

Committee(s)	Dated:
Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Committee	26 May 2021
Subject: Revenue Outturn 2020/21 – Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 11 & 12
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	n/a
What is the source of Funding?	n/a
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	n/a
Report of: The Chamberlain & the Director of Open Spaces	For Information
Report author: Beatrix Jako – Chamberlains Department	

Summary

This report compares the revenue outturn for the services overseen by your Committee in 2020/21 with the final agreed budget for the year. In total, there was a better than budget position of £130,000 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			
<i>Expenditure</i>	(7,409)	(7,432)	(23)
<i>Income</i>	1,831	1,851	20
City Surveyor	(443)	(488)	(45)
Total Local Risk	(6,021)	(6,069)	(48)
Cyclical Works Programme	(1,071)	(882)	189
Central Risk	987	992	5
Recharges	(1,497)	(1,513)	(16)
Total	(7,602)	(7,472)	130

Significant variations are within Local Risk (Hampstead Heath Expenditure and Income) and the Cyclical Works Programme, more detail can be found in paragraphs 4a) 4b) and 4c) respectively.

The Director of Open Spaces had an unfavourable variance of £3,000 (Local Risk), this unfavourable variance has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other committees which produces a City's Cash overall favourable position of £83,000 (Local Risk) across all Open Spaces.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that this revenue outturn report for 2020/21 is noted.

Main Report

Budget Position for 2020/21

1. The 2020/21 latest agreed budget for Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park services overseen by your Committee received in January 2021 was £7.401m. This budget was endorsed by the Court of Common Council in March 2021 and subsequently updated for approved adjustments. There was an overall increase of £201,000 in adjustments which consist of a £54,000 increase in Local Risk expenditure (of which £16,000 are increases to the centrally funded apprentices budget and £38,000 for additional payments made to staff regarding additional work in relation to COVID-19), a £148,000 increase in Central Risk expenditure (mainly due to the £112,000 adjustment for costs relating to the flexible retirement pension strain costs), and a £1,000 reduction in Recharges. Movement of the original Local Risk budget to the final agreed budget is provided in Appendix A.

Revenue Outturn 2020/21

2. Actual net expenditure for your Committee's services during 2020/21 totalled £7.472m, a favourable budget variance of £130,000 compared with the final agreed budget.
3. A summary comparison with the final agreed budget for the year is tabulated below. In the tables, income, increases in income and reductions in expenditure are shown as positive balances, whereas brackets are used to denote expenditure, increases in expenditure, or shortfalls in income. Reason(s) for any larger variances (greater than £50,000) are indexed in the table.

Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood, and Queen's Park
Comparison of 2020/21 Revenue Outturn with Final Agreed
Budget

		Original Budget £000	Final Agreed Budget £000	Revenue Outturn £000	(Increase) Decrease £000	Reason Paragraph
LOCAL RISK						
Director of Open Spaces						
Hampstead Heath						
	Expenditure	(6,002)	(6,330)	(6,390)	(60)	4a)
	Income	1,620	1,620	1,713	93	4b)
		(4,382)	(4,710)	(4,677)	33	
Queens Park						
	Expenditure	(621)	(625)	(597)	28	
	Income	121	134	99	(35)	
		(500)	(491)	(498)	(7)	
Highgate Wood						
	Expenditure	(450)	(454)	(445)	9	
	Income	77	77	39	(38)	
		(373)	(377)	(406)	(29)	
Total Director of Open Spaces Local Risk		(7,073)	(7,409)	(7,432)	(23)	
Total Director of Open Spaces Local Risk		1,818	1,831	1,851	20	
City Surveyor						
City Surveyors Local Risk						
		(443)	(443)	(488)	(45)	
Total City Surveyor Local Risk		(443)	(443)	(488)	(45)	
TOTAL LOCAL RISK		(5,698)	(6,021)	(6,069)	(48)	
Cyclical Works Programme		(1,472)	(1,071)	(882)	189	4c)
CENTRAL RISK						
Hampstead Heath						
		1,154	1,033	1,036	3	
Queen's Park						
		(16)	(51)	(51)	-	
Highgate Wood						
		5	5	7	2	
TOTAL CENTRAL RISK		1,143	987	992	5	
RECHARGES						
Insurance						
		(107)	(107)	(101)	6	
Support Services						
		(546)	(546)	(506)	40	
Surveyor's Employee Recharge						
		(307)	(307)	(257)	50	
I.S. Recharge						
		(284)	(284)	(356)	(72)	
Recharges Within Fund (Directorate Democratic Core, and Learning)						
		(433)	(236)	(286)	(50)	
Recharges Across Fund (Structural Maintenance - Inspections)						
		(17)	(17)	(7)	10	
TOTAL RECHARGES		(1,694)	(1,497)	(1,513)	(16)	
OVERALL TOTAL		(7,721)	(7,602)	(7,472)	130	

Reasons for Significant Variations

4. a) The £60,000 unfavourable variance within expenditure is mainly due to additional spend in relation to waste, transport related expenses and managing Hampstead Heath during the pandemic, off-set by a reduction within employee related expenditure due to staff vacancies.

b) The £93,000 favourable variance in respect of income mainly relates to achievement of additional income in a range of areas including car parking, sports facilities and swimming.

c) Due to the economic impact of COVID-19 and subsequent reduced income revenue generation, the City Surveyor was tasked by the Chamberlain to review current programmes of work. This was to level the expenditure, smoothing some of the spend into a 'fourth' year to reduce the impact of committed expenditure within the next two years. The Chamberlain has confirmed acceptance of the proposals put forward by the City Surveyor. This provides the Chamberlain with an overall 4-year forecast expenditure across all funds and funding years.

Local Risk Carry Forward to 2021/22

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 2021/22 budgets.
7. The Director's unfavourable variance of £3,000 (Local Risk) has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other Committees which for City's Cash produce an overall favourable variance of £83,000 (Local Risk) across all Open Spaces. There were no carry forward requests submitted by the Director of Open Spaces within City Cash which relate to this committee.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Movement between the Original 2020/21 Budget and the final 2020/21 agreed Budget

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Appendix A

Movement from the 2020/21 Original Budget to the 2020/21 Final Agreed Budget

Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queens Park	£000
Original Net Local Risk Budget (Director of Open Spaces & City Surveyor)	(5,698)
Director of Open Spaces	
Apprentices – centrally funded	(16)
Contribution Pay	(28)
Allocation from the Directorate to fund unsuccessful 2019/20 carry forward bids	(83)
Allocation from the Corporate COVID-19 fund	(30)
Allocation from the Directorate to cover Oak Processionary Moth (OPM) costs	(19)
Resetting of departmental Budgets 2020/21 due to COVID-19 pandemic	(109)
Additional payment to staff regarding work in relation to COVID-19	(38)
City Surveyor:	
Planned & Reactive Works including Cleaning	-
Final Agreed Net Local Risk Budget (Director of Open Spaces & City Surveyor)	(6,021)