

Committee(s)	Dated:
Open Spaces & City Gardens Committee	18072016
Subject: Revenue Outturn 2015/16 – Open Spaces & City Gardens	Public
Report of: The Chamberlain and the Director of Open Spaces	For Information

Summary

This report compares the revenue outturn for the services overseen by your Committee in 2015/16 with the final agreed budget for the year. In total, there was a better than budget position of £74,000 for the services overseen by your Committee compared with the final agreed budget for the year as set out below.

	Final Agreed Budget £000	Revenue Outturn £000	Increase/ (Decrease) £000
Local Risk			
Director of Open Spaces	1,808	1,646	(162)
Director of the Built Environment(City Gardens)	165	150	(15)
City Surveyor	100	108	8
Central Risk	0	0	0
Recharges	(298)	(203)	95
Total	1,775	1,701	(74)

The Director of Open Spaces better than budget position of £162,000 (Local Risk) is mainly due to a £114,000 underspend at the Directorate, further details can be found in 4a). This underspend has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other committees, which produces an overall better than budget position of £885,000 (Local Risk) across all Open Spaces. A request to carry forward £500,000 of which £91,000 relates to City Gardens and £20,000 to the Directorate will be considered by the Chamberlain in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Resource Allocation Sub Committee.

The £95,000 reduction in Recharges is mainly due to a £126,000 reduction in Recharges within fund, off-set by a reduction in Support Services, details can be found in paragraph 4b).

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that this revenue outturn report for 2015/16 and the consequential implications for the 2016/17 budget are noted.

Main Report

Budget Position for 2015/16

1. The 2015/16 latest approved budget for the services overseen by your Committee received in December 2015 was £1.775M. This budget was endorsed by the Court of Common Council in March 2016 and subsequently updated for approved adjustments. Movement of the original Local Risk budget to the final agreed budget is provided in Appendix A.

Revenue Outturn 2015/16

2. Actual net expenditure for your Committee's services during 2015/16 totalled £1.701M, a decrease of £74,000 compared with the final agreed budget.
3. A summary comparison with the final agreed budget for the year is tabulated below. In the tables, figures in brackets indicate income or in hand balances, increases in income or decreases in expenditure.

City Gardens, Bunhill Fields & The Open Spaces Directorate
Comparison of 2015/16 Revenue Outturn with Final Agreed Budget

	<i>Original Budget</i>	Final Agreed Budget	Revenue Outturn	Variation Increase/ (Decrease)	
	<i>£000</i>	£000	£000	£000	
LOCAL RISK					
Director of Open Spaces					Reason*
City Gardens	1,014	1,015	967	(48)	
Bunhill Fields	110	110	110	0	
Directorate	504	683	569	(114)	
Total Director of Open Spaces Local Risk	1,628	1,808	1,646	(162)	a)
Director of the Built Environment (City Gardens)	159	165	150	(15)	
City Surveyors Local Risk	36	52	41	(11)	
Additional Works Programme	239	48	67	19	
Total other Local Risk	434	265	258	(7)	
TOTAL LOCAL RISK	2,062	2,073	1,904	(169)	
CENTRAL RISK					
City Gardens	0	0	0	0	
Bunhill Fields	0	0	0	0	
Directorate	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL CENTRAL RISK	0	0	0	0	
RECHARGES					
Insurance	10	16	12	(4)	
Support Services	217	284	223	(61)	
Admin Buildings	70	66	65	(1)	
Surveyor's Employee Recharge	59	59	67	8	
I. S. Recharge	361	66	76	10	
Capital Charges	31	33	29	(4)	
Recharges within fund (Directorate & Democratic Core)	(787)	(708)	(582)	126	
Recharges across funds (Directorate Recharges)	(126)	(114)	(93)	21	
TOTAL RECHARGES	(165)	(298)	(203)	95	b)
OVERALL TOTAL	1,897	1,775	1,701	(74)	

*See paragraph 4

Reasons for Significant Variations

4. a) The Director's £162,000 better than budget position is due to a £59,000 reduction in employee expenses which are partly due to the delay in the implementation of the Learning Programme Team, and a £58,000 reduction in supplies & services expenditure.
- b) The £95,000 reduction in Recharges is mainly reflected in the underspend in expenditure at the Directorate where the Directorate's costs are recharged-out .

Local Risk Carry Forward to 2016/17

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 2016/17 budgets.
7. The Director's better than budget position of £162,000 (Local Risk) has been aggregated with budget variations on services overseen by other committees which produce an overall better than budget position of £885,000 (Local Risk) of which £500,000 has been submitted for a carry forward:

Open Spaces & City Gardens have requested the following carry forwards:-

- £20,000 Tower Hill Garden Safety items.
- £71,000 Various planting refurbishment schemes.
- £10,000 Leadership Training
- £10,000 Alternate ways of working programme

Appendices

- Appendix A – Movement between Original 2015/16 budget and the Final Agreed budget

Derek Cobbing
Senior Accountant

T: 020 7332 3519

E: Derek.cobbing@cityoflondon.gov.uk