

Committee(s):	Date(s):	Item no.
Epping Forest and Commons Committee	6 July 2015	
Subject: Revenue Outturn 2014/15 – Burnham Beeches, Stoke Common & City Commons	Public	
Report of: The Chamberlain and the Director of Open Spaces	For Information	

Summary

This report compares the revenue outturn for the services overseen by your Committee in 2014/15 with the final agreed budget for the year. In total, there was a worse than budget position of £125,000 for the services overseen by your Committee compared with the final agreed budget for the year as set out below.

	Final Agreed Budget £000	Outturn £000	Increase/ (Decrease) £000
Local Risk			
Director of Open Spaces	1,518	1,522	4
City Surveyor	314	442	128
Central Risk	18	18	0
Recharges	429	422	(7)
Total	2,279	2,404	125

The Director's worse than budget position of £4,000 (Local Risk) has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other committees, which produces an overall better than budget position of £846,000 (Local Risk) across all Open Spaces. It is proposed to carry forward £437,000 of this underspend. These requests will be considered by the Chamberlain in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Resource Allocation Sub Committee.

The City Surveyor's £128,000 worse than budget position is due to the volume of both quoted works and out of scope works. In the tables, figures in brackets indicate income or in hand balances, increases in income or decreases in expenditure.

Recommendations

It is recommended that this revenue outturn report for 2014/15 and the consequential implications for the 2015/16 budget are noted.

Main Report

Budget Position for 2014/15

1. The 2014/15 latest approved budget for the services overseen by your Committee received in November 2014 was £2.207M. This budget was endorsed by the Court of Common Council in March 2015 and subsequently updated for approved adjustments. Movement of the original Local Risk budget to the final agreed budget is provided in Appendix A.

Revenue Outturn 2014/15

2. Actual net expenditure for your Committee's services during 2014/15 totalled £2.404M, an overspend of £125,000 compared with the final agreed budget.
3. A summary comparison with the final agreed budget for the year is tabulated below. In the tables, figures in brackets indicate income or in hand balances, increases in income or decreases in expenditure.

Burnham Beeches, Stoke Common & City Commons
Comparison of 2014/15 Revenue Outturn with Final Agreed Budget

	Final Agreed Budget £000	Revenue Outturn £000	Variation Increase/ (Decrease) £000	
LOCAL RISK				
Director of Open Spaces				Reason*
Burnham Beeches	410	414	4	
Stoke Common	22	22	0	
City Commons	1,086	1,086	0	
Total Director of Open Spaces Local Risk	1,518	1,522	4	
City Surveyor				
City Surveyors Local Risk	47	124	77	
Additional Works Programme	267	318	51	
Total City Surveyor Local Risk	314	442	128	a
TOTAL LOCAL RISK	1,832	1,964	132	
CENTRAL RISK				
Burnham Beeches	18	18	0	
City Commons	0	0	0	
TOTAL CENTRAL RISK	18	18	0	
RECHARGES				
Insurance	14	17	3	
Support Services	204	188	(16)	
Surveyor's Employee Recharge	105	110	5	
I. S. Recharge	40	42	2	
Recharges Within Fund (Directorate & Corporate Dem Core)	66	65	(1)	
TOTAL RECHARGES	429	422	(7)	
OVERALL TOTAL	2,279	2,404	125	

* See Paragraph 7

Local Risk Carry Forward to 2015/16

4. Chief Officers can generally request underspends of up to 10% or £500,000 (whichever is the lesser) of the final agreed local risk budget to be carried forward, so long as the underspending is not fortuitous and the resources are required for a planned purpose. Such requests are subject to the approval of the Chamberlain in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Resources Allocation Sub Committee.
5. Overspends are carried forward in full and are met from the agreed 2015/16 budgets.
6. The Director's worse than budget position of £4,000 (Local Risk) has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other committees which produce an overall better than budget position of £846,000 (Local Risk) of which £437,000 has been submitted for a carry forward as outlined below:
 - i) £35,000 for the Installation of heat exchange equipment to recycle waste heat at the Cemetery.
 - ii) The Directorate require £30,000 Specialist consultancy for user questionnaires and analysis which aligns with the Open Spaces Learning Programme as part of Service Based Review, £25,000 for a Business Analyst to undertake work in support of the Sports Programme (part of the SBR), £25,000 for the engagement of a specialist consultant to undertake an options appraisal to consider operating models and market potential for sports provision which is part of the Service Based Review sports programme, and a further £95,000 as a contribution to partly fill a shortfall in the budget which was previously met centrally and currently awaiting the outcome of a CBT funding application.
 - iii) £32,000 for the engagement of a temporary para-legal Wayleave Officer to update Oracle R12 and secure income as part of the Service Based Review is required by Epping Forest.
 - iv) Further to a business case £16,000 is required to replace a vehicle for the Hampstead Heath Constabulary, which was ordered during 2014/15 but not supplied before year end.
 - v) £75,000 is required by Epping Forest for a specialist Tractor/Crane designed to increase productivity of wood chipping and reduce health & safety liabilities from RSI and Hand/Arm vibration. The business case was approved in 2014/15 but the supply is still awaited. A further £40,000 is required for landlord responsibilities to improve wiring, flooring etc ahead of Additional Works Programme investment following a recommendation by Environmental Health (L.B.Waltham Forest).

vi) £24,000 is required by Queens Park for new play equipment partly funded by community donations.

vii) £40,000 is required by West Ham Park for an ‘invest to save’ project as part of the Service Based Review to undertake improvements to vacant lodges to bring them up to a suitable standard for letting. Combined income will off-set carry forward after 2 years and aligns with the Corporate Asset Realisation Programme.

Reasons for Significant Variations

7. a) The City Surveyor’s £128,000 worse than budget position is due to the volume of both quoted works and out of scope works (works not included in the Mitie Contract)

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Appendix A

		£000
Original Local Risk Budget (Director of Open Spaces & City Surveyor)		2,068
Director of Open Spaces		
Employees	Majority of this reduction due to staff restructures as part of the Service Based Review.	(129)
Other areas	Combination of small increases across all areas in Premises, Transport, and Supplies & Services related expenditure, and the creation of a small budget to reflect the Transfer to Reserve balance for the Livestock Grazing Account at West Wickham.	88
Income	Majority of this increase is due to the creation of an income budget to reflect the transfer from reserve for the Grazing account at West Wickham, an introduction of an insurance claim budget for Livestock at West Wickham, and an increase in car park income at Burnham Beeches.	(48)
City Surveyor		
	City Surveyor local risk changes are due to re-phasing of the Additional Works Programmes as the 14/15 original includes the full value of the 14/15 programme which is then smoothed out for revised estimates	(147)
Final Agreed Local Risk Budget (Director of Open Spaces & City Surveyor)		1,832