# Resources Scrutiny Commission Supplementary Information



**Date:** Thursday, 6 February 2020

**Time:** 4.00 pm

Venue: City Hall

#### **Distribution:**

**Councillors:** Stephen Clarke (Chair), Mark Brain (Vice-Chair), Donald Alexander, Afzal Shah, Mhairi Threlfall, Hibaq Jama, Margaret Hickman, Graham Morris, John Goulandris, Sultan Khan, Clive Stevens and Geoff Gollop

Issued by: Johanna Holmes, Democratic Services

City Hall, Bristol, BS1 5TR Tel: 0117 90 36898

E-mail: democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk

Date: 5th February 2020



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### Supplementary Agenda

#### 8. Finance Task and Finish Group Report

Responses to questions from the Finance Task and Finish Group.

(Pages 3 - 14)



## Resources Scrutiny Commission 06/02/2020



**Report of:** Michael Pilcher, Chief Accountant

Title: 2020/21 Budget Scrutiny

Ward: All

Officer Presenting Report: n/a

**Contact Telephone Number:** 0117 9036287

#### Recommendation

To note the responses to questions submitted by Resources scrutiny.

#### The significant issues in the report are:

The following appendices are responses to questions submitted by Resources Scrutiny in preparation for the meeting to scrutinise the 2020/21 budget proposals.

Appendix 1 - Growth and Regeneration

Appendix 2 - People

Appendix 2a - Adult Social Care Budget

Appendix 3 - Resources

#### Resources Scrutiny Commission – 2020/21 Budget Scrutiny Questions

Growth and Regen Directorate						
No	Question	Answer				
1	Residents Parking PL03  a) This shows zero spend for all 5 years. Or is all spend associated with existing schemes now revenue? If so how much and in which line?	Yes the spend associated with existing schemes is now all revenue. Ongoing works relating to the existing RPS are now covered through revenue budgets, which all fall within Division 47, Management of Place in the report. The 2020-21 budgeted revenue expenditure figure for RPS is £1,086,180.				
		The capital programme covered the creation of the RPS and at least one subsequent formal review. The reviews were completed during 2018-19 & 2019-20 and the capital works are now complete				
2	a) Currently down for £7.4m of capital. What is the likely cost looking like now?	Note commercial sensitivity.  We intend to proceed with the intended Capital stabilisation works as per PLO9a for £7.4m forecast. However there has been a recent failure of the wall which supports the chocolate path which may incur an additional cost. Works to support the existing structure are in motion with the immediate additional costs being covered by existing budgets. The long term options of addressing the wall structure itself is currently being evaluated along with the various options of reinstatement but we are unable to provide an estimate of the potential additional costs of these works at this point in time. This will be evaluated once the Contract Works are substantially completed.				
3	Highways and traffic infrastructure PL10  a) This is £38m over the 5 years. How is this broken down by transport mode (walking, cycling, bus etc) please?	The allocation for each year of £7.5m is based on an estimate of future funding from WECA as part of the capital Highways Maintenance Grant (£3.132m), Highways Incentive Grant (£0.652m) and Integrated Transport Block Grant (£2.743m), and Prudential Borrowing for structures and carriageway maintenance to reduce future revenue costs (£1m).  Historically the Highways Maintenance Grant, Highways Incentive Grant and Prudential Borrowing would be utilised for maintenance of structures, carriageway and footways – this work would affects multiple transport modes (bus, car, cycling, walking). The remaining funding is allocated yearly, based on the current transport priorities and other available funding streams. As such it is not possible to break this				

		budget down by transport mode.
4	<ul> <li>Affordable Housing grants PL30</li> <li>a) What is the breakdown of the categories of the £72m five year investment please?</li> <li>b) For the affordable housing grants (non S106 i.e. after permission has been granted) what are the sources of those funds?</li> </ul>	a) The £72m investment supports the Affordable Housing Grant Funding Programme (c£50m), capitalised salaries for the Housing Delivery Team, Housing Enabling and external grant funding.  b) BCC Affordable Housing Grants (to RPs etc.) is funded from the Council's Prudential Borrowing. To date this fund has enabled 380 'additional' (over and above s106 agreements) social rent/affordable rent homes (below local housing allowance limits) to receive grant funds.    2019/20   Ref   Scheme   2020/21   2021/22   2022/23   2023/24   2024/25   Total   2000s   200
		0     \$106     (500)     (500)     (500)     0     0     (1,500)       (8,711)     (31,478)     (17,967)     (11,458)     (11,160)     0     (72,063)
5	a) £148m to deliver new council housing stock over the next five years (p88) and yet it seems to decline slightly from 20/21 peak of £40.8m - why?	<ul> <li>The 2020/21 development plan budget accurately reflects the expected costs of: <ul> <li>Completing the existing phase of work on sites where building has commenced, such as Alderman Moores (now known as Ashton Rise); and</li> <li>Commencing a new phase of development; seeking planning permission on new sites and commencing building on 5 of these.</li> </ul> </li> <li>As indicated in the January 2020 HRA Budget report, whilst the annual budget has been updated the 5 year medium term financial plan has not, as future years income and expenditure will be reviewed in depth as part of the review of 30 year business plan in the coming months.</li> <li>Through this work we will be identifying what new development the 30 year business plan can support, though this needs to be considered alongside other ambitions as outlined in the budget report (service improvement, estate regeneration, carbon retrofitting and responding to building regulations relating to building safety).</li> </ul>
		We remain committed to our ambition to maximise opportunities for new council

	housing development over the course of the 30 year plan.

#### Resources Scrutiny Commission – 2020/21 Budget Scrutiny Questions

Peo	ple Directorate	
No	Question	Answer
1	Adult Social Care The P8 report forecasts a £154.4m outturn. (P9 is £154.35m). This needs to be reconciled with the 20/21 Budget of £145.55m to fully understand the challenges facing the ASC team in achieving this budget. On 27/1 We discussed and agreed the need for a reconciliation please in the form as follows:	See Appendix A for reconciliation.
	P8 outturn £154.4m add back the £2.028m one off winter pressures income in 19/20 = £156.4m	
	Then reduce savings and add extra pressures from the £156.4m like: - add in the £0.787m expected pay award, - reduce £0.920m of costs transferring to housing dept, - reduce £2.86m of iBCF funding and more This will come to a figure £Xm that is ASC costs before savings.	
	That figure £Xm compared with the new budget of £145.55m shows the true challenge (or gap) that needs to be made up from savings from approved programs like Better Lives, ASC Innovation and some capital spend as well as programs not yet finalised.	
2	Children and Families Service Cost control depends heavily on the effectiveness of the Strengthening Families and Edge of Care programs (FP31). This has been working well and bucking the national trend. But I have heard of some recently expensive placements due	a) The most significant uncontrollable expense is the requirement on the local authority to meet the remand costs of young people in custody. We do receive a grant based on previous trends of £180k. Each young person costs approximately £200k if on remand for one full year. In this financial year we have had significant periods of time when 6 young people have been

	to Court/Police decisions (out of our control).  a) P9 outturn is £62.75m, similar to P8 so have these recent costs been incorporated into the outturn? If not are they significant?  b) If they are significant how are they being mitigated this year and does that leave us in a more difficult situation next year? How much?	remanded and so we are forecasting approximately £700k spend. The difference between the budget and spend is being mitigated elsewhere within existing budgets.  b) The budget is based on a formula determined by the Ministry of Justice which looks at the numbers of remands over previous years. We receive the grant annually in April each year. We are using a mixture of troubled families, children centre and early help cost centres to meet the gap as I am expected to consume the overspend in my budget.  Next year we might get an enhanced grant depending on government decisions, and based on our higher use of remand this year. It is uncontrollable in that we cannot dictate the number of young people who will be remanded in custody and so we have to meet the expenditure.
3	<ul> <li>Educational Improvement</li> <li>This is budgeted at £11.831m.</li> <li>a) Does this include the costs of processing EHCPs? (If not where is it please).</li> <li>b) We note that P9 shows an expected outturn of £12.495m. This implies a saving of £0.65m to be made next year, what are the chances of containing this? (Note - this question was written before the SEND Scrutiny Day so it might need to be reworded at Resource Scrutiny in the light of further information).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>a) Within the budget of £11.8m, £0.91m is the budget for Special Needs Team staffing – which includes the staff supporting EHCP. (Total High Needs General Fund is £6.778m, includes further £5.423m on HTST and £0.445m for Ed Psyc and Sensory Support).</li> <li>b) This relates to the Home-to-School Transport saving, which is currently undergoing a service review seeking to introduce new software to make the service more efficient. This will look to reduce the overspend back in line with budget for 2020/21.</li> </ul>
4	<ul> <li>Education</li> <li>a) Is any of this Capital program on p81 allocated for expanding in house SEND provision?</li> <li>b) We note that PEO2 on page 86 describes additional SEN provision capital investment and this totals £42m. What projects might this include?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>a) Yes approx. £11m of the capital is for expanding existing in house SEND provision         <ul> <li>a. KnowleDGE</li> <li>b. Kingsweston Special School</li> <li>c. Feasibility work to identify future key SEND expansion and improvement projects</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		b)	This is the project pending business case development and securing external funding. It is recognised that further SEND capital investment is required in the city, to which external SEND grant would need to be directed on receipt. Invest to save opportunities are being explored, lobbying DFE for to enable the PWLB borrowing to be charged to DSG.
5	Care Services  a) This shows zero capital spend. Does this mean we have no social care infrastructure or that we don't need to maintain it? Or something else?		Capital expenditure of maintenance of general fund Council owned property is included within Resources under Building Practice Service.  The project relates to Day Opportunities and reports as completed in 2019/20 which had a remaining Budget of £0.228m which the Forecast is confirming will be spent in full
6	<ul> <li>Mobile Working for Social Care RE05</li> <li>a) This shows zero capital spend. This was an important project two years ago to help control Care spend. What is its status now?</li> <li>b) Has it been absorbed into the larger IT projects above that line. If so which one?</li> </ul>	a)	In March 2018 a Social Care proposal was approved by Cabinet to invest in tablets for the Children's and Adult Care Services to enable agile/mobile working and bring in efficiencies and meet some Ofsted recommendations amongst other things. The project was commenced to deliver service improvements quickly (to ASC within 1 year and to Children's Services by 2020). It was run as a separate project due to expected delays in the FSA Programme (Future State Assessment, approved by Cabinet in July 2018) which could also deliver the technology.
			The project experienced a series of delays, both technical and operational. A small number of pilot devices were deployed with the mobile application (a cut-down version of the case management system which holds just the records needed and synchronises changes with the main system), and this has generated some valuable feedback. One of the key findings is that the Council has been unable to obtain supplier assertions that the mobile software meets the security standards expected by Information Assurance officers. In addition, it has been identified that a variety of different devices is required to meet the different workstyles across the services (one type does not fit all).
		b)	The technical aspects for the Agile Working pilot were essentially a short-term

tactical solution which was developed prior to the FSA Programme being established with its long-term solution not ready to deploy. However, now that the IT Transformation Programme (the successor to the FSA Programme) is developing its roll-out schedule, it would seem sensible for the Care Services to now get the properly developed long-term solution (which is fully supported and robust) when the timelines for deployment of either solution appear to be almost identical (end 2020)

In Nov 2019 all the money attributed for the laptops/tablets, and small amount of equipment used for trials, has been transferred back to the IT department. This money will be utilised to procure the equipment which will be delivered as part of the IT Transformation Programme, and the equipment is being used elsewhere for other trials.

It seems that the business case in March 2018 didn't quantify the benefits nor how they would be achieved or monitored and as the project delivery has not been met, the anticipated service improvements haven't been realised thus not reducing cost pressures on ASC.

#### ICT's offer...

- 1) The new IT approach is to supply PC's, laptops etc with Windows10 (W10) and to configure them for Cloud Computing so that the applications run on the Cloud and not on the PC. This also means that all hardware will be required to have more robust security protocols (and 4G). Non W10 hardware like iPads/Android will have their Council software operate in a contained part of the software. This "contained area" will be invisible to the user but provide protection if there are other non-Council apps running.
- 2) Therefore all Council applications (nearly 800 of them) need to be able to run on W10; some of our existing apps can do this, some need upgrades and some legacy software needs replacement software as it cannot be upgraded.
- 3) In addition to considering whether software is compatible with W10, Information Assurance Officers are establishing whether our software meets

4)	current security standards and is compatible with GDPR legislation. The mobile application to be used by Social Care needs to meet these standards, and at present, we do not have confirmation whether it can. It is thought any development or assurance work to achieve/assure these standards, could take 6 months or more.  When the new devices and the new mobile application are released, it will enable social workers to update information wherever they are sited without returning to the office. Referrals will be able to be made quicker and bring more confidence to users of the care services. In addition, they will be able to meet the ofsted requirements about children's photo albums (life histories). These benefits directly brought about by the scope of the Agile Working Project will be augmented by the wider collaboration and productivity improvements which will be made available through the IT Transformation Programme.
The wid	der costs to BCC
2)	It seems there still isn't a clearly defined and available benefits document for the Agile Working Project. But, since improved efficiency of operation is expected and hasn't occurred, it could be costly. We are entering a phase of carer shortages (especially for homecare) then every 5% improvement in efficiency will make a huge saving on costs to the service, £millions or more. The delivery of the Agile Working benefits are now part of the IT Transformation Programme and requires better coordination with Children's and Adult Care Services.
£1.3m improv	rual funding earmarked for general high-needs spend in 2020/21 is £61.0m as allocated from the schools block will be held in abeyance for the education ement programme. In addition there is a further £1.5m from the general fund .2m carried forward from £2019/20 giving the total £4m for the education

#### **Dedicated Schools Grant & High Needs Block**

P227 shows the high needs block funding at £62.38m for 20/21. The spend is set at the same amount. We query this; the P9 forecast for 2019/20 is £60.269m. But there are major pressures on that.

- A lot of work is going in to catch up on the EHCPs (and the

The £1. im and transformation programme.

The detail on the High Needs Block spend and wider Education Transformation

reviews). Whilst some reviews might reduce the need it is assumed that most new ones will trigger new needs at £20k to £25k per head. So potentially the catch up and then providing resources for 400 extra SEND children could add £ multi millions of costs.

- Pay rises (if 2.7%) could be £1.5m on top. Some of the skills are in tight demand so inflation could be higher.

Therefore please we would like to see a more rigorous presentation of the predicted SEND needs.

Programme will be presented at Schools Forum on 31 March 2020. The detailed financial impact of the unprocessed EHCPs will form part of this.

It needs to be noted that the grant conditions for the DSG have changed for 2020/21 reinforcing the ring-fenced nature of the grant and will prohibit any contributions from general funds.

Current forecast outturn is £60.3m in comparison to a £61.0m budget in 2020/21.

Pag	_	_
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Property					Directly allocated to Social Care Budget Held Corporately										
Marting A Constructive Information Association   13,000   18,000	2018/19	Financial Year 2019/20	Forecast	Budget	One-off	Charges		Growth	Assumption	Budget		Pay Inflation		Total	
Working Aar Adah's 18-64   27-05   36-00   3		Gross Expenditure													
2,000   2,00	30,351	Staffing & Overheads - Referral & Assessment	31,558	34,981	2,028	-24	-3,707	0	0	33,279	2,100	787	2,228	38,394	6,836
2,000   2,00		Washing Age Adults 19 54													
1,729   Nouring   1,727	28,050		27,905	26,400						26,400				26,400	-1,505
1	3,726		3,637	3,400											
1,000   1,00															
1,005   Description   1,005															
1.171															
10.043   Devel Pergenets	14,173	Accommodation based support	16,446	13,751						13,751				13,751	-2,695
23.49    Older Populs 55-   23.27    59.854   23.27    23.854   23.854   23.854   23.2854   23					•	•	•				•		•		
22,409   Restdential   33,77   19,864   21,207   22,207   22,207   23,207	66,054	Subtotal	69,473	63,533	U	U	U	U	U	63,533	U	U	U	63,533	-5,940
1,047   Charge   1,047   Charge   1,048   1,		Older People 65+													
13.468										19,854				19,854	
August   A															
Second															
Accommodation based support															
Adult Recement			474												
System   S															
Preparing for Adulthood - 0 to 25															
Preparing for Adulthood - 0 to 25					0	0	0		0		0	0	0		
3,490	72,703	Subtotal	74,002	03,081	U	U	U	0	U	03,081	0	0	U	03,081	-8,321
	1	Preparing for Adulthood - 0 to 25													
Second Support Substance Misuse Support   Social Support															
134   Daycare   223   150   279   2209   2	0									-				-	
2,797   ABS	13/			·						3					
1,454   Outreech															
693   DP Long	1,454	Outreach	1,619	1,462						1,462				1,462	-157
8,954 Subtotal 9,700 8,228 0 0 0 0 0 0 8,228															-60
Social Support   Social Support   Substance Misuse Support   G60   719   719   719   719   720					0	0	•	•							-51
697   Social Support: Substance Misuse Support   660   719   729   729   736   736   736   736   736   737   737   738   738   739	0,954	Subtotal	9,700	8,228	U	U	U	U	U	0,220				8,228	-1,472
697   Social Support: Substance Misuse Support   660   719   729   729   736   736   736   736   736   737   737   738   738   739		Social Support													
Other         Other         499         0         0         0         4-99         0         4-99         0         4-99         0         4-99         0         4-99         0         366         297         293         296         293         296         296         297         297				719										719	59
6.13 Block Placement Voids 499	736	Social Support: Support for Isolation/Other	864	792						792				792	-72
6.13 Block Placement Voids 499		Other													
A05   Rehab Block Beds	613		499	0						0				0	-499
150,200   Gross Expenditure TOTAL   155,268   139,319   0   343   -2,000   137,662   0   0   0   137,662   -17,606										366					
Income   Service User Contribution   -238   -233   -233   -233   5   -234   -235   -	36	Savings holding accounts	0	0				343	-2,000	-1,657				-1,657	-1,657
Income   Service User Contribution   -238   -233   -233   -233   5   -234   -235   -	150 200	Cross Funes disture TOTAL	155.369	120 210	0			242	2.000	127.662		0	0	127.662	17.606
Service User Contribution	150,200	Gross Expenditure TOTAL	155,208	139,319	U			343	-2,000	137,002		U	U	137,002	-17,606
-263 PFA -238 -233 -233 -233 -233 -233 -233 -233		<u>Income</u>													
-4,178 Working Age Adults 18-64 -4,259 -4,046 -4,046 -16,793 -		Service User Contribution													
18,353   Older People 65+   20,060   -16,793   -16,793   -16,793   -16,793   -246   Social Support   -18,275   -217   -217   -217   -218   -217   -217   -218   -															
-246 Social Support -189 -217 -28 -22,340 Subtotal -24,746 -21,289 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 -21,289 3,457 -23,040 Subtotal -24,746 -24,746 -21,289 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	-4,178 -19 352														
-23,040 Subtotal -24,746															
-6,502 Section 117 income -7,065 -4,100 -4,100 -4,100 -4,100 -2,585 -4,100 -4,1			-24,746		0				0		0	0	0		
-6,502 Section 117 income -7,065 -4,100 -4,100 -4,100 -4,100 -2,585 -4,100 -4,1														_	
-29,542 Income TOTAL -32,451 -25,389 0 0 0 -25,389 0 0 0 0 -25,389 7,062	-6 502			-4 100											
151,009 Net Expenditure TOTAL 154,375 148,911 2,028 -24 -3,707 343 -2,000 145,552 2,100 787 2,228 150,667 -3,708	-29,542	income IOIAL	-52,451	-25,389	0		0		0	-25,389	0	0	0	-25,389	7,062
	151,009	Net Expenditure TOTAL	154,375	148,911	2,028	-24	-3,707	343	-2,000	145,552	2,100	787	2,228	150,667	-3,708

No of Service Users	Average cos per week £
365.36	1,464.83
69.33	1,006.07
69.33 254.72	235.07
53.83	211.98
429.76	
165.62	145.57
475.27	663.67
38.50	
540.25	350.96
2,392.64	330.50
2,332.04	
534.92	837.95
534.92 626.17	835.51
866.49	232.17
361.17	
79.92	153.11
83.75	108.55
57.67	572.73
4.67	349.33
296.33	359.98
2,911.07	
31.35	- 2,483.00
	-
1.31	- 220.00
23 97	- 178 //
47.74	- 1,077.06
62.65	- 495.59
8.54	- 321.22
	- 273.58
242.87	

#### Resources Scrutiny Commission – 2020/21 Budget Scrutiny Questions

Reso	ource Directorate					
No	Question	Answer				
4	a) How much of the £1.4m of forecast savings next year are from income expected from commercialisation projects? b) What are the top 2 or 3 commercialisation projects in terms of forecast net income for 20/21 and what are the expected net incomes for those same projects this year? (If these are related to the Capital Program lines PL35 (Harbour Operational Infrastructure) PL36 (Markets) and/or NH03 (Cemeteries and Crematoria) what are the projected net incomes for 20/21 from the business plans for those projects please?)	<ul> <li>a) £0.210m of the savings relates to commercialisation projects.</li> <li>b) Commercialisation projects included in the current strategy will be categorised as micro, medium term and major projects: The 20/21 forecast incorporates projections that include the Harbour Review, market and dock estate improvement plan, fleet services, in addition to any short term opportunities for savings, income generation, and securing alternative funding streams from known and/or in year emerging opportunities.</li> <li>Business plan development is at an early stage, and project level projections are subject to change and not yet finalised: <ol> <li>i. PL35 Harbour – zero in the Business Case for 20/21 (although previously planned in savings tracker as £25k p.a. for Harbour in 20/21 and £250k for Docks in 20/21)</li> <li>ii. PL36 Markets – indicative £69k for year 2 (20/21) (and previously planned in savings as £35k p.a. for 20/21)</li> <li>iii. NHO3 Cemeteries and Crematoria – no additional income planned for 20/21. Income is budgeted unchanged at £3.962m (before any annual inflationary increase is applied). (Please note any savings related to Cemeteries and Crematoria will sit with Management of Place under G&amp;R.)</li> </ol> </li> </ul>				