

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

CABINET: 19TH FEBRUARY 2018

REFERENCE FROM ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE: 18TH JANUARY 2018

“614 REVENUE AND CAPITAL MONITORING FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL TO
30TH NOVEMBER 2017 (DEH) –

The Principal Accountant, in presenting the report, advised that for the services under the Committee's remit in order for the budget to outturn within target at year end, a £725k contribution from reserves would be required.

Although there was a favourable variance for Highways and Engineering due to vacant posts currently within the department, there was currently an adverse variance of £206k for Waste Management. Although the Waste Management budget had been reduced in 2017/18 for further vehicle savings, the department was unlikely to be able to make these in the short term due to the increased distance that the vehicles had to travel as all waste disposal units were now situated in Cardiff.

For the Visible Services Reshaping Services Savings Target, it was envisaged that there would be a shortfall in the savings of £525k for 2017/18 which again would need to be met from the Visible Services reserve due to the scale of transformation. It was anticipated the restructure would take effect fully from April 2018.

For the Countryside, Economic Development and Tourism Events functions, there was currently a small adverse variance against the profiled budget, although there were favourable variances mitigating the position and in an effort to balance the budget at year end, all non-urgent expenditure elsewhere within the division would be put on hold.

Appendix 2 to the report provided a list of savings to be achieved for 2017/18 with the anticipation that there would be a shortfall against the target of £809k.

Appendix 3 to the report detailed the financial progress on the Capital Programme as at 30th November, 2017 with particular reference being made to a number of schemes within the report referred to as below:

- Ogmore by Sea Sustainable Transport Improvements
- Dimming of street lighting / fitting of LED lanterns
- Dinas Powys to Cardiff Corridor Bus Priority Measures
- Harbour Road Overflow Car Park

- Local Transport Fund, Road Safety and Safe Routes in Communities schemes
- Penarth Pier
- Improving access to Cogan Primary School
- Court Ward park improvements
- Ffordd y Mileniwm footway / cycleway
- Maendy Pedestrian Sustainable Transport Improvement
- St. Athan Sustainable Transport Improvements
- Fferm Goch Sustainable Transport Improvements
- Colwinston Play Area.

In considering the report and the reference to the Court Ward park improvements, local Members requested to receive detailed information on these improvements with it being agreed that the Accountant would forward these via e-mail to all Members of the Committee. With regard to the Colwinston play area, it was recognised that as this was a new scheme it needed to be included in the Council's Capital Programme.

Following further consideration of the report reference was made to the adverse variance in relation to Waste Management with the Head of Service for Neighbourhood Services and Transport advising that the department had had an increase over the last year in the number of houses it served and this had been having an impact year on year. The Christmas and New Year periods had also been exceptional in relation to recycling, particularly in relation to Christmas trees where there had been significant issues. There had also been a higher than normal sickness absence over the winter period as a result of a "winter bug" and long term sickness. It was anticipated that the new Neighbourhood model would provide more flexibility in the future and the Head of Service was hopeful that the restructure would also meet the needs for the future.

With specific reference to road safety grants at Pen-y-Turnpike and Mill Road, following a query from a local Member, the Head of Service stated that the improvement was in relation to the bottom part where the road narrowed and that she would obtain further details of the scheme proposed and forward the information to the local Member. Similarly, a local Member asked for further details in relation to the Safer Routes in Communities Dinas Powys to Penarth via Cosmeston scheme.

Following consideration of the report, it was subsequently

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the position with regard to the 2017/18 revenue and capital monitoring be noted and the information requested by Members of the Committee as outlined above be forwarded via e-mail.

(2) T H A T Cabinet be requested to include the Colwinston Play Area in the capital programme with a budget of £48k to be split £5k into 2017/18 and £43k into 2018/19 to be funded from Section 106 monies.

Reasons for recommendations

(1) In recognition of the contents contained within the report and the requests from Members.

(2) As the Colwinston Play Area is a new scheme, the Capital Programme needs to be amended to reflect this it being recognised that and the work would enhance the play area at Colwinston.”

[Attached as Appendix – Report to Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee: 18th January, 2018](#)