Appendix A4 Bristol City Council - HRA 2019/20 – Budget Monitor Report



a: 2019/20 Summary Headlines

Р9	Revised Budget	Forecast Outturn	Outturn Variance
	£0m	(£2.6m)	(£2.6m)
P10	£0m	(£2.0m)	(£2.0m)

b: Budget Monitor

1. Overall Position and Movement

Forecast Outturn Variance 2019/20 £(2.0)m											
Revised	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Budget	(2.4)	(0.2)	0.0	0.0	(1.4)	(1.7)	(2.1)	(2.6)	(2.0)		
£0m											

2. Revenue Position – Income and Expenditure

	2019/20	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast Movement
Revenue Position by Category	Revised Budget	Outturn P10	Variance P10	P9 to P10
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Income	(122.7)	(120.7)	2.0	0.8
Repairs and maintenance	31.7	31.1	(0.6)	0.8
Supervision and Management	30.0	28.4	(1.6)	(0.4)
Special Services (Rechargeable)	9.2	8.3	(0.9)	(0.3)
Rents, Rates, Taxes and other charges	0.8	0.9	0.1	0.2
Depreciation, Revenue funded capital, Interest payable and bad debt provision	51.0	50.0	(1.0)	(0.5)
(Surplus)/Deficit on HRA	0.0	(2.0)	(2.0)	0.6

3. Debt Position



There is a continual focus on reducing the level of bad debt for 2019/20 through to 2020/21. An action plan is in place to reduce overall arrears, prioritising rent payments, improving performance, improving support methods and reviewing our rents policy. Third Party software is to be procured which uses insight to focus action and resource for income recovery where it will have the biggest impact on tackling arrears through 2020/21.

4. Key Messages

- The forecast outturn underspend is anticipated to be transferred to the HRA ring-fenced reserve at the yearend, subject to the appropriate approval.
- There are recruitment and retention issues in the Construction industry generally, and the service is seeking
 to fill vacancies in order to ensure maximum delivery of the planned programme. If there continues to be a
 significant level of vacancies this may contribute to a surplus position at the year end as there is no turnover
 provision within the budget. The service will look to use consultants and other frameworks to deliver if
 necessary to mitigate against this.
- In order to maximise delivery of the HRA Housing Investment Programme during 2019/20, the service will overprogramme, reduce contingencies and seek to avoid delays in procurement processes where possible. However, during the year the service has had to lose two major contractors due to their failure to provide which has had an impact on the delivery of relets and the movement in forecast from P7.
- During the final quarter the financing of HRA expenditure will be determined based on updated Right to Buy figures and it is not anticipated that new borrowing of £4.8m that was originally budgeted for 2019/20 will be required this year.

c: Risks and Opportunities							
Risk	Key Causes	Key Consequence	Key Mitigations				
Implementation of	UC continues to be a risk	Arrears for this group	New UC Team Leader role				
Universal Credit	with increased monthly	increasing- increase in	Focussed day to day case work				
(UC)	migrations increasing by	claimants over 9 months	Use of Managed Payments				
	around 200	from 31 March 2019 by	All team training on UC				
		1400 with a £1m increase	management				
		in UC arrears	Closer working with DWP and issue				
			log developed				
Impact of Grenfell	Additional works as a result	This could cost up to	Need to retain flexibility in capital				
enquiry outcomes	of Grenfell enquiry	£25m if a complete	programme to meet outcomes of				
	outcomes, or the outcomes	programme is required.	Grenfell enquiry that does no				
	of independent fire safety		result in disruption to the rest of				
	checks on clad blocks;		the programme.				
	public /political pressure to						
	install sprinklers.						
Zero Carbon Target		May be required to retro	City Leap may enable innovative				
		fit and ensure compliance	solutions and funding to be				
		for new builds.	identified.				
Employees	Due to current market	If vacancies are not filled	The service will use consultants				
	conditions it is difficult to	then this may impact on	and frameworks to maintain				
	fill vacancies.	the delivery of the	delivery of works.				
		programme and result in					
		further underspend					
2		against salary budgets.					
Paint Programme	Some tenders are greater	There is a potential	It is anticipated that this will be				
and Electrical	than originally estimated	overspend of £0.5m for	offset by underspends in other				
Works	and additional costs are	2019/20.	areas.				
	forecast.						

d: Capital

Approved Budget Revised Budget		Expenditure to Date	Forecast Outturn	Outturn Variance	
£51.8m	£49.5m	£35.2m	£48.0m	(£1.7m)	
P10 2018/19 figures	Budget £39.2m	71% of budget Expenditure £25.0m 64%	97% of revised budget Outturn £39.2m		

	Current Year (2019)				
Project	Budget	Expenditure to Date	Forecast	Variance	
	£000s				
Total for HRA1 - Planned Programme - Major Projects	9,558	6,627	9,495	(63)	
Total for HRA2 - New Build and Land Enabling	22,164	16,349	20,422	(1,741)	
Total for HRA3 - Building Maintenance and Improvements	17,762	12,245	17,875	113	
Total Housing Services Capital - Housing Revenue Account	49,484	35,222	47,792	(1,692)	

Key messages: The HRA has a 30 year business plan and any planned capital works which are delayed, such as those due to the failure of two major contractors late in 2018/19, will still be required to be delivered in later years.

The service successfully mitigated the collapse of a kitchen contractor by arranging a contract with Mispace in order to minimise delay in the planned programme.

Following the termination of the Void North Contract with Jeff Way Group, we have now secured the services of CLC Group who are due to mobilise a new contract from early 2020.