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| Committee(s): Planning & Transportation Committee | Dated: 11 October 2022 |
| Subject: Business Plans 2022/23: Progress Report (Period 1, April-July) | Public |
| Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly? | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending? | No |
| Report of: Juliemma McLoughlin, Executive Director, Environment | For Information |
| Report author: Joanne Hill, Business Planning & Compliance Officer | |

Summary

This report provides an update on progress made during Period One (April-July) 2022/23 against the High-Level Business Plan 2022/23 for the service areas of the Environment Department which fall within the remit of your Committee (Appendix 1).

A budget monitoring update is included in the report, with details provided at Appendix 2.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the content of this report and its appendices.

Main Report

Background

1. The 2022/23 High-Level Business Plan sets out the key aims, workstreams and key performance indicators (KPIs) of the services within the remit of your Committee for the year ahead.
2. To ensure your Committee is kept informed, an update on progress made against the High-Level Business Plan 2022/23 will be reported to you on a periodic (four-monthly) basis, along with current financial information. This approach allows Members to ask questions and have a timely input into areas of particular importance to them.

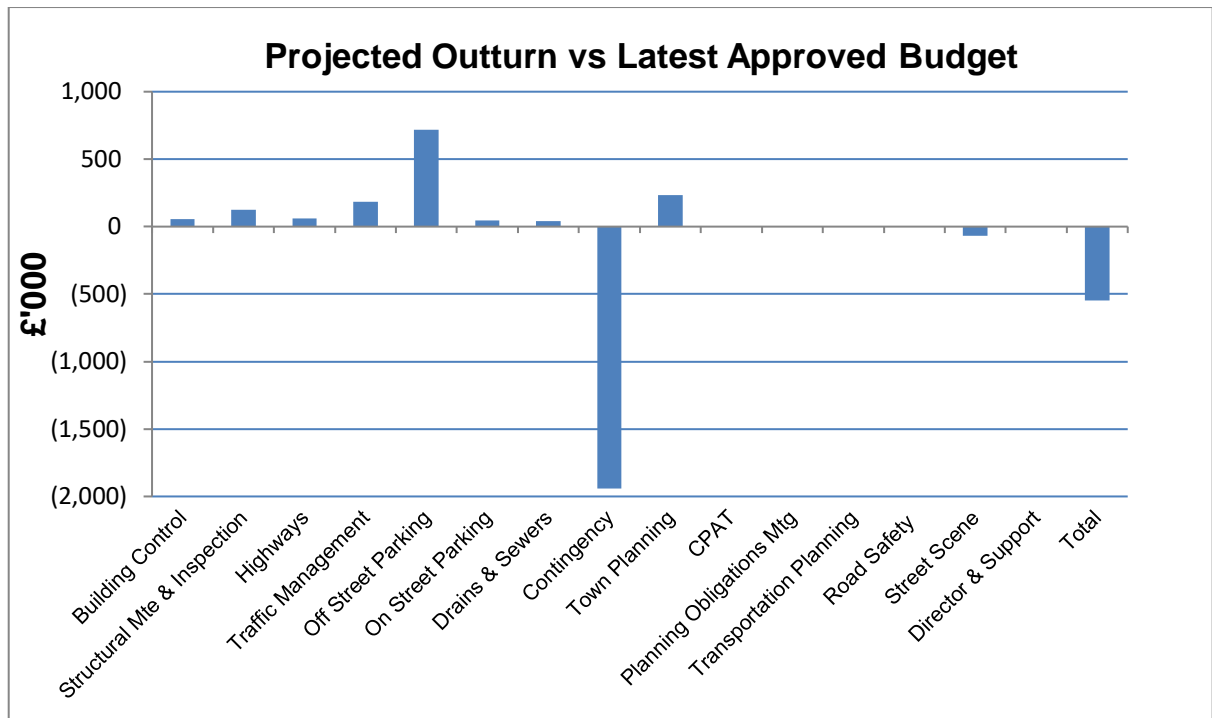
Current Position

3. This report provides an update on progress made against the 2022/23 High-Level Business Plan during Period One (April-July 2022) by the following service areas of the Environment Department:

- The Planning and Development Division, including the District Surveyor
 - The City Operations Division: Highways and Transportation services
4. Appendix 1 presents key performance information as infographics.
 5. Updates on progress against key workstreams and other achievements during the period are summarised below:
 - a) The new departmental structure under the Target Operating Model was implemented with effect from 1 April 2022 and services have been realigned accordingly.
 - b) The new Building Safety Bill Act, which received royal assent in April 2022, will see the creation of a national Building Safety Regulator (BSR) with effect from October 2023. The City of London District Surveyor is working with other London Boroughs to formulate a Building Control hub for London to work with the BSR on High Risk Buildings (HRBs). Members of the Building Control Team are preparing for formal competency testing that will be a requirement under the new Act for every Building Control Surveyor (local authority and private) to be registered as a Competent Building Control Surveyor with the BSR.
 - c) The new contract with FM Conway for highway maintenance and construction has been mobilised.
 - d) A detailed report on the Transport Strategy was presented to your Committee on 20 September 2022: 'Transport Strategy Delivery Plan Update: Quarter 1 2022/23'.

Financial information

6. The end of July 2022 monitoring position for the Environment Department shows a projected year end overspend of £1.846m overall.
7. Within that overall total, the Executive Director is forecasting a projected year end overspend of £549k for her services reporting to the Planning & Transportation Committee.
8. Appendix 2 sets out a more detailed financial analysis of each division of service relating to this Committee, including reasons for significant budget variations (generally those over £50k).



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 i.e., either additional income or reduced expenditure.
4. A variance below the baseline is unfavourable i.e., additional expenditure or reduced income.
5. Overall the Committee is forecasting an overspend of £549k at year end.

9. The projected overspend for this Committee is primarily due to the Committee's share of departmental unidentified savings, which have been partly offset by:
 - Additional income from the Thames Tideway SLA, road closure fees, and car parking fees.
 - Salary savings as a result of staff vacancies.
 - Contract cost savings resulting from the new car park management contract.
10. The Executive Director is continuing to seek further opportunities to address the projected overspend for the Department and the financial position has greatly improved from the standard 4-month reporting cycle (Apr-Jul) used in this report.
11. The end of August position for the Environment Department is now forecasting an overspend of £176k. This significant improvement of £1.67m from the position reported at the end of July is primarily due to improved income projections from planning application fees and PPAs, additional Construction/Deconstruction Levy and improved Heathrow Animal Reception Centre trade, plus ongoing salary vacancies.
12. Within that overall total overspend of £176k, the Executive Director is forecasting a projected year end underspend of £104k for her services reporting to the Planning & Transportation Committee, an improvement of £653k from the position reported at the end of July.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications – The monitoring of key improvement objectives and performance measures links to the achievement of the aims and outcomes set out in the Corporate Plan 2018-23.

Financial implications – Financial implications are addressed within this report, with further detail included in the appendices.

Resource implications – None.

Legal implications – None.

Risk implications – Risks to achieving the objectives set out in the Business Plan of each service area are identified and managed in accordance with the City of London Risk Management Framework. Risk Registers are reported to this Committee on a regular basis.

Equalities implications – None.

Climate implications – None.

Security implications – None.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Key performance information (infographics)

Appendix 2 – Financial information

Contact

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