monitor Planning Fee levels and adjust projection accordingly
Minor Variances	0.158	0.106	(0.052)	(0.034)	Cumulative minor variances from a number of services.	Continue to monitor committed expenditure and reduce/remove expenditure where possible
<b>Access</b>						
Greenfield Valley	0.326	0.288	(0.039)	(0.046)	Vacancy savings and reduced zero hours contracts	Service review within Countryside is currently being undertaken
Minor Variances	1.015	1.012	(0.003)	0.001	Minor variances.	Continue to monitor committed expenditure and reduce/remove expenditure where possible
<b>Shared Services</b>						
Minor Variances	0.177	0.177	(0.000)	0.000	Minor variances.	Continue to monitor committed expenditure and reduce/remove expenditure where possible
<b>Strategy</b>						
Minor Variances	0.833	0.819	(0.013)	(0.015)	Minor variances.	Continue to monitor committed expenditure and reduce/remove expenditure where possible
Management Strategy	0.343	0.474	0.130	0.134	Balance of Business Planning Efficiencies for Staffing	Continue to monitor committed expenditure and reduce/remove expenditure where possible
<b>Total Planning &amp; Environment</b>	<b>4.932</b>	<b>5.253</b>	<b>0.320</b>	<b>0.301</b>		
<b>Education &amp; Youth</b>						
Inclusion & Progression	6.843	7.088	0.245	0.124	Variance largely relates to Out of County placements £0.262m. Several new placements have commenced during the period. Includes other minor variances from across the service. Minor variances £0.017m.	Continue close monitoring arrangements and updates following moderation meetings.
Integrated Youth Provision	1.345	1.298	(0.047)	(0.025)	Minor variances from across service area.	
School Improvement Systems	1.873	1.839	(0.034)	(0.017)	Minor variances from across service area.	
Business Change & Support	0.377	0.335	(0.042)	(0.042)	Minor variances. Includes savings following the review of software purchase.	
Minor Variances	0.611	0.611	(0.000)	0.000		
<b>Total Education &amp; Youth</b>	<b>11.048</b>	<b>11.171</b>	<b>0.123</b>	<b>0.041</b>		
<b>Schools</b>						
	88.862	88.862	0.000	(0.000)		

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<b>People &amp; Resources</b>						
HR & OD	2.029	2.219	0.190	0.174	The overspend is due to partial achievement of business planning efficiency and loss of income contribution from Wrexham Occupational Health Services	Service delivery options are being considered for the Occupational Health Service
Corporate Finance	2.089	2.354	0.265	0.285	This is due to the roll out of manager self serve and the operating model review taking longer than planned	Continue to look for income maximisation and progress structural review
<b>Total People &amp; Resources</b>	<b>4.118</b>	<b>4.572</b>	<b>0.455</b>	<b>0.459</b>		
<b>Governance</b>						
Legal Services	0.688	0.702	0.014	0.005	Minor variances	Continue to monitor and review
Democratic Services	1.924	1.929	0.005	0.009	Minor variances	Continue to monitor and review
Internal Audit	0.443	0.375	(0.069)	(0.072)	Due to in-year vacancies.	Continue to monitor and review
Procurement	0.168	0.296	0.128	0.128	Due to conscious decision to no longer pursue supplier income for registration onto the Councils payment portal.	Pressure to be considered as part of the MTFS
ICT	4.428	4.463	0.035	0.031	Minor variances	Continue to monitor and review
<b>Total Governance</b>	<b>7.651</b>	<b>7.764</b>	<b>0.114</b>	<b>0.100</b>		
<b>Organisational Change 1</b>						
Public Libraries & Arts, Culture & Events	1.583	1.589	0.006	0.013	Minor variances.	Continue to monitor and review.
Museums	0.067	0.067	(0.000)	(0.000)	Minor variances.	Continue to monitor and review.
County Archives	0.286	0.289	0.003		Minor variances.	Continue to monitor and review.
Leisure	3.807	3.874	0.067	0.067	Aura Leisure and Libraries Ltd was established on 1st September. This was delayed by 2 months due to a range of queries in 3 separate responses from the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) in registering the company. These issues are now resolved.	Continue to monitor and review.
Community Assets	0.024	0.024	0.000	0.000	Minor variances.	Continue to monitor and review.
<b>Total Organisational Change 1</b>	<b>5.768</b>	<b>5.843</b>	<b>0.075</b>	<b>0.079</b>		
<b>Organisational Change 2</b>						
Administrative Buildings	1.241	1.130	(0.111)	(0.112)	£0.111m estimated efficiencies from the closure of phases 3 and 4 in County Hall. Other minor variances	
Agricultural Estates	(0.189)	(0.160)	0.028	0.037	Minor variances	
Property Holdings	0.015	(0.010)	(0.025)	(0.010)	Minor Variances	
Property Asset And Development	0.446	0.345	(0.101)	(0.085)	£0.066m in year salary savings. Other minor variances £0.035m	
Caretaking & Security	0.302	0.260	(0.042)	(0.035)	Minor Variances	
CPM & Design Services	0.691	0.474	(0.217)	(0.221)	£0.139m projected additional fee income above target. £0.070m in year salary savings. Other minor variances £0.008m	
Industrial Units	(1.153)	(1.021)	0.132	0.158	£0.132m as a result of unachieved rental income, to be offset against office efficiencies.	
CCTV & Open Spaces	0.184	0.215	0.031	0.027	Minor Variances	
Minor Variances	0.752	0.752	(0.000)	(0.000)		
<b>Total Organisational Change 2</b>	<b>2.288</b>	<b>1.985</b>	<b>(0.303)</b>	<b>(0.241)</b>		
<b>Chief Executive</b>	<b>2.926</b>	<b>2.796</b>	<b>(0.130)</b>	<b>(0.129)</b>	Due to in-year vacancy savings and underspends on specialist budgets such as sustainable development, Your Community/Your Council and public relations.	Continue to monitor and review

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Central and Corporate Finance	24.990	23.228	(1.763)	(1.352)	<p>An underachievement on the income target of £0.412m, though work is continuing to identify areas of opportunity.</p> <p>Support Services recharge, has resulted in a shortfall of £0.234m due to a reduction in overall operating costs.</p> <p>Car parking permit income shortfall of £0.080m.</p> <p>Reduced audit fees, underspend of £0.127m.</p> <p>Social Services, one off in year underspend of £1.608m held centrally to mitigate any in year overspends; £0.513m resulting from remaining pressure budgeted in 17/18 no longer required, £0.500m due to funding being secured from the Regional Intergrated Care Fund, a revenue grant allocation on a one off basis. An additional £0.595m of Welsh Government funding for Social Care has recently been confirmed.</p> <p>Projected Pension fund variance £0.295m due to surplus of budget required for increase in contributions in 2017/18.</p> <p>Apprentice Tax Levy underspend of £0.049m, increased data has enabled a more accurate projection.</p> <p>Auto enrolment of employees to the pension scheme became effective in October 2017. Early analysis indicates that the actual numbers are less than estimated which gives a favourable in year variance of £0.443m.</p> <p>Windfall income an underachievement of £0.040m.</p> <p>Minor variances £0.007m.</p>	<p>Work is continuing to identify areas of opportunity to generate income. Keep under review as part of MTFS considerations.</p> <p>Social Services - Keep under review as part of MTFS considerations to assess 18/19 impact.</p> <p>Pension Fund / Apprentice Tax Levy - Keep under review in year to consider potential for mitigation of 18/19 pressure. Auto enrolment - further analysis is required to assess the impact on 2018/19.</p>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>255.156</b>	<b>256.002</b>	<b>0.846</b>	<b>1.262</b>		