

Committee(s)	Dated:
Planning & Transportation Committee	21 September 2021
Subject: Business Plan 21/22 – Q1	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	N/A
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
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: Juliemma McLoughlin	For Information
Report author: Elisabeth Hannah	

Summary

This report sets out the progress made during Q1 of the 2021/22 Departmental Business Plan. This report continues to build on our new approach to share high level data, awards and results as infographics (Appendix 1), you will find further details and additional information at Appendix 2.

At the end of June 2021, the Department of Built Environment was £712k (24%) underspent against the local risk budget to date of £3.021m, over all the services managed by the Executive Director of Environment within the Planning & Transportation Committee. Appendix 3 sets out the detailed position for the individual services covered by this department.

Overall the Executive Director of Environment is currently forecasting a year end overspend of £1.205m (11%) for her City Fund and Bridge House Estate services.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report and appendices.

Main Report

Background

1. The 2020/21 Business Plan of the Department of the Built Environment was approved by this committee on 26 January 2021.

Current Position

2. Appendix 1 shows our Infographic approach to presenting departmental high-level data, awards and results. The work of the department continues to support City of London's Corporate Plan and key adopted strategies.
3. The end of Quarter 1 20/21 monitoring position for the Department of Built Environment services within Planning & Transportation Committee is provided at Appendix 2.

Key Updates

4. Following the Grenfell Tower fire in 2017, Government published the Building Safety Bill with a formal first reading in the House of Commons earlier this summer. The Bill draws on the content of the draft Bill published the previous year, it has also taken into account the Housing and Local Government Select Committee pre-legislative enquiry to which Ministers also responded. The District Surveyor will be preparing a briefing note for Members this autumn.
5. The City of London is currently consolidating all its parking contracts across six lots, potentially with a single supplier. This will provide for efficiencies in contract management and savings via economies of scale. The contract(s) should be awarded by October 2021 with a go-live date of 1 April 2022, to allow for the significant data migration exercise required. An update will be provided to members in future progress reports.

Transport Strategy Updates

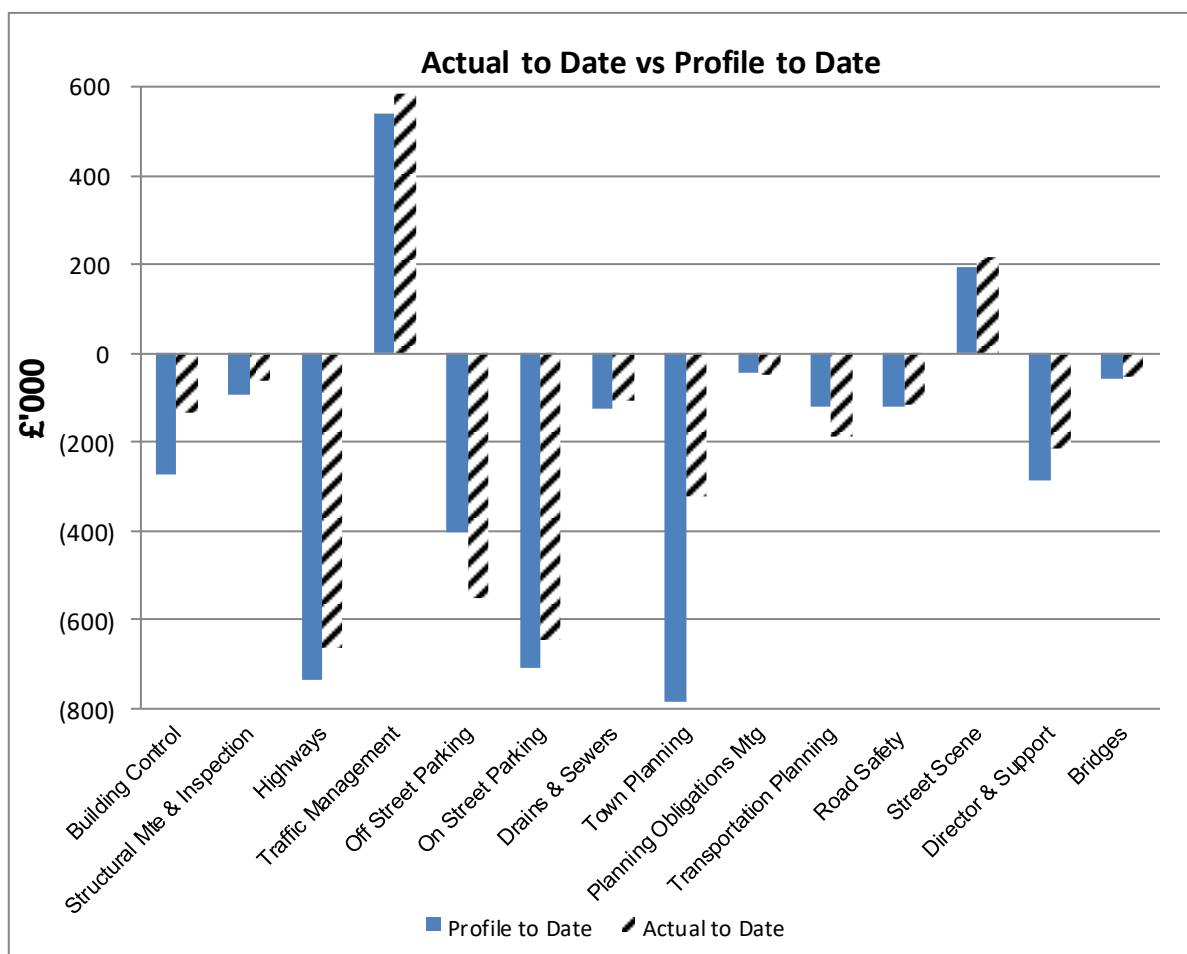
6. The Pedestrian Priority Programme has been established with initial focus on reviewing and potentially retaining Covid-19 transport measures. A gateway 3/4 report on the first phase, including Cheapside and Chancery Lane, will be going to Streets and Walkways Committee (S&W) in October.
7. *All Change at Bank* consultation has been completed with over 4000 responses analysed. A consultation report will be going to S&W in September.
8. The judicial review of Beech Street was dismissed, and work has restarted on options for a scheme to replace the current experiment, which will conclude this September.
9. Healthy Streets Programme is seeking to deliver improvements to the zebra crossing on Golden Lane and to the junctions with Fann Street and Brackley Street. It has been confirmed that TfL funding for these will not be available this year, alternative funding sources are being explored.

Staff Development

10. This September the next phase of our Talent Management strategy begins with the Institute of Leadership and Management Level 2 programme – *Release Your Potential*. This programme will bring together twelve members of staff from across the new Environment Department as well as colleagues from Chamberlain's team to build collaboration, networking and team skills. On successful completion staff will have a nationally recognised certificate as well as increased confidence and self-awareness.
11. Recruitment of two new Business Administration apprentices is underway to work in the Development Management and Cleansing teams.
12. Congratulations to Isaac Taylor who successfully completed his Transport Planning Technician Apprenticeship and who is now embarking on a five-year Transport Planning degree apprenticeship.

Detailed Finance Information

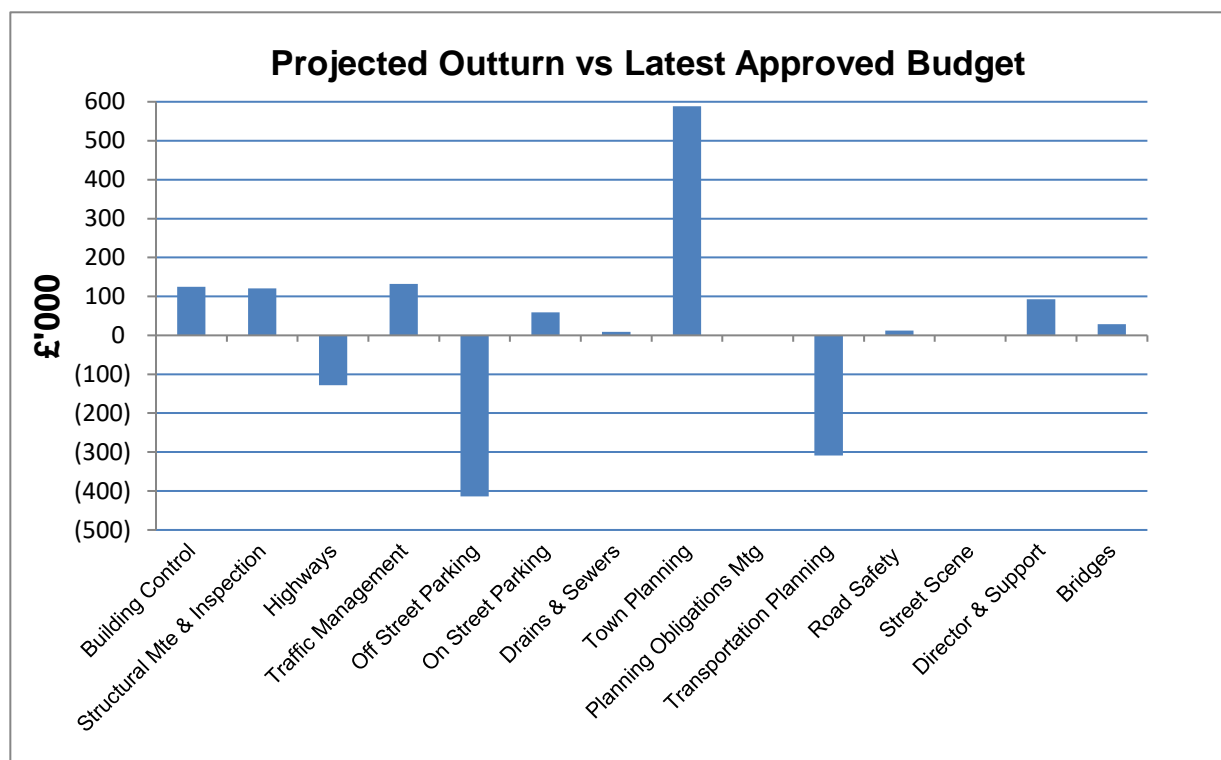
13. The end of June 2021 monitoring position for the Department of Built Environment services within Planning & Transportation Committee is provided at Appendix 2. This shows a net underspend to date for the Department of £712k (24%) against the overall local risk budget to date of £3.021m for 2021/22.



Notes:

1. Graph shows the actual local risk net position against the profiled budget to date for each Division.
2. A position above the baseline shows overall net income.
3. A position below the baseline shows overall net expenditure.
4. DBE total actual to date net exp of £2.309m is £712k under the profiled budget to date of £3.021m.

14. Overall the Executive Director Environment is currently forecasting a year end overspend position of £1.205m (11%) for her City Fund and Bridge House Estate services.



Notes:

1. Zero is the baseline latest approved budget for each Division of Service.
2. Graph shows projected outturn position against the latest approved budget.
3. A variance above the baseline is favourable ie either additional income or reduced expenditure.
4. A variance below the baseline is unfavourable is additional expenditure or reduced income.
5. Overall the Department is forecasting an overspend of £1.205m at year end.

15. The reasons for the significant budget variations are detailed in Appendix 2, which sets out a detailed financial analysis of each individual Division of Service reporting to this Committee, for the services the Executive Director Environment manages.

16. The better than budget position at the end of June 2021 is mainly due to staffing savings due to vacancies held, and additional income from Planning Application fees, Planning Performance Agreements, and the Thames Tideway SLA.

17. These underspends to date are partly offset by reductions in car parking income due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19, under recovery of staff costs recharged to capital projects due to reduced activity as a result of COVID-19 together with current staff vacancies, and increased variable On-Street Parking enforcement costs.

18. The Executive Director Environment anticipates that the underspends and overspends to date set out in the preceding paragraphs will largely continue to year end, but that the overall budget position will significantly worsen by year end due mainly to the 12% Target Operating Model (TOM) savings still to be delivered.

19. The Executive Director Environment is continuing to review all opportunities to further reduce the projected overspend.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Infographic
- Appendix 2 – Finance Report

Background Papers

DBE Business Plan 2021/22

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