

# **2022/23 Outturn Report (Appendix A)**

## **Quarter 4 / Month 12 (March 23) Financial Report Planning Policy Committee June 2023**

**Mark Hak-Sanders  
Chief Finance Officer (S151)**

# Contents

- Revenue Summary
- Saving Plans Update
- Capital Position

# Revenue Commentary – Planning Policy

2021/22 Outturn £k	Final Outturn £k	Annual Budget £k	Outturn Variance £k	Change from Q3 £k	One-off events £k	Ongoing Pressures £k
816 Planning Applications & Advice	409	335	74	(48)	43	31
294 Planning Strategy & Policy Guidance	316	316	0	0	0	
50 Enforcement	259	276	(17)	(0)	(17)	
(2) Tree Preservation & Advice	95	95	(1)	(3)	(1)	
0 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	0	0	0	0	0	
174 Local Development Plan - Evidence	182	182	0	(0)	0	
0 Gatwick Airport DCO	2	0	2	(20)	2	
9 Transfer to/from Neighbourhood Plan Rese	8	8	0	0	0	
0 Southern Building Control	(0)	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	
(10) Land Charges and Street Naming	(11)	(8)	(3)	(1)	(3)	
<b>1,332 Planning Policy</b>	<b>1,259</b>	<b>1,204</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>(71)</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>

**Note** – the outturn position assumes that the budgets for the local plan and other planning policy matters remain ringfenced to the local plan and are therefore held for future spend.

This ensures that funding approved for such matters is retained to meet uncertain future costs and not used to offset overspends elsewhere in the budget.

**Planning Policy overspend £55k (Change : £71k improvement from M9).** The variance mainly comprises of:

**£74k Planning Application and Advice Planning Application and Advice** variance described by :

- £84k overspend on salaries. During the year, the service has been reliant on contract staff and is going through an organisational change which should lead to some mitigation (£147k overspend in M9). Change primarily due to reduction in staffing spend including staff commencing employment later than forecast in M9. £43k one off overspend on third party specialist recruitment to obtain skilled permanent staff (£32k overspend in M9). Change due to further spend on specialist recruitment agencies. £1k Overspend on specialist legal advice (£15k in M9) Expected costs awarded against Council were less than expected in 2022/23, and £26k Overspend on third party external consultant advice including retail impact assessments and highways matters (£35k in M9)
- Offset by (£80k) surplus on planning application fee income (£108k in M9). Change in forecast due to (i) softening in developer demand (ii) deferment of spending government grant to 2023/24, (iii) Pre app interim churn has resulted in some pre app income being received in advance of work done, income has to be carried to 2023/24
- **£2k Gatwick Airport DCO** overspend due to engagement of specialist consultants to assist with Council response to public consultation (£22k overspend in M9). Change in timing of operational expenditure between M9 and outturn.
- Offset by:
- **(£1k) Tree Preservation** underspend related to employee expenses (including mileage) - (£2k overspend in M9)
- **(£17k) Enforcement** £29k salary overspend due to use of interim whilst permanent staff recruited, (£39k) favourable third party expenditure as appeals risks did not materialise in year.(£7k) favourable appeals income - (overall (£17k) underspent in M9).
- **(£3k) Street Naming** £3k income surplus driven by fees from developers ((£2k) in M9).

The service is endeavouring to take mitigating action by transitioning from contract to permanent staff

# Capital Budget – Planning Policy

Scheme Name	Original Budget 2022/23	Carry Forward from 2021/22	Budget incl. Carry Forwards 2022/23	2022-23 Outturn	Outturn Variance	M9 Forecast Variance	Change from Qtr3
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Capital contributions to third parties from CIL	1,667	479	2,146	38	(2,108)	(2,085)	(23)
<b>Total Capital Programme</b>	<b>1,667</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>2,146</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>(2,108)</b>	<b>(2,085)</b>	<b>(23)</b>

- The Capital Budget for Planning Policy consists of the Capital Contributions for Community Infrastructure Levy. When the budget was set, this consisted of £1,667k, with a further £950k as part of the Croydon Road scheme in S&R.
- Carry forwards agreed as part of the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 S&R committee have increased this to £2,146k, as set out above.
- The outturn position is spend of £38k, £2,108k less than budget. As this is CIL funded, there is no General Fund impact and the CIL funding will carry-over to future years.

The variance relates to:

- Third party delays where the budget assumed earlier agreement on Grant letters/agreements.
- The budget also reflects some older CIL Grants which are subject to external fund raising.