

# City of London Corporation Committee Report

<b>Committee:</b> Community and Children's Services	<b>Dated:</b> 17/09/2025
<b>Subject:</b> Community and Children's Services (Non-Housing) Revenue Outturn Forecast as at Quarter 1, 2025/26	<b>Public report:</b> For Information
<b>This proposal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provides statutory duties</li> </ul>	This report includes information on the City of London Corporation's statutory Community and Children services function
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	No
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b>	Judith Finlay, Director of Community and Children's Services, and Caroline Al-Beyerty, Chamberlain & Chief Financial Officer
<b>Report author:</b>	Mark Jarvis, Head of Finance, and Beatrix Jako, Finance Business Partner, Chamberlain's Department

## Summary

This report sets out the Quarter 1 estimated outturn for the Community and Children's Services Committee budget (excluding the ring-fenced Housing Revenue Account (HRA)) for the 2025/26 financial year.

The total local risk projected overspend for the full year is currently £197,000, mainly due to Older People's Nursing Care and Adult Social Care costs, while other areas showing minor variances (see paragraphs 1, 2 and 3).

The total central risk budget is forecast to overspend by £754,000, largely driven by Asylum Seekers and Housing Benefit Administration overspends. Other areas remain close to budget (see paragraphs 4 and 5).

## Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the Q1 projected outturn report for 2025/26.

## Main Report

### Quarter 1 Projected Outturn

Table A summarises the Department of Community and Children's Services (DCCS) budget. Table B gives the detailed forecast by service area.

<b>Table A – Summary of DCCS Budget and Projected Outturn (excluding the ring-fenced HRA Budget) 2025/26</b>			
	<b>2025/26 Budget  £000</b>	<b>Forecast Outturn  £000</b>	<b>Variation Underspend / (Overspend)  £000</b>
Net local risk expenditure	(12,261)	(12,458)	(197)
Net central risk expenditure	(4,099)	(4,853)	(754)
<b>DCCS Local and Central Risk Net expenditure</b>	<b>(16,360)</b>	<b>(17,311)</b>	<b>(951)</b>

<b>Table B – Forecast by service area</b>	<b>2025/26 Budget £000</b>	<b>Forecast Outturn £000</b>	<b>Variation Underspend / (Overspend) £000</b>	<b>Paragraph</b>
<b><u>LOCAL RISK</u></b>				
<b>Supervision and Management</b>	<b>(1,692)</b>	<b>(1,687)</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Housing Services</b>				
Other Housing Service	27	27	-	
Supporting People	(550)	(550)	-	
Service Strategy	(5)	(5)	-	
<b>Total Housing</b>	<b>(528)</b>	<b>(528)</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>People Services</b>				
Older People	(1,886)	(1,994)	(108)	3
Adult Social Care	(3,037)	(3,114)	(77)	4
Occupational Therapy	(424)	(406)	18	
Housing Benefit	104	104	-	
Children's Social Care	(2,031)	(2,031)	-	5
<b>Total People Services</b>	<b>(7,274)</b>	<b>(7,441)</b>	<b>(167)</b>	
<b>Education and Skills</b>				
Early Years and Childcare	(657)	(657)	-	
Other Schools Related Activity	(429)	(429)	-	
Adult Community Learning	(150)	(128)	22	
<b>Total Education and Skills</b>	<b>(1,236)</b>	<b>(1,214)</b>	<b>22</b>	
<b>Partnerships</b>				
Commissioning incl. recreation	(948)	(975)	(27)	
Public Health	28	28	-	
Youth Service	(187)	(217)	(30)	
Community Safety Team	(424)	(424)	-	
<b>Total Partnerships</b>	<b>(1,531)</b>	<b>(1,588)</b>	<b>(57)</b>	
<b>TOTAL LOCAL RISK CITY FUND</b>	<b>(12,261)</b>	<b>(12,458)</b>	<b>(197)</b>	

	2025/26 Budget £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Variation Underspend / (Overspend) £000	Paragraph
<b><u>CENTRAL RISK</u></b>				
Commissioning incl. recreation	140	125	(15)	
Homelessness and Rough Sleeping	(2,588)	(2,588)	-	
Early Years and Childcare	(775)	(731)	44	
Other School Related Activity	819	775	(44)	
Asylum Seekers	(1,658)	(1,764)	(106)	6
Delegated Budget	30	30	-	
Other Housing Services	-	-	-	
Housing Benefit	(67)	(700)	(633)	7
<b>Total Central Risk</b>	<b>(4,099)</b>	<b>(4,853)</b>	<b>(754)</b>	
<b>TOTAL LOCAL RISK &amp; CENTRAL RISK CITY FUND</b>	<b>(16,360)</b>	<b>(17,311)</b>	<b>(951)</b>	

1. The Older People local risk budget is currently projecting an overspend of £108,000, primarily attributable to a nursing care package for a single client that was not accounted for in the original budget. The estimated full-year cost of this package is approximately £190,000.
2. The £77,000 overspend in the Adult Social Care local risk budget reflects a combination of rising costs from client care packages and additional expenditure on temporary staff to support service delivery.
3. Overall, the outturn for Children's Social Care is on budget. Fluctuations, especially those related to new clients, will be closely monitored throughout the year.
4. The Asylum Seekers central risk budget is currently forecast to overspend by £106,000. However, this position may improve contingent on the successful relocation of two to three care leavers to council accommodation within the current financial year.
5. Housing Benefit Administration central risk budget is projecting an estimated overspend of £633,000. This is largely attributable to a shortfall between housing benefits awarded for temporary accommodations and payments made by the Department for Work and Pensions. Some of the accommodations are over their limit and the shortage of temporary accommodation at reasonable prices led to the increased shortfall in this area.

6. The Homes for Ukraine Scheme continues during the year. The costs involved with this programme are fully met from government grants and has no impact on the Directors' overall net forecast outturn.
7. In general, it should be noted that both the social care and asylum budgets are very volatile and a small change in client numbers has a major effect on the eventual full year outturn.

## **Appendices**

- None

## **Contact officers**

### **Mark Jarvis**

Head of Finance – Chamberlain's Department  
E: Mark.Jarvis@cityoflondon.gov.uk

### **Beatrix Jako**

Finance Business Partner – Chamberlain's Department  
E: Beatrix.Jako@cityoflondon.gov.uk