

Latest Financial Performance (Budget Variations / Exceptions):

# Appendix A

**General Fund Major Variances - Period 12 2024-25**

Service	Current Budget £000s	Actual Outturn £000s	Variance £000s	Main Contributing Factors to Variations
<b>Corporate Services &amp; Improvement</b>				
IT	1,289	1,013	(276)	Net employee costs lower than budgeted for
Telephony	50	91	41	Saving not being achieved due to technical issues that prevented migration of the telephony system on original timescales
Minor Service variances	265	265	0	
<b>Total Corporate Services &amp; Improvement</b>	<b>1,604</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>-235</b>	
<b>Culture &amp; Community</b>				
Paddling Pools	115	143	28	Increased maintenance costs
Pet's Corner	297	393	96	Increase staffing costs
The Playhouse	686	728	42	Increased staffing and maintenance costs
The Museum	219	199	(20)	Lower than projected running expenses
CLCS Project Development	45	28	(17)	Net employee costs lower than budgeted for
Minor Service variances	960	875	(85)	
<b>Total Culture &amp; Community</b>	<b>2,322</b>	<b>2,366</b>	<b>44</b>	
<b>Environmental</b>				
Refuse & Recycling	2,138	1,427	(711)	Reduced inflation, increased green waste subscriptions and ECC IAA contribution
Street Cleaning	1,249	1,343	94	Cost of emptying litter bins
Car Parks	(367)	(227)	140	Better than projected income
Bus Terminus	105	51	(54)	Reduced business rates
Open Spaces	1,113	1,232	119	Net employee costs
Minor Service variances	714	695	(19)	
<b>Total Environmental</b>	<b>4,952</b>	<b>4,521</b>	<b>(431)</b>	
<b>Executive Office</b>				
Executive Management Team	1,519	1,353	(166)	Net employee costs
EMT & Governance Support Team	256	319	63	Net employee costs
Members Services	243	393	150	Reflects adoption of revised members allowances scheme and other reduced running expenses
Minor Service variances	266	242	(24)	
<b>Total Executive Office</b>	<b>2,284</b>	<b>2,307</b>	<b>23</b>	
<b>Facilities &amp; Assets</b>				
Civic Centre	1,002	727	(275)	Reduced business rates, energy and net employee costs lower than budgeted for
Latton Bush Centre	(315)	(283)	32	Reduced service charges
Garages	(1,945)	(1,955)	(10)	Reduced revenue contributions to capital outlay
The Water Gardens Car Park	(317)	(285)	32	Better than projected income
The Harvey Centre	(532)	(994)	(462)	Better than projected income
Property & Facilities Team	452	294	(158)	Net employee costs
Minor Service variances	(2,217)	(2,235)	(18)	
<b>Total Facilities &amp; Assets</b>	<b>(3,872)</b>	<b>(4,731)</b>	<b>(859)</b>	

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Finance				
Insurance Services	649	571	(78)	Cost of increased insurance premiums, partially offset by net employee costs  Reflects reduced Housing Benefit Admin subsidy and increased temporary and supported accommodation claims not covered by grant income
Housing Benefits	(238)	194	432	
Write Offs	0	0	0	
Minor Service variances	807	678	(129)	
Total Finance	1,218	1,443	225	
Housing Operations (People) GF				
Leah Manning Centre	235	124	(111)	Net employee costs
Housing Options and Advice Team	341	1,261	920	Net increased cost of temporary accommodation
Minor Service variances	741	707	(34)	
Total Housing Operations (People) GF	1,317	2,092	775	
HR & Organisational Development				
Human Resources	282	256	(26)	Net employee costs
Minor Service variances	142	173	31	
Total HR & Organisational Development	424	429	5	
Legal & Democratic Services				
Legal	561	397	(164)	Net employee costs
Minor Service variances	216	264	48	
Total Legal & Democratic Services	777	661	(116)	
Planning & Garden Town				
Building Control	91	108	17	Increased staffing costs and reduced income
Planning	386	729	343	Increased staffing costs and reduced income
Garden Town	150	135	(15)	
Total Planning & Garden Town	627	972	345	
Public Protection				
Community Safety Team	545	599	54	Net employee costs
Environmental Health	894	1,077	183	Net employee costs
Hackney Carriages & Private Hire	21	63	42	Net employee costs
Licensing	84	107	23	Net employee costs
Cemetery & Crematorium	(662)	(733)	(71)	Increased income
Minor Service variances	419	467	48	
Total Public Protection	1,301	1,580	279	

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<b>Regeneration</b>				
Regeneration Team	326	296	(30)	Net employee costs
Economic, Growth & Development	207	176	(31)	Net employee costs
Town Centre Activities	22	107	85	Net employee costs
Minor Service variances	(2)	13	15	
<b>Total Regeneration</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>39</b>	
<b>Service Specific Variations</b>	<b>13,507</b>	<b>13,601</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>
<b>Non Service Specific &amp; Funding</b>				
Interest Receivable	(718)	(644)	74	lower interest received
Interest Payable	340	341	1	
HTS Management	(229)	(276)	(47)	Reflects increased income
Early Retirement	346	255	(91)	Reduced use of external support
Minimum Revenue Provision	1,737	1,307	(430)	Less capital financing required to fund the capital programme.
Essex Council Tax Sharing Agreement	(500)	(392)	108	Less income received
New Homes Bonus Grant	(475)	(475)	0	
Contribution to / (from) Reserves	918	1,583	665	Higher contributions to reserves
Contribution to Provisions	0	(148)	(148)	lower level of provisions required on the balance sheet
Collection Fund Deficit / (Surplus)	(2,051)	(2,051)	0	
Settlement Funding Assessment (Business Rates Income)	(3,400)	(3,887)	(487)	Higher than expected income received from business rates income
Funding Guarantee	(1,011)	(1,011)	0	
Service Grant	(22)	(22)	0	
Revenue Support Grant	(136)	(136)	0	
Council Tax	(8,306)	(8,306)	0	
<b>Total Non Service Specific &amp; Funding Variations</b>	<b>(13,507)</b>	<b>(13,862)</b>	<b>(355)</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>
<b>Total General Fund Budget Variations</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(261)</b>	<b>(261)</b>	