

Committee(s) Planning & Transportation Committee	Dated: 16 November 2021
Subject: Business Plan 21/22 – Q2	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 Q2 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 A), you will find further details and additional information at Appendix 2.

At the end of September 2021, the Environment Department was £1.654m (25%) underspent against the local risk budget to date of £6.507m, over all the services managed by the Executive Director Environment within the Planning & Transportation Committee. Appendix B sets out the detailed position for the individual services covered by this department.

Overall the Executive Director Environment is currently forecasting a year end overspend of £719k (6.7%) 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 A 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 2 20/21 monitoring position for the Department of Built Environment services within Planning & Transportation Committee is provided at Appendix 2.

Key Updates

4. Response analysis for the City Plan 2036 is continuing. The Mayor of London has objected under conformity with the London Plan on tall buildings policy. Officers are discussing possible amendments and seeking member view on onward progress and timings. There is the potential for longer delay to Plan to reflect the impact of Covid-19 on changing work and development patterns, emerging national policy in the Environment Bill, the Climate Action Strategy, amendments to tall buildings policy and the identification of additional housing capacity.
5. The 10th edition of Sculpture In The City was launched, including 19 sculptures in the public space.
6. Culture Mile branding and wayfinding designs for Phase 2 are being developed following implementation of Phase 1 in August 2021
7. The Moderation and Evaluation process has been completed for the City of London's parking contracts. During this process Lot 6 was dropped from the process, this was due to lack of identified savings and only having one supplier submit (Incumbent). A Parking Tender Award report will be going to committees for decision, with an expectation the supplier(s) will be notified by 11 November 2021, and a go-live date of 1 April 2022. The new contracts will provide for efficiencies in contract management and savings via economies of scale.

Transport Strategy Updates

8. Following the decision being agreed at September's Planning & Transportation committee, the review period for the Transport Strategy has been extended to Spring 2023.
9. A consultancy firm has been selected to carry out the feasibility study for a sustainable logistics centre, with work commencing in quarter 3
10. The Pedestrian Priority Programme combined gateway 3/4/5 report for the first phase schemes at Cheapside, Old Jewry, King Street, King William Street, Threadneedle Street & Old Broad Street (S) was approved by S&W on 12 October. Projects Sub-committee are expected to also approve in October,

allowing detailed design and drafting of the experimental traffic orders to commence.

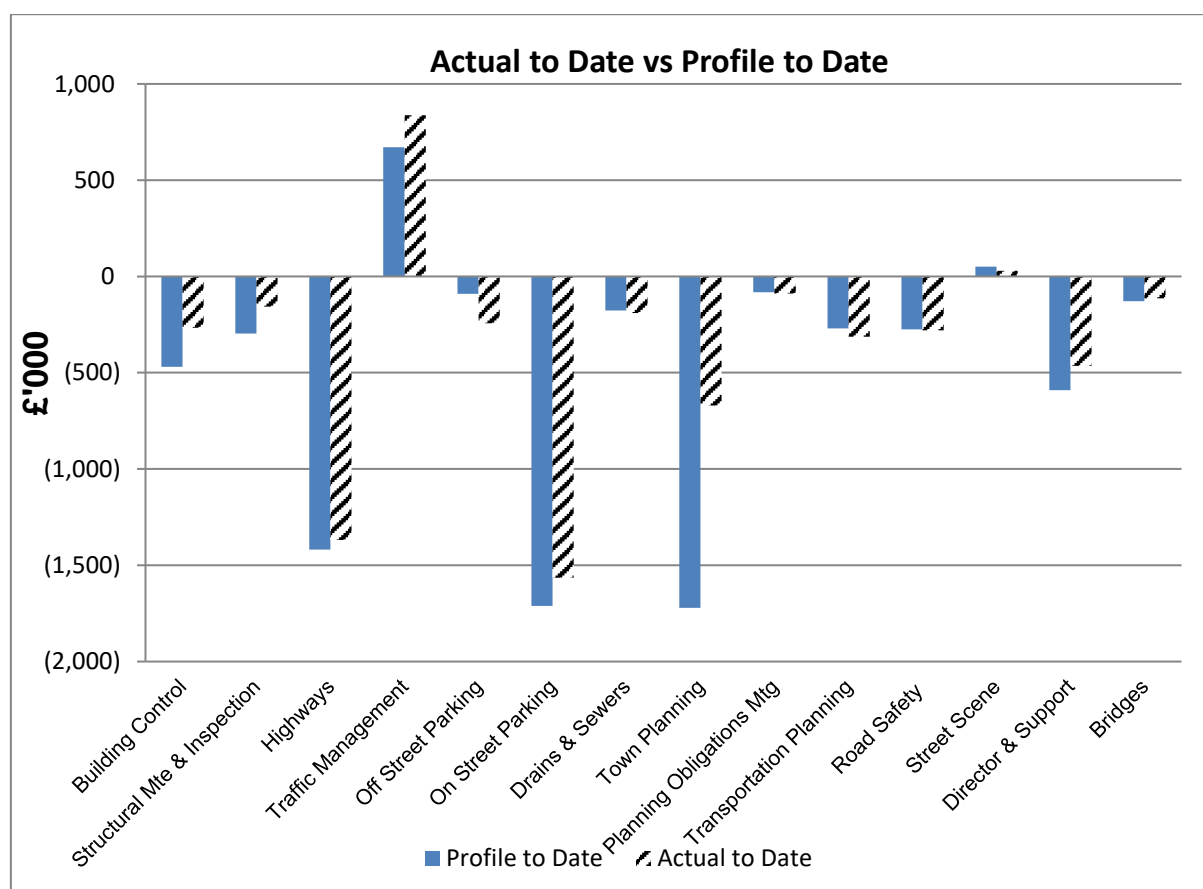
11. *All Change at Bank* consultation report was approved at S&W in September to proceed to finalisation of design and to advertise the statutory traffic orders. A final approval report is expected in December to move to construction.

Staff Development

12. Two Level 3 Business Administration apprentices have been recruited in August.
13. The second Institute and Leadership (ILM) programme for staff grades A-C has been launched, this nationally recognised course will give successful candidates not only a recognised award but also build their self-confidence and team skills, the group will also be running a fun and The programme of 12 candidates includes colleagues from DBE, Open Spaces and Markets and Consumer Protection.

Detailed Finance Information

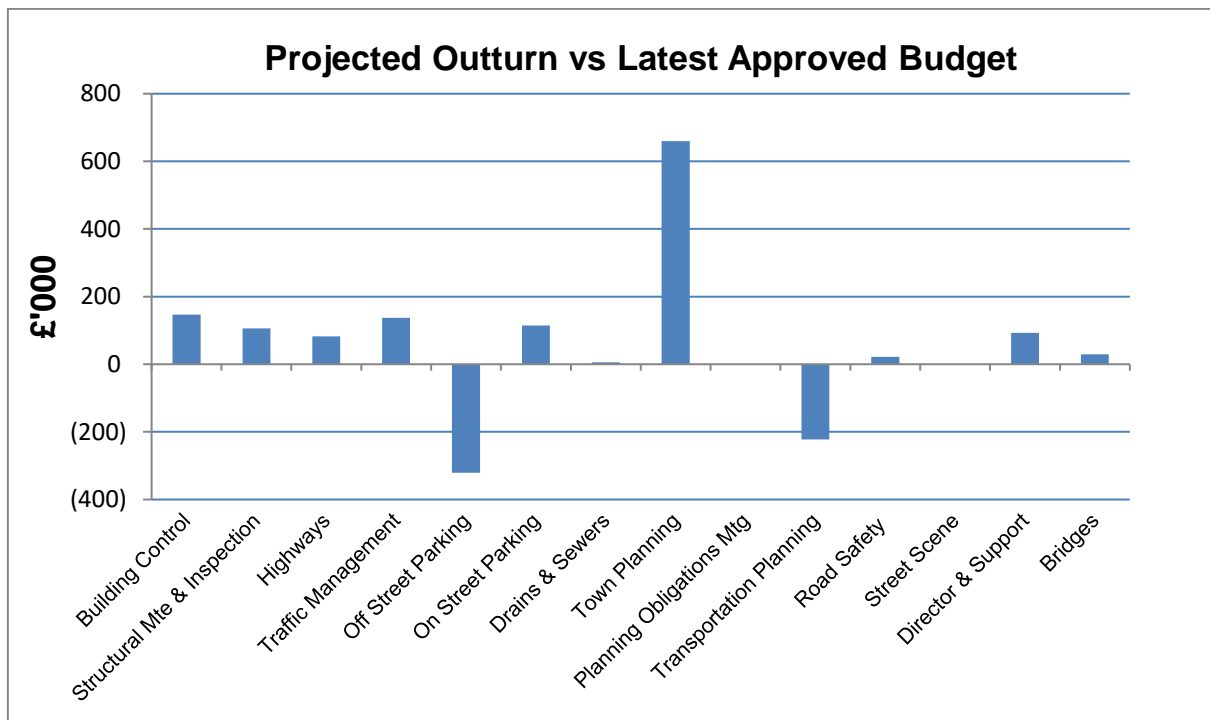
14. The end of September 2021 monitoring position for the Environment Department services within Planning & Transportation Committee is provided at Appendix B. This shows a net underspend to date for the Department of £1.654m (25%) against the overall local risk budget to date of £6.507m for 2021/22.



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 £4.739m is £1.654m under the profiled budget to date of £6.507m.

15. Overall the Executive Director Environment is currently forecasting a year end overspend position of £719k (6.7%) 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 £719k at year end.

16. The reasons for the significant budget variations are detailed in Appendix B, 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.

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

18. 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 within the Department, and increased variable On-Street Parking enforcement costs.

19. The Executive Director of 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% TOM savings still to be delivered.

20. The projected overspend has reduced by £486k from the position reported at the end of June, and the Executive Director is continuing to review all opportunities to further improve the budget position.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Infographic
- Appendix B – Finance Report

Background Papers

DBE Business Plan 2021/22

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