

## Council Fund Variances

## MONTH 8 - SUMMARY

Service	Movement between Periods (£m)	Narrative for Movement between Periods greater than £0.025m
<b>Social Services</b>		
<b>Older People</b>		
Localities	0.138	Residential care costs have increased by £0.084m and domiciliary care costs increased by £0.132m, both of these are demand led services, There was a decrease in staffing costs of £0.077m as vacancies are to be filled later than previously planned.
Resources & Regulated Services	-0.106	There have been positive variances for residential care £0.044m, Extra Care £0.032m, Homecare £0.022 and Day Services £0.08m. Recruitment and retention continues to be challenging and prolonged recruitment delays lead to a reduction in costs for services.
Minor Variances	-0.033	
<b>Adults of Working Age</b>		
Resources & Regulated Services	0.055	There has been an overall increase to care packages costs within Disability Services.
Children to Adult Transition Services	-0.034	There is a decrease to the cost of care packages for young people transferring from Children's Services to Adult Social Care. As these care packages are new, an initial estimate is required and it is not uncommon for there to be differences between the cost of care package agreed and the initial estimate.
Professional and Administrative Support	-0.031	Delays to recruitment are resulting in longer time periods where posts are vacant.
Minor Variances	-0.071	
<b>Children's Services</b>		
Legal & Third Party	0.055	There has been an increase in legal costs which includes one high cost case.
Professional Support	0.049	Cost increases are due to increasing demand for Direct Payments for children with disabilities £0.032m and leaving care costs (which includes asylum seeking children) and agency costs £0.056m. These increases are being partially mitigated by a net decrease to overall employee costs of £0.039m.
Minor Variances	0.007	
<b>Safeguarding &amp; Commissioning</b>		
Minor Variances	-0.037	
<b>Total Social Services</b>	<b>-0.009</b>	
<b>Out of County Placements</b>		
Children's Services	0.231	Net impacts of new placements, changes of placements, ended placements and reduction of contingency provision
Education & Youth	-0.041	Net impacts of new placements, changes of placements and reduction of contingency provision
<b>Total Out of County Placements</b>	<b>0.190</b>	
<b>Education &amp; Youth</b>		
Inclusion & Progression	-0.110	Movement of £0.110m due to further savings identified. £0.050m within the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) service, which has funds committed to cover the ALN Band C overspend within Primary Schools. Previously committed spend from the Local Authority Education Grant for ALN has now become available, therefore we can maximise the grant by using it to fund the Band C pressure within schools, releasing base budget as a saving. A further £0.060m has been identified within the EAL/Traveller service. £0.095m budget from 2022-23 was agreed to be c/f to be used for Trauma Training One course has been run at a cost of £0.035m. The service have decided not to run any future courses, therefore leaving an underspend of the carry forward balance of £0.060m.
School Improvement Systems	-0.045	Movement of £0.034m within the School Improvement Service due to further grant funding. £0.027m from the Shared Prosperity Fund Multiply project. The service Manager for ACL (Adult Community Learning) has been co-ordinating the SPF project until the project manager is appointed. Additional £0.003m funding from the Citizens Curriculum grant and £0.004m for secondment work to Estyn.
Minor Variances	-0.026	
<b>Total Education &amp; Youth (Non-Schools)</b>	<b>-0.181</b>	
<b>Schools</b>	<b>-0.000</b>	
<b>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>		
Highways Network	0.026	Minor movements across the service
Transportation	-0.089	Vacancies and moratorium spend reductions are contributing to the overall positive movement.
Regulatory Services	-0.072	Vacancies and moratorium spend reductions are contributing to the overall positive movement.
Minor Variances	0.005	
<b>Total Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>	<b>-0.130</b>	
<b>Planning, Environment &amp; Economy</b>		
Development	-0.021	Staff savings from vacant posts
Access	-0.057	Maximisation of Grant income for Countryside projects
Shared Services	-0.058	Staff savings from vacant post

Service	Movement between Periods (£m)	Narrative for Movement between Periods greater than £0.025m
Minor Variances	-0.018	
<b>Total Planning &amp; Environment</b>	<b>-0.154</b>	
<b>People &amp; Resources</b>		
HR & OD	-0.017	Staff savings from vacant posts
Corporate Finance	-0.024	Staff savings from vacant posts
<b>Total People &amp; Resources</b>	<b>-0.041</b>	
<b>Governance</b>		
Democratic Services	-0.020	Savings following a reduction in the employer superannuation contribution percentages for Members
Internal Audit	-0.031	Commitment for Agency cover removed in response to the moratorium, Reduction in Postage costs anticipated to March, 2024
ICT	-0.023	Staff savings from vacant posts £0.010m, delayed project following Moratorium £0.030m, minor variances across the Services.
Customer Services	-0.043	Staff savings from vacant post, Increase in projected fee income Registrars; Consultation and Engagement software deferred £0.015m
Revenues	0.031	Projected surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund £0.150m reduced at Month 7 due to potential exemptions following the recent storms
<b>Total Governance</b>	<b>-0.086</b>	
<b>Assets</b>		
CPM & Design Services	-0.098	Due to increased fee income
Minor Variances	-0.017	
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>-0.115</b>	
<b>Housing and Community</b>		
Housing Solutions	0.070	Net impacts of additional hotel costs and increased HSG allocation and other minor movements
Minor Variances	-0.020	
<b>Total Housing and Community</b>	<b>0.050</b>	
<b>Chief Executive's</b>	<b>-0.014</b>	
<b>Central &amp; Corporate Finance</b>	<b>-0.239</b>	Following an update on the Central Loan & Investment Account (CLIA), with continuing increased income from investments / reduced borrowing, we can report a favourable movement of £0.250m.
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>-0.728</b>	