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| <b>Committee(s):</b>                                | <b>Date(s):</b>        |
| Epping Forest and Commons Committee                 | 9 July 2012            |
| <b>Subject:</b>                                     | <b>Public</b>          |
| Revenue Outturn 2011/12 – Epping Forest and Commons |                        |
| <b>Report of:</b>                                   | <b>For Information</b> |
| The Chamberlain and the Director of Open Spaces     |                        |

### Summary

This report compares the revenue outturn for the services overseen by your Committee in 2011/12 with the final agreed budget for the year. In total, there was a better than budget position of £686,000 for the services overseen by your Committee compared with the final agreed budget for the year as set out below.

|                         | <b>Final Agreed<br/>Budget<br/>£000</b> | <b>Outturn<br/>£000</b> | <b>Increase/<br/>(Decrease)<br/>£000</b> |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Local Risk</b>       |   |                         |  |
| Director of Open Spaces | 4,766                                   | 4,695                   | (71)                                     |
| City Surveyor           | 1,400                                   | 953                     | (447)                                    |
| <b>Central Risk</b>     | (367)                                   | (500)                   | (133)                                    |
| <b>Recharges</b>        | 1,427                                   | 1,392                   | (35)                                     |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>7,226</b>                            | <b>6,540</b>            | <b>(686)</b>                             |

The Director's better than budget position of £71,000 has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other committees, which produces an overall better than budget position of £292,000 across all Open Spaces. In accordance with the budgetary arrangements for local risk resources, the Director proposes to carry forward a total of £217,000 of which £60,000 relates to Epping Forest & City Commons. This proposal will be considered by the Chamberlain in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Resource Allocation Sub Committee and, if agreed, added to the budgets for 2012/13.

The City Surveyor's underspend has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other committees and a request made to carry forward the 'net' underspending for corporate priorities. 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 2011/12 and the consequential implications for the 2012/13 budget are noted.

## **Main Report**

### **Budget Position for 2011/12**

1. The 2011/12 final agreed budget for the services overseen by your Committee was £7.226m. This budget was received by your Committee in November 2011, endorsed by the Court of Common Council in March 2012 and subsequently updated for approved adjustments.

### **Revenue Outturn 2011/12**

2. Actual net expenditure for your Committee's services during 2011/12 totalled £6.540m, an underspend of £686,000 compared with the 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.

| <b>Summary Comparison of 2011/12 Revenue Outturn with Final Agreed Budget</b> |                            |                        |   |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------|---|
|   | <b>Final Agreed Budget</b> | <b>Revenue Outturn</b> | <b>Variations Increase/ (Reduction)</b> |
|   | <b>£000</b>                | <b>£000</b>            | <b>£000</b>                             |
| <b>Local Risk</b>   |                            |                        |   |
| Epping Forest   | 3,121                      | 3,127                  | 6                                       |
| Burnham Beeches   | 471                        | 462                    | (9)                                     |
| Stoke Common  | 22                         | 1                      | (21)                                    |
| City Commons  | 1,152                      | 1,105                  | (47)                                    |
| <b>Total Director of Open Spaces</b>  | <b>4,766</b>               | <b>4,695</b>           | <b>(71)</b>                             |
| <b>City Surveyor</b>  | 1,400                      | 953                    | (447)                                   |
| <b>Total Local Risk</b>   | <b>6,166</b>               | <b>5,648</b>           | <b>(518)</b>                            |
| <b>Central Risk</b>   |                            |                        |   |
| Epping Forest   | (367)                      | (469)                  | (102)                                   |
| City Commons  | 0                          | (31)                   | (31)                                    |
| <b>Total Central Risk</b>   | <b>(367)</b>               | <b>(500)</b>           | <b>(133)</b>                            |
| <b>Recharges</b>  |                            |                        |   |
| Central Recharges   | 1,246                      | 1,211                  | (35)                                    |
| Recharges Within Funds  | 182                        | 178                    | (4)                                     |
| Recharges Across Funds  | (1)                        | 3                      | 4                                       |
| <b>Total Recharges</b>  | <b>1,427</b>               | <b>1,392</b>           | <b>(35)</b>                             |
| <b>NET EXPENDITURE</b>  | <b>7,226</b>               | <b>6,540</b>           | <b>(686)</b>                            |

4. Annex A provides more detail and explanations of the significant variations.

## Local Risk Carry Forward to 2012/13

5. 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.
6. Overspends are carried forward in full and are met from the agreed 2012/13 budgets.
7. The underspend of £447,000 on the City Surveyor's Local Risk budget has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other committees and a request made to carry forward the 'net' underspending to fund corporate priorities.
8. The Director's better than budget position of £71,000 has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other committees which produces an overall better than budget position of £292,000 across all Open Spaces. In accordance with the budgetary arrangements for local risk resources, the Director proposes to carry forward a total of £217,000 of which £60,000 relates to Epping Forest & City Commons, comprising £26,000 for a cattle building at Epping, £8,000 at Ashted Common for the completion of veteran tree management work, and £26,000 at Burnham Beeches for a vehicle, trailer, and honorarium.
9. If agreed, this proposal will be added to the Director's budgets for 2012/13.

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Chamberlain

Sue Ireland  
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