

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park	20 July 2015
Subject: Revenue Outturn 2014/15 – Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park	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 better than budget position of £711,000 for the services overseen by your Committee compared with the final agreed budget for the year as set out below.

	Final Agreed Budget £000	Revenue Outturn £000	Increase/ (Decrease) £000
Local Risk			
Director of Open Spaces	5,752	5,471	(281)
City Surveyor	1,881	1,241	(640)
Total Local Risk	7,633	6,712	(921)
Central Risk	(1,077)	(1,080)	(3)
Recharges	1,251	1,464	213
Total	7,807	7,096	(711)

The Director's better than budget position of £281,000 has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other committees, which produces an overall better than budgeted 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 £640,000 underspend is mainly due to re-phasing of the additional works programme over its 3 year life, expenditure has been planned for later years. 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 proposed carry forward of underspends to 2015/16 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 £7.608M. 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 £7,096M, an underspend of £711,000 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.

Summary Comparison of 2014/15 Revenue Outturn with Final Agreed Budget

	Final Agreed Budget	Revenue Outturn	Increase/ (Decrease)	Reason reference
	£000	£000	£000	
Local Risk				
Director of Open Spaces				
- Hampstead Heath	4,835	4,619	(216)	Para 4
- Hampstead Heath CBT	0	0	0	
- Hampstead STEM	22	22	0	
- Queen's Park	529	474	(55)	Para 5
- Queen's Park CBT	0	0	0	
- Highgate Wood	366	356	(10)	
- Highgate Wood CBT	0	0	0	
Total Director of Open Spaces	5,752	5,471	(281)	

City Surveyor				
- City Surveyor's Local Risk	276	324	48	
- Additional Works Programme	1605	917	(688)	Para 6
Total City Surveyor	1,881	1,241	(640)	
Total Local Risk	7,633	6,712	(921)	
Central Risk				
- Hampstead Heath	(1,088)	(1,091)	(3)	
- Queens Park	16	16	0	
- Highgate Wood	(5)	(5)	0	
- Highgate Wood CBT	0	0	0	
Total Central Risk	(1,077)	(1,080)	(3)	
Recharges				
- Insurance	97	128	31	
- Support Services	560	673	113	Para 7
- Surveyor's Employee Recharge	261	271	10	
- I.S. Recharge	121	147	26	
- Recharges Within Fund (Directorate & Corporate Democratic Core)	212	245	33	
Total Recharges	1,251	1,464	213	
OVERALL TOTAL	7,807	7,096	(711)	

Reasons for Significant variations

4. The £216,000 decrease within Hampstead Heath Local Risk is due to a £160,000 decrease in expenditure most of which is within employees due to vacant posts, there is also a £56,000 increase in income (customer & client receipts) which is due to the introduction of weddings at the Hill Garden and the Pergola, along with additional income raised through Parking and Lido use.
5. The £55,000 underspend within Queens Park Local Risk is mainly due to deliveries within supplies & services being delivered later than expected.
6. The £688,000 underspend under the City Surveyor is mainly due to the re-phasing of the Additional Works Programme over its 3 year life (expenditure has been planned for later years)
7. The £113,000 overspend within Recharges (Support Services) is mainly due to the Town Clerks having a new method in apportioning their time which has resulted in an increased charge. The change in the apportionment method has not been reflected in the allocation of their

budgets in 2014/15 but will be reflected going forward in the 2015/16 revised estimates.

Local Risk Carry Forward to 2015/16

8. 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.

Overspends are carried forward in full and are met from the agreed 2015/16 budgets.

The Director's better than budget position of £281,000 (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.

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Appendix A

	£000
Original Local Risk Budget (Director of Open Spaces & City Surveyor)	7,597
Director of Open Spaces	
Employees - Decrease due to a reduction in CBT funded posts.	(29)
Premises - An increase in estimates at revised estimate stage to reflect a higher outturn in Premises in 2013/14 and current spend (utilities and grounds maintenance).	63
Transport - Small increase at revised estimate stage.	9
Supplies & Services - Includes £30,000 of carry forwards (signage and feasibility studies) which were added after the original budget was set, the remainder was an uplift within furniture, equipment and materials at revised estimate stage.	125
Increase in income - The majority of this increase is due to an uplift in fees and charges and new sources of income reflected in the revised estimates.	(94)
City Surveyor	
Reduction in the Additional Works Programme due to re-phasing as the 14/15 original includes the full value of the 14/15 programme which is then smoothed out for revised estimates	(38)
Final Agreed Local Risk Budget (Director of Open Spaces & City Surveyor)	7,633