

APPENDIX B

Significant items of movement shown in the 2013-14 Provisional Outturn Statement

General Fund

- a. An analysis of the **Departmental Accounts** compared to the working estimates indicates that vacancies and other in year changes to staffing budgets has resulted in savings of £218,100, after taking into account the use of agency staff to manage turnover and cover vacancies and allowing for the reduction of £500,000 for vacancies which was included in the estimates;

Finance & Staffing

- b. Improving economic conditions have resulted in lower payments than anticipated to **Benefits** claimants. With recovery of amounts previously paid, to which there was no entitlement, and other income, this has resulted in a £295,200 saving to the Council;

Corporate & Customer Services

- c. Rental income from external users of the **Cambourne Offices** is £36,000 more than allowed for in the original estimates;
- d. The Council has been able to reclaim £54,000 more **Elections** expenses than originally expected;

Environmental Services

- e. The **Refuse Collection & Recycling Service** reduced staffing/fuel costs through managing staff numbers and flexible working and increased trade refuse income, resulting in savings against budget of £60,500. The expected procurement of in-cab technology to facilitate round optimisation will now take place in 2014-15, for which a roll-over request of £58,700 has been submitted;
- f. The **Pest Control** service is now not being provided which has led to winding up costs of £34,900.

Housing General Fund

- g. Expenditure on **Improvement Grants** is £25,000 more than budgeted mainly because of an under-estimate provided by an outside organisation for an outstanding invoice relating to 2012-13;
- h. A change to the private rental scheme resulted in a Housing Association returning £29,100 to us against the **Homelessness** budget;

Planning and Economic Development

- i. The **Council** incurred unforeseen expenditure of £38,700 in settlement of a claim for compensation related to a tree preservation order;
- j. **Planning Income** is £746,800 more than originally estimated because of a number of large fees relating to planning permission for solar panels developments. This was

because of a legislation change on 1st April 2014, which meant that applications were submitted before this change came into effect;

- k. Additional costs of £23,200 have been incurred in dealing with overgrown trees at the **Open Space** in Teversham;

Unallocated

- l. The effect of the new **Retained Non-Domestic Rates System**, the operation of which was devolved to councils for the first time in 2013-14, has been £550,000 more than estimated, mainly because of refunds to ratepayers as agreed by the Valuation Officer relating to previous years;
- m. **Investment Income** is £12,000 more than the estimate because of increased balances giving rise to more investing opportunities;

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

- n. **Housing Repairs** have saved £48,100 from tightly managing the various repairs programmes;
- o. **Sheltered Housing** has saved £20,200 on equipment purchase;
- p. **General Administration**: Payments to tenants for moving to enable re-development were £191,700 less than estimated in year. These re-developments will occur in future years and budget provision will be allowed for in the relevant year;
- q. All planned **Tenant Participation** groups and activities took place in the year; effective commissioning and procurement of these (e.g. tenants' magazine and training events) resulted in £24,400 savings against budget.
- r. Additional **Income** of £207,300 has been received, because of a combination of better void turn-around and re-let properties rental amounts being higher;
- s. As Right to Buy Sales have been greater than anticipated this has meant that £1,378,000 of Capital expenditure has not had to be **funded from Revenue**;
- t. These have enabled £1,500,000 to be **transferred to the Investment Reserve**;

Capital

- u. The **New Homes Programme** is scheduled to take place over several years and continues to be developed. The Linton scheme was completed in year, other schemes are being prepared and a further new scheme has been identified for 2014-15. £742,100 was not required to be drawn down in 2013-14 and has been requested to be rolled-over into 2014-15 to allocate towards these schemes;
- v. Some **ICT** projects were postponed due to awareness that the vendor is making changes to the product/service, making it more viable to defer and buy the updated version when available. Delays in recruiting to some vacant posts, while providing an in year revenue saving, impacted on resources available to deliver some capital

projects within previously anticipated timeframes. The government delayed the need for us to provide upgrades to Cabinet Office requirements for PSN compliance. As a result, work to the value of £142,000 is now expected to be undertaken in 2014-15 and has been requested to be rolled over;

- w. **Repurchases of GF Sheltered Properties** have been £45,000 more than budgeted; and
- x. The planned replacement of **Awarded Watercourses** vehicles has not taken place because they have not reached the end of their economic life; a request has been received to roll-over the £40,000 into 2014-15.