

**SIGNIFICANT VARIANCES IN REVENUE OUTTURN FOR 2015/16
(OVER £50,000) BY SERVICE**

HEAD OF PAID SERVICE

There is a net overspend of £98.2k within the Head of Paid Service Directorate in 2015/16 including the following significant variances:-

Waste and Recycling:

Green Waste

There is an underspend of £77k on Green Waste including additional income of £40k against the income budget, plus £33k share of the surplus delivered by Ubico Ltd which was a result of operational efficiencies achieved and fuel savings.

Recycling

There is a net overspend against the revised 2015/16 recycling budgets of £224k. Recyclate commodity prices remain low meaning the Council continues to experience a drop in associated income compared to 2014, leading to an overspend of £60,000 on recycling collection schemes in addition to an overspend of £18,000 on contractor costs as a result of having to employ additional resource and £28,000 on additional equipment purchases. The household recycling centre has an overspend of £50,000 as a result of the decrease in material income and there is a shortfall of £62,000 in income and additional contractor fees as a result of the new bulking facility that was introduced part way through the year.

Household Waste

There is a net overspend of £91k in Household waste budgets including an overspend in equipment of £30k and a £49k share of the Ubico deficit share for this service as a result of increased transport maintenance costs.

It should be noted that the council's overall share of the surplus delivered by Ubico Ltd was £116.7k for 2015/16, distributed throughout the services and included in the overall outturn position for the year.

ENVIRONMENTAL & REGULATORY SERVICES

There is a net underspend of £204.9k within the Environmental & Regulatory Services Directorate for 2015/16 including the following significant variances:-

Disabled Facilities Grants

There is an underspend £50.9k in the disabled facilities grants budgets as a result of the capitalisation of salary costs against the capital schemes in year.

Off Street Car parking

There is a net underspend of £55.3k in the off street car parking service, including £104k surplus as a result of the revaluation of business rates chargeable on car parks and £11k surplus fees and charges received. This is partially reduced by a net overspend of £71k in supplies and services costs, including overspend of £22k in

fees and charges payable, £26k overspend in equipment purchases and repairs and £14k overspend in credit card charges, the latter of which is a direct correlation to the increase in car parking fee income, as reported in the Cabinet Budget monitoring report dated 9th February 2016.

Parks & Gardens Operations

An underspend of £62.6k has arisen on Sports & Open Spaces including £30.6k surplus delivered by Ubico Ltd in 2015/16 which was a result of operational efficiencies achieved and savings on fuel. There was also a saving of £21k as a result of the successful defence of insurance claims raised in the previous financial year. A provision was made against these claims in 2014/15 for which no costs were incurred in 2015/16 and the provision reversed accordingly.

RESOURCES DIRECTORATE

There is a net underspend within the Corporate Resourcing Directorate of £78.8k. There are no significant variances to report across these services.

INTEREST AND INVESTMENT INCOME

During the year the council paid £2.464 million in borrowing costs, which was £8.7k less than budgeted for the year; and earned £456k on investments, which was £46k more than budgeted. There was therefore an overall net saving to the General Fund of £55k compared to the revised budget.

SIGNIFICANT VARIANCES IN CAPITAL OUTTURN FOR 2014/15

Crematorium development scheme

There is an underspend of £492k against the £500k capital budget for the cremation development scheme. The total scheme is £7.4m and is phased over two to three years. The underspend reflects the timing of the project which is currently in the procurement phase and will be committed for spend during 2016/17.

Town Centre acquisitions

The Council purchased land at Synagogue Lane and the former shopfitters site from the £1m Town Centre acquisitions budget in 2014/15 leaving £432k to carry forward into 2015/16. Work has now commenced on the site with £43k having been spent in 2015/16. The underspend of £389k is carried forward to complete the works in 2016/17.

ICT Infrastructure

There is an underspend of £226400 in the 5 year capital budget for the ICT strategy, which needs to be carried forward to continue to support this strategy in 2016/17.

Pittville Park Play Area

There is an underspend of £134,900 in the new Pittville park play area. This scheme

straddles 2015/16 and 2016/17, therefore this underspend is to be carried forward to fund the remaining works in 2016/17.

Allotments

The enhancement schemes for allotments started towards the end of 2014/15 with £580k of the £610k budget needing to be carried forward into 2016/17.

Town Hall Redevelopment

The £400k capital budget for the preliminary work for the redevelopment of the Town Hall has not been spent in 2015/16 and is to be carried forward to fund these costs in 2016/17.

Integrated Transport – Civic Pride Schemes

There is an underspend of £310k in the integrated transport schemes, with the bulk of expenditure yet to be incurred due to lead in times for the required works. This therefore needs to be carried forward into 2016/17 to support the future cost of these schemes.

CCTV in Car Parks

The capital budget for the full digital upgrade of town centre and car parking CCTV cameras at an estimated cost of £265k was approved to be delivered over the financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16. This has not yet been spent and the underspend is therefore required to be carried forward to deliver this upgrade in 2016/17.

Public Realm Improvements

The works planned for the High Street and Town Centre improvements are timed for 2015/16 and 2016/17 so the £491k budget unspent needs to be carried forward into 2016/17.

Car Park Investment

The budget of £250k for new car park machines needs to be carried forward into 2016/17 when the programme for this work will take place as part of the car parking investment strategy.

Vacant Property Grant

£275k of this budget was not used in 2015/16 due to timing of allocations and needs to be carried forward into 2016/17.

Housing Enabling

The unspent element of this budget of £1.308m needs to be carried forward into 2016/17 due to the uncertain timing for this programme of provision of new affordable housing, which includes support to the YMCA scheme in Hesters Way..

10 Year Vehicle Replacement Programme

The lead in time to procure a number of new vehicles for the Ubico fleet means this budget of £1.434m needs to be carried forward into 2016/17.