

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Policy & Performance Portfolio

16 November 2010

AUTHOR/S: Executive Director, Corporate Services / Head of Accountancy

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE Q2

Purpose

1. To provide the Portfolio Holder with an update on quarter 2 performance for the year 2010-11.
2. This is not a key decision but provides key performance information necessary to assess the authority's performance against its strategic aims and effectiveness of its budgetary control in doing so.

Recommendations

3. The Policy and Performance Portfolio Holder is requested to note the contents of the report.

Background

4. The 2010-11 estimates for the Policy and Performance Portfolio form part of the overall considerations for the Council's annual budget setting exercise and were presented for endorsement by the Portfolio Holder, prior to being confirmed by Council in February 2010.
5. The financial performance review for quarter 2 in 2010-11 reports on the variance between the profiled budget and the total expenditure and commitments for that period, and is shown in **Appendix A**.

Considerations

Financial Performance Quarter 2 2010-11

6. When compared to the profiled estimate for the second quarter 2010-11 the Policy and Performance Portfolio shows an under-spend, this variance is attributable to direct costs the recharges being shown as a commitment equal to the profiled estimate for the year.
7. When compared to the profiled quarter 2 estimate the Policy and Performance service shows an under-spend of £14,075. This is due in part to slippage on the Customer Service Excellence project caused by delays in receiving feedback from consultants. The programme is regularly reviewed and the 2010-11 outturn variance is expected to be minimal.
8. The full year estimate of £21,000 relating to the Place Survey and Customer Satisfaction Survey is no longer required; the latter being produced in-house achieving a saving of £11,000. Opportunities for virement of the under-spend to support other service areas are being investigated.

9. The Housing Tenants Survey is no longer required but has no affect on the Portfolio over/under-spend, the estimated cost being funded by a recharge to the Housing revenue Account

Implications

10. The Council needs to ensure that it spends within its budget, because of the impact on the level of balances and the implication for the Medium term Financial Strategy.

11.

Financial	As detailed in the report.
Legal	None
Staffing	None
Risk Management	As above
Equal Opportunities	None
Climate Change	None

Consultations

12. The relevant cost centre managers who are responsible for setting the level of their respective budgets and controlling the expenditure within them have been consulted.

Effect on Strategic Aims

13. The effect of any under or overspending on the achievement of corporate aims, service priorities and performance indicators and the linking of budgets with service performance is an ongoing challenge which the Council must continue to meet.

Conclusions / Summary

14. In the second quarter 2010-11 expenditure shows an under-spend of £14,075 against the profiled budget for the period due to project slippage and the cancellation of planned surveys.

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Estimates 2010/11

Contact Officer: Sally Smart – Principal Accountant (Finance and Systems)
Telephone: (01954) 713076