

Summary of Key variances and financial recovery plans

The most significant directorate variances and financial recovery plans are summarised in below, with further detail for each Directorate being included in Appendices 1b and 2.

It should be noted that the measures taken to control expenditure in year are a combination of 'one off mitigations' that have a favourable impact only in 2024/25 and plans that deliver 'ongoing' cost reductions or income generation that will have a favourable impact upon the calculated budget gap for 2025/26.

The ongoing pressures that remain as a result of the following will impact upon the 2025/26 budget model:

- Partial or Non-delivery of approved planned savings (RAG Red and Purple)
- Demand and other financial pressures for which a one-off mitigation has been delivered

Directorate	Service Area	Summary of Variances over £250,000	2024/25 Forecast Overspend/ (underspend) £m	Financial Recovery Plan Key Actions	Value of Recovery Plan 2024/25 £m
Adults Social Care	Prevention, Provider & Support Services	2024/25 budget saving currently rated as "RED" : ASC11 Re-provision use of Levick Court £0.311m due to late emergence of potential alternative options to work with partners in establishing the unit as a sub-regional provision for residential short breaks.	0.340	Options being sought to mitigate impact of saving not yet achieved and efforts being made to maximise use of the available respite capacity in the interim.	TBC
	Purchasing - savings	£0.506m of 2024/25 budget saving ASC12 Adult Social Care Services transformation currently rated "RED" relating to need for business plan for the implementation of the LGA's "Better Lives" framework (for improving support to adults with a learning disability) - due August 2024.	0.461	Additional Transformation resources have been approved to undertake care package reviews where Assistive Technology can be implemented as an alternative	(0.150)
	Purchasing - Personal	Maximise use of the Discharge grant funding (one-off for 24/25)	(0.259)		
	Across Directorate	Other variances below £250,000	(0.112)		
	Across Directorate			Additional pay related savings across the Directorate due to new vacancies and delayed/difficulties in recruitment	(0.500)
Children's Care	External Residential	Increased numbers of children in external residential placements above budgeted level. Includes 2024/25 budget saving currently rated as "RED" : CC02 Review of Placements £1.1m	3.245	Placement reviews - based on 12 changes in placements that if successful, reduces forecast outturn based on planned placement moves.	(0.877)
	External Residential	Health contributions (forecast £0.052m saving) and Education contributions (£0.200m pressure) against placements	0.148	Review of contributions	TBC
	Internal Residential	Agency staff covering significant absences and staff pressures.	0.475	Permanent recruitment to posts, including marketing campaign and review of recruitment and retention packages.	TBC
	Fostering & Adoption	Internal Fostering and Adoption forecast savings, offset by Independent Fostering Agency and Family & Friends pressures	0.170	Recruitment of internal foster carers to reduce reliance on Independent Fostering Agencies and higher cost placements	TBC
	Across Service Teams	Staff savings from vacant posts and Section 17 and other expenditure across teams	(0.515)	To investigate increasing savings on vacant posts to cover overspend in Directorate. Also Children's Services structure review.	TBC
	Across Directorate	Other budget savings for Children's Care (excluding CC02) currently rated "Red" (as detailed in Appendix 4).	0.230	Review of savings required in order to meet existing savings targets , and continue to look at other savings opportunities across the Directorate.	TBC

Education & Partnerships	Integrated Transport Unit	Following a review of demand and cost modelling and the budget growth provided in 2024/25 there is a forecast saving of £0.732m for 2024/25	(0.732)	Work is currently ongoing to baseline the budget and the development of a MTFP forecast to assess demand and unit cost modelled using Special Educational Needs (SEN) data. An update of this will be provided at Quarter Two.	TBC
Regeneration	Economic Growth	Vacant units in Boho buildings after move of anchor tenant creating £0.223m forecast overspend offset by other savings.	0.172	Marketing campaign to seek new tenants	TBC
	Investment Properties	Income below budget set at Cleveland Centre offset by increased income above budget at Centre Square 1 due to additional rent income achieved and reduction in service charges.	0.430	Rent at the Cleveland Centre will improve if the Live Well Centre moves into the precinct at the date planned	(0.070)
	Property Services	Savings of £1.2m on energy costs offset by other pressures	(0.857)	Potential business rates review at Crematorium	(0.280)
	Regeneration Management	Saving currently rated "Red" re. improved housing co-ordination and provision (REG07)	0.080		
	Across Directorate	Other variances below £250,000	(0.106)		
Environment & Communities	Waste Disposal	Growth budget for increased contractual costs per tonne under contract extension not all required in 2024/25.	(0.673)	Review of MTFP growth provision	TBC
	Bereavement Services	Reduced income due to falling demand for service	0.373	Service review to be undertaken to consider options for reducing operational costs to align to reduced activity and to assess the business case for replacement cremators which are approaching the end of their useful life.	TBC
	Waste Collection	Overachievement of income from implementation of charging for Green Waste Collection Service (£0.444m) offset by additional one-off set up costs of £0.328m	(0.116)	Service review to be undertaken including zero based budget to be prepared reflecting the change in service operations following implementation of fortnightly collection	TBC
	Fleet Management	Increased staff costs and vehicle hires due to recruitment issues	0.339	Review to be undertaken	TBC
	Highways Maintenance	Increased use of internal staff for grant funded projects	(0.165)		
	Street Lighting	Energy costs above budget	0.150	Review to determine whether this will continue or reduce.	TBC
	Car Parking	Residents Permits Charge unlikely to be implemented until 2025 due to software issue creating forecast pressure of £0.125m. Also on-street penalty income below budget.	0.380		
	Concessionary Fares	£0.320m saving expected from settlement with bus operators for 2024/25 being lower than budgeted. Also one-off grant received from TVCA.	(0.414)		
Across Directorate	Other variances below £250,000	0.209			
Legal and Governance	Across Directorate	Other variances below £250,000	0.244		
Central Budgets	Senior Management Review	Budget saving currently rated as "RED" : CEN02 23/24 Senior Management Review £0.244m.	0.244		
Total Variance			3.742		(1.877)