ESSEX POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service



Meeting	Fire & Rescue - Performance and Resources Board	Agenda Item
Meeting Date		Report Number
Report Author:	Beth Blackburn, Finance Business Partner	
Presented By	Neil Cross - Chief Finance Officer	
Subject	Budget Review - April 2021	
Type of Report:	Information	

SUMMARY

This paper reports on expenditure against budget as at 30 April 2021 and identifies and comments on major budget variations. In addition the report includes key indicators that act as lead indicators for expenditure across the Authority.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Fire & Rescue - Performance and Resources Board is asked to:

- 1 Note the position on income and expenditure at 30 April 2021 compared to the Budget.
- 2 Note the capital expenditure spend aginst budget for period to 30 April 2021

Additional changes to 2021/22 reporting:

Historically Wholetime and On Call overtime was excluded from P1 and additional costs were included in P13. Due to the payments being in arrears the figures in P1 were lower than other months, these are now being estimated and are included in April.

Financing Items - MRP is being accrued each month rather than releasing the full amount in P13. This is a change in practice from the prior year as the outturn surplus/deficit was hard to guage but will provide more clarity to the overall performance.

The allocation of Earmarked Reserves is split out from the BAU activity in the Income and Expenditure statements.

Changes to the reporting layout of Income and Expenditure Summary

To have a better understanding of what drives the movement of spend v budget during the year, we have made some changes to the layout of the Income and Expenditure statement. On the left we now show the prior year numbers for the period and the variance to the prior year budget. On the right the columns show the underlying business as usual (BAU) actuals, any covid and earmarked project spend. The total of the 3 columns give the overall spend by the service for the period. There are two variances – the first to show Total Spend v Budget and the second which allows us to track the variances on the underlying of BAU spend. This gives the Budget holders a clearer picture on over or under spend for their budgets. It will also allow for further transparancy of cost.

Summary Income & Expenditure

Net Business As Usual (BAU) Expenditure to April is £422k under Budget.

The Main Reasons for the Variance are:

Area of Variance		Variance in month	£	Context behind variance
Employment costs			139,543	Part of the variance may be due to an over budgeted estimate included in P1 for overtime and On Call activity as it is a new process. We anticipate this to be a timing variance issue and it should smooth out over the rest of the year.
Non employment costs	:		188,695	Lower costs due to Covid impact:
	Support costs	22,374		£26k Lower Travel and Subsistence.
	Premises & Equipment	85,735		£40k lower transport costs £22k lower property maintenance costs £18k lower IT communication costs
	Other Costs & Services	70,116		£40k lower Establishment expenses (£20k of which is due to less community safety work) £22k lower other local authority services costs (lower council payments and police collaboration costs than budgeted)

Funding

Funding includes a £97k shortfall in the month for NNDR which is offset against specific grant income release. The expected full year amount of £2.6m will be offset against the March 22 payment of the section 31 income grant. The districts have deducted this amount which would impact cashflow. We are currently in discussions with the districts to align deduction of this to March 22 (i.e the period in which the Grant will be paid).

Earmarked Reserves - £493k of Earmarked Reserve funding was used in the month. This relates to LGPS Deficit (£295k), Competency Management System (£146k) and Operational Training(£51k). A summary of Earmarked Reserve Funding / Usage will be included in the May 21 financial pack.

Essex County Fire and Rescue Service Outturn Income and Expenditure account - March 2021

	BAU Period		Earmarked							
	Actual		Projects not	Actual	Budget	Variance			Variance	
Description	£'000	Covid	budgeted	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	% Variance	Prior Year	£'000s	% Varianc
Wholetime Firefighters	34,917	212	-	35,130	34,633	(497)	-1%	33,308	(1,821)	-59
On Call Firefighters	7,064	-	-	7,064	6,893	(171)	-2%	6,782	(281)	-49
Control	1,594	21	-	1,615	1,368	(247)	-18%	1,365	(250)	-189
Support Staff	14,933	25	285	15,243	14,715	(527)	-4%	14,177	(1,066)	-89
Total Employment Costs	58,507	259	285	59,051	57,609	(1,442)	-3%	55,633	(3,418)	-6%
					0.474					
Support Costs	1,921	13	201	2,135	2,174	39	2%	2,338	203	99
Premises & Equipment	9,775	544	120	10,439	10,678	239	2%	10,162	(276)	-39
Other Costs & Services	2,811	58	-	2,869	3,298	428	13%	3,248	378	129
III health pension costs	2,253	-	-	2,253	2,276	23	1%	2,261	9	09
Financing Items	5,370	-	-	5,370	6,365	995	16%	6,082	712	129
Inflation Provision			-	-	-	-	0%	-	-	09
Total Other Costs	22,129	616	321	23,066	24,790	1,725	7%	24,092	1,026	4%
Gross Expenditure	80,636	875	605	82,117	82,400	283	0%	79,724	(2,392)	-3%
Operational income	(7,855)	(1,417)	-	(9,271)	(7,539)	1,732	-23%	(8,378)	893	-11%
Net Expenditure	72,782	(542)	605	72,846	74,861	2,015	3%	71,346	(1,499)	-2%
Funding										
Revenue Support Grant	(8,473)	_	_	(8,473)	(8,473)	(0)	0%	(8,337)	136	29
National Non-Domestic Rates	(16,882)	_	_	(16,882)	(16,519)	363	-2%	(16,569)	313	29
Council Tax Collection Account	(543)	_	_	(543)	(400)	143	-36%	(643)	(100)	-159
Council Tax	(47,765)	_	_	(47,765)	(47,851)	(86)	0%	(45,695)	2,070	5%
Total Funding	(73,663)	-	-	(73,663)	(73,243)	420	-1%	(71,244)	2,419	3%
Funding Gap / (Surplus)	(882)	(542)	605	(818)	1,618	2,435	++	102	920	+
Cont'ns to/(from) General Reserves	-	-	-		_	-	0%	0	0	
Cont'ns to/(from) Earmarked reserves	(0)	542	(605)	(64)	-	64	0%	-	64	
	(0)	542	(605)	(64)	-	64		0	64	
Net (Sumulus)/Deficit to/from General Reserves	(882)	(0)	_	(882)	1,618	2.499		102	984	

Prior Year Period Actuals £'000s	Prior year Period Budget £'000s	Prior Year Variance (Actuals Vs Budget)	Description	BAU Period Actual £'000s	COVID £'000s	Earmarked Projects £'000s	Period Actual £'000s	Period Budget £'000s	Budget Vs Actuals £'000s	Variance %	Budget Vs BAU Actuals £'000s	Variance %
2,721	2,765	44	Wholetime Firefighters	2,796	-	23	2,819	2,874	56	2%	79	3%
215	237	22	On Call Firefighters	580	-	-	580	608	28	5%	28	5%
121	116	(5)	Control	121	-	-	121	130	9	7%	9	7%
1,147	1,181	34	Support Staff	1,213	1	315	1,529	1,237	(292)	(24%)	24	2%
4,204	4,299	95	Total Employment Costs	4,710	1	338	5,050	4,850	(200)	(4%)	140	3%
86	181	95	Support Costs	156	-	-	156	179	22	13%	22	13%
781	890	109	Premises & Equipment	750	-	154	904	835	(69)	(8%)	86	10%
221	267	46	Other Costs & Services	195	-	-	195	265	70	26%	70	26%
367	327	(40)	III health pension costs	220	-	-	220	229	9	4%	9	4%
104	105		Financing Items	517	-	-	517	518	1	0%	1	0%
1,559	1,770	211	Total Other Costs	1,838	-	154	1,992	2,026	34	2%	189	9%
-	-	-	Investment in productivity improvement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5,762	6,069	307	Gross Expenditure	6,548	1	493	7,042	6,876	(165)	(2%)	328	5%
(531)	(516)	16	Specific Govt. Grants Income	(627)	-	-	(627)	(532)	95	(18%)	95	(18%)
(69)	(113)	(43)	Operational income	(81)	-	-	(81)	(81)	(1)	1%	(1)	1%
5,161	5,441	279	Net Expenditure	5,840	1	493	6,334	6,263	(71)	(1%)	422	7%
(0,00.4)	(0.004)		Funding	(0.040)			(0.040)	(0.040)				
(2,824)	(2,824)		Revenue Support Grant	(2,840)	-	-	(2,840)	(2,840)	-	-	-	-
(1,237)	(1,236)		National Non-Domestic Rates	(1,235)	-	-	(1,235)	(1,237)	(2)	0%	(2)	0%
(54)	(54)	(-)	Council Tax Collection Account	(9)	-	-	(9)	(54)	(45)	83%	(45)	83%
(2,353)	(2,353)		Council Tax Precept	(2,338)	-	-	(2,338)	(2,338)	-	-	-	-
(0.400)	- (0.407)		Council Tax Collection Impact	97	-	-	97	(1)	(99)	00/	(99)	00/
(6,468)	(6,467)	1	Net Funding	(6,325)	-	-	(6,325)	(6,470)	(145)	2%	(145)	2%
-	-		Cont'ns to/(from) General Bals	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-
-	-		Cont'ns to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	-	-	(493)	(493)	-	493		-	-
- (2.122)	- (2.12=)	<u> </u>	Total Contribution to/(from) Reserves	- (2.2.2)	-	(493)	(493)	- (0.4=0)	493	· ·	-	-
(6,468)	(6,467)	1	Total Funding	(6,325)	-	(493)	(6,818)	(6,470)	348	(5%)	(145)	2%
(1,306)	(1,026)	280	Funding Gap / (Surplus)	(485)	1	-	(484)	(208)	276	(133%)	277	(134%)

Total Statement of Expenditure to April 2021

Description	YTD Actual £'000s	YTD Budget £'000s	Variance YTD £'000s	Variance YTD %	Current Full Year Budget £'000s	2020-21 YTD Actuals £'000s
Wholetime Firefighters	2,819	2,874	56	2%	34,340	2,721
On-Call Firefighters	580	608	28	5%	7,081	215
Control	121	130	9	7%	1,568	121
Support Staff	1,529	1,237	(292)	(24%)	15,075	1,147
Total Employment Cost	5,050	4,850	(200)	(4%)	58,063	4,204
Training	66	74	8	10%	885	49
Other Employee Costs	75	63	(12)	(19%)	761	25
Travel & Subsistence	15	42	27	65%	502	12
Support Costs	156	179	22	13%	2,148	86
Property Maintenance	144	167	23	14%	2,001	157
Utilities	65	56	(9)	(16%)	678	68
Rent & Rates	134	135	1	1%	1,626	131
Equipment & Supplies	119	121	2	2%	1,452	139
Communications	109	122	13	11%	1,460	118
Information Systems	292	154	(138)	(90%)	1,845	134
Transport	41	80	40	49%	962	34
Premises & Equipment	904	835	(69)	(8%)	10,024	781
Establishment Expenses	47	89	42	47%	1,071	24
Risk Protection	52	56	4	7%	674	43
Professional Fees & Services	63	85	22	26%	1,113	118
Democratic Representation	18	18	(0)	(0%)	220	19
Agency Services	14	17	2	14%	200	17
Other Costs & Services	195	265	70	26%	3,278	221
III Health Pension Costs	220	229	9	4%	2,276	367
Lease & Interest Charges	104	105	1	1%	1,265	104
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Financing Items	413	413	-	-	4,950	-
Inflation Provision	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financing Items	517	518	1	0%	6,215	104
Investment in productivity improvement					1,151	
Gross Expenditure	7,042	6,876	(165)	(2%)	83,155	5,762
Government Grants	(627)	(532)	95	(18%)	(6,387)	(531)
Other Operational Income	(81)	(81)	(1)	1%	(975)	(1,438)
Total Operational Income	(708)	(613)	94	(15%)	(7,361)	(1,969)
Net Expenditure	6,334	6,263	(71)	(1%)	75,794	5,161

Operational Income	Operational Income										
Operational Income	YTD Actual £	YTD Budget £	Variance YTD £	Variance YTD %	Current Full Year Budget £	2020-21 YTD Actuals £	Comments				
Cycle to Work Scheme	(2,753)	(2,501)	252	(10%)	(30,006)	(2,787)					
Childcare Vouchers	(3,022)	(5,417)	(2,395)	44%	(65,004)	(4,053)					
Canteen Income	(2,984)	(4,167)	(1,183)	28%	(50,004)	0					
Sale of Vehicle Spares	(518)	(2,083)	(1,565)	75%	(25,000)	0					
Aerial Sites	(10,828)	(12,971)	(2,143)	17%	(155,652)	(11,897)					
Solar Panel Income	(4,116)	(4,167)	(51)	1%	(50,000)	(4,100)					
Hydrant Tests	(5,073)	(7,500)	(2,427)	32%	(90,000)	(224)					
Lease Cars - Employee Contributions	(600)	(1,250)	(650)	52%	(15,000)	(909)					
Service Charges	(48)	(50)	(2)	5%	(600)	(49)					
Secondments	(17,801)	0	17,801	0%	0	0					
Fire Safety Courses	0	0	0	0%	0	0					
Community Safety General	(7,460)	0	7,460	0%	0	(7,460)					
Labour Credit	(799)	(4,583)	(3,784)	83%	(55,000)	(1,219)					
Section 13/16	(5,968)	(3,750)	2,218	(59%)	(45,000)	(5,408)					
Provision of Hire Vehicles & Equipment	0	(167)	(167)	100%	(2,000)	0					
Rent	0	0	0	0%	0	0					
Interest Received Short Term Investements	(390)	(2,083)	(1,693)	81%	(24,996)	(3,300)					
External Interest Received	0	0	0	0%	0	0					
Events Income	0	0	0	0%	0	0					
Community Safety Youth Work	0	(8,333)	(8,333)	100%	(99,998)	0					
Shared Services Income	(13,184)	(15,167)	(1,983)	13%	(182,001)	(20,911)					
Reimburements from EFA(T)	0	0	0	0%	0	(3,769)					
Other Miscellaneous Income	(5,095)	(7,042)	(1,947)	28%	(84,499)	(3,279)					
Total Operational Income	(80,638)	(81,231)	(593)	1%	(974,760)	(69,365)					

Specific Government Grants Income

Specific Government Grants	YTD Actual £	YTD Budget £	Variance YTD £	Variance YTD %	Current Full Year Budget £	2020-21 YTD Actuals £	Comments
Addn Pens Grant Accr	(293,045)	(293,045)	0	0%	,	(, ,	Central Govt. Grant for Pensions - increase in Employers contribution
DCLG BRR 2021-22	(111,690)	(111,690)	0	0%	(1,340,280)	(111,690)	Business Rate relief
USAR Grant 2021-22	(71,380)	(71,432)	(52)	0%	(856,560)	(71,380)	
Firelink Grant 2021-22	(53,522)	(55,098)	(1,576)	3%	(662,258)		Communications Network and includes New Risk Mosaic programme funding
Other Grant Income	(97,329)	(958)	96,371		(11,500)		Actuals Includes Grant to offset NNDR shortfall for full year expected £2.6M and budget includes £11.5k for Prevention (funding from PFCC for 1 FTE). Nothing was budgeted for Covid 19 funding
Subtotal-Govt Grants	(626,967)	(532,223)	94,744	18%		(531,369)	

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service

Apr-21

COVID-19 Incremental Cost Summary / PO Commitments / Forecast

INCOME

First Tranche of Covid 19 Emergency Funding - March 20 Second Tranche of Covid 19 Emergency Funding - May 2020 Third Tranche of Covid 19 Emergency Funding - April 2021

290,932
1,378,051
233,344
1,902,327

	TOTAL FUNDING								1,902,327	
I - STAFFII	NG COSTS	Apr-21	YTD Costs	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Est Total Cost	Comments
		£					£	£		
	On Call additional costs - service response		0						0	
	Wholetime overtime (including control)- service response		32,800						32,800	Recall to duty payments
	On Call additional costs - LRF support		201,529						201,529	
	Wholetime overtime - LRF support		0						0	
	On Call additional costs - National response		0						0	
	Wholetime overtime - National response		0						0	
	ARA's		10,191				0		10,191	
	ARA's Recovery		13,300				0		13,300	
	Other	864	4,831	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500			HR Support Role + Occ Health Bolster for Covid
	Sub-Total: Staffing costs	864	262,651	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	0	284,651	
II - PROTE	CTIVE EQUIPMENT									
	PPE		323,142	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	343,142	
	Cleaning and decontamination supplies		178,688	12,890	12,890	12,890	12,890	12,890		Additional Cleaning at Stations - £10,174 (move to 10,390 in Apr 21) + £2,500 p/m wipes / sprays
	Lateral Flow Tests		74,100						74,100	
	Sub-Total: Equipment	0	575,930	16,890	16,890	16,890	16,890	16,890	660,380	
III- OTHER									250.005	
	ICT Infrastructure and licencing		228,905	40,000					268,905	
	Thermometers		1,199						1,199	
	Signage Other		44,745	45.000	422.000				44,745	CAFIL what a bar Down White O CARRIL Classes and A libe black in Washington And Inches
	Other Recharge of PPE		16,608 -9,837	15,000	132,000					£15k relating to Bureau Veritas & £132k Classroom and toilet block in Weathersfield training room
	Changes to Workplace on return to work		-9,837	30,000	30,000	40,000			100,000	Recharge of PPE to West Mids FRS
	Sub-Total: Other costs	0	281,620	85,000	162,000	40,000	0	0	568,620	
	Sub-rotul. Other costs	U	281,020	65,000	102,000	40,000	U	U	500,020	
	TOTAL ADDITIONAL COSTS	864	1,120,201	107,390	184,390	62,390	22,390	16,890	1,513,651	
			-,,		20.,000	,	,_,	,	_,,,	
	REVENUE SPEND		909,009							
	CAPITAL SPEND		211,193							
			1,120,201							
	STOCK SPEND		298,421		Amount of Gr	ant remainin	g		388,676	
			,		% OF GRANT				20.4%	
	Amount of 2020/21 Grant remaining		250,361							
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·									



Capital	Budget 2021/22	Adjustment to Forecast	Forecast - Apr 2021*	Actual Spend
New Premises				
Service Workshops - New	250	-	250	-
Existing Premises				
Asset Protection	1,700	-	1,700	50
Asset Improvement Works Training Facilities				
Improvement	1,651	-	1,651	-
Asset Improvement Works - Shoeburyness	906	-	906	2
Total Property	4,507	-	4,507	53
Equipment	246	-	246	22
Information Technology				
Projects	570	13	583	-
Total Information Technology	570	13	583	-
Vehicles				
New Appliances	2,330	-	2,330	-
Other Vehicles	978	_	978	_
Total Vehicles	3,308	-	3,308	-
Total Capital Expenditure	8,630	13	8,643	75



* To be agreed at asset board

Nominal Code		Asset Life	Budget 2021/22	Adjustment to Forecast	Forecast - Apr 2021*	Actual Spend	Commitments / Orders
	B113 -Vehicles						
B113	Appliances (Pumping)	15	2,330,000	-	2,330,000	-	2,328,200
B113	ICU Internals	6	,	-	30,000	-	-
B113	Light Vehicles	6	292,000	-	292,000	-	105,526
B113	Off Road Vehicles	6	102,000	-	102,000	-	101,934
B113	Officers Cars (Principal Officers)	4	111,000	-	111,000	-	49,965
B113	Specialist rescue vehicle	6	100,000	-	100,000	-	-
B113	Light Vans	6	248,000	-	248,000	-	-
B113	Ladders	12	94,500	-	94,500	-	-
	Total B113 - Vehicles		3,307,500	-	3,307,500	•	2,585,626
	B116 - Operational Equipment						
B116	B.A. Compressors	8	55,851	-	55,851	22,149	-
B116	BA Contamination machine	8	80,000	-	80,000	-	-
B116	Method entry equipment	8	30,000	-	30,000	-	-
B116	Smoke curtains	8	30,000	-	30,000	-	-
B116	Body warn CCTV	8	30,000	-	30,000	-	-
B116	Fog spikes	8	20,000	-	20,000	-	-
	Total B116 - Operational Equipment		245,851	-	245,851	22,149	-
	Note: ICT Budget updated in line with the Digital & Data Strategy						
	B114 - ICT Equipment						
B114	Rolling laptop refresh	3	130,000	(76,667)	53,333	-	-
B114	Rolling phone refresh	3	100,000	- 100,000	-	-	-
B114	Apprentice laptops (business case agreed Dec)	3	32,400	-	32,400	-	-
B114	Virtual servers	3	25,000	- 25,000	-	-	-
B114	VOICE	3	-	215,000	215,000	-	-
B114	ICCS/CAD Replacement - Control Project	7	282,150	-	282,150	-	-
	Total B114 - ICT Equipment		569,550	13,333	582,883	-	-



* To be agreed at asset board

Nominal Code		Asset Life	Budget 2021/22	Adjustment to Forecast	Forecast - Apr 2021*	Actual Spend	Commitments / Orders
D.1.10	B112 - Land & Building						
B112	Lexden Workshops Relocation	20	,	-	250,000	-	-
	Total B112 - Land & Building		250,000	-	250,000	-	-
B117	Asset Improvement Works - Shoeburyness	20	905,814	-	905,814	2,207	59,716
B117	Asset Protection Works - Training Facilities:	20					
	Phase 1 - Chelmsford, Greys, Southend, SWF		212,012	-	-	-	28,956
	Phase 2 - Braintree, Brentwood		429,089	-	-	-	-
	Phase 3 - Harlow, Safron Waldon and Clacton		741,000	-	-	-	-
	Witham TC WaH		70,000	-	-	-	-
	Wethersfield TC room/Pilot scheme Grays		130,006	-	-	-	-
	Deep lift pits		60,000	-	-	-	-
	Consultancy		8,682	-	-		-
	Total B117 - Asset Improvement		2,556,603	-	905,814	2,207	88,672
	B118 - Asset Protection						
	Projects carried forward from 20/21:						
B118	Colchester FP/WFS Offices	20	7,000	-	7,000	-	-
B118	Orsett Appliance Bay	20	35,000	-	35,000	-	-
B118	Southend Boilers	20	22,000	-	22,000	-	-
B118	Fire Alarms	20	5,000	-	5,000	-	-
B118	Burnham AB Floor	20	35,000	-	35,000	-	-
	Projects commencing 21/22:						
B118	Dunmow Yard	20	140,000	-	140,000	-	-
B118	Great Baddow Windows	20	,	-	130,000	-	-
B118	Kelvedon Park Pond Works	20	346,000	-	346,000	-	-
B118	Orsett - No time to lose	20	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-	25,000	-	-
B118	Rayleigh Parking	20	-,	-	10,000	-	-
B118	Harlow boilers	20	,	-	180,000	-	-
B118	Baddow boilers	20	180,000	-	180,000	-	-
B118	Chelmsford TC boilers	20	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-	80,000	-	-
B118	Grays Heater	20	,	-	25,000	-	-
B118	Witham TC boiler	20	,	-	50,000	-	-
B118	Harlow mains	20	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-	35,000 175,000	- E0 420	-
B118 B118	Appliance bay floors x 3 Witham TC offices	20 20	175,000 100,000	-	175,000 100,000	50,439	-
B118	Epping part refurbishment	20	60,000	-	60,000	-	-
B118	Waltham Abbey drill yard	20	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		60,000	-	_
B118	Orsett Fra (50%)	20	65,000		65,000	-	
סוום	Provision for limited capacity	20	,	-	(65,000)	-	-
	B118 - Asset Protection		1,700,000	-	1,700,000	50,439	_
			1,1 22,000		.,. 13,000	,	
	TOTAL BUDGET 2020-21		8,629,504	13,333	6,992,048	74,795	2,674,298

BENEFITS AND RISK/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The review of expenditure against the profiled budget is part of the overall financial control process of the Authority.

In exceptional circumstances it allows for budget virements to ensure that under spending against budget heads can be utilised to fund expenditure against other priorities.

If virements are not made there is a risk that the Authority will miss out on opportunities to improve performance and meet key objectives during the year.

The Authority's reserves are at the upper end of their target range and the Authority is able to fund short term fluctuations in activity from them when necessary.

The review of the management accounts is one control measure to mitigate the risk of overspending the Authority's budget for the year.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct Equality or Diversity implications within this report

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct legal implications within this report.

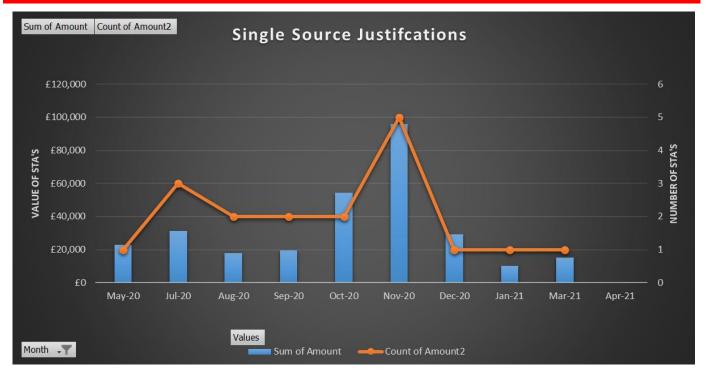
HEALTH & SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct Health and Safety implications within this report.

ACTIONS / NEXT STEPS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACC	ESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
List of background documents -	- including appendices, hardcopy or electronic including any relevant link/s.
Appendix 1 - Single Tender Act	ions
Appendix 2 - Summary internal	audit tracker
Proper Officer:	Chief Finance Officer to PFCC Fire & Rescue Authority
Contact Officer:	Neil Cross
	Essex County Fire & Rescue Service, Kelvedon Park, London Road, Rivenhall, Witham CM8 3HB Tel: 01376 576020 Email: neil.cross@essex-fire.gov.uk

Appendix 1 Single Tender Actions



There were no Single Tender Actions in the month:

Value	Department	Supplier	Justification
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Appendix 2 Internal Audit Recommendations Summary by Audit

Financial Year	Audit Report Title	Owner	Total Recommendations		Completed Recommendations		Recommendations Outstanding		Recommendations outside of due date	
			High	Medium	High	Medium	High	Medium	High	Medium
2019/20	Governance	Chief Executive (Jo Turton) Monitoring Officer (Pippa Brent- Isherwood)	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
2019/20	Business Continuity	ess Continuity Business Continuity Advisor (Claire Sanders)		2	2	2	-	-	-	-
2019/20	Risk Management Culture	Risk Advisor (Helen O'Sullivan)	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
2019/20	Integrated Risk Management Planning	IRMP Programme Manager - (Lisa Hart)	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-
2019/20	Programme 2020 progress	IRMP Programme Manager - (Lisa Hart)	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
2019/20	Training & Development	Assistant Chief Executive Office - People, Values and Culture (Colette Black)	-	4	-	3	-	1	-	1
2019/20	HR Processing (Payroll)	Director of Corporate Services (Karl Edwards) Assistant Director of HR (Natalie Quickenden)	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
2019/20	GDPR	GDPR Officer (Hope Osayande)	2	7	1	5	1	2	1	2
2019/20	Procurement	Head of Purchasing & Supply (Sheldon Dyer)	1	5	-	2	1	3	1	3
2020/21	HR Wellbeing	Assistant Director of HR (Natalie Quickenden) Wellbeing & Occupational Health Manager (Vince Lungley)	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
2020/21	Digital & Data Strategy	Director of Corporate Services (Karl Edwards) Head of ICT (Sarah Taylor)	-	3	-	2	-	1	-	1
2020/21	Key Financial Controls	Finance and Compliance Manager (Austin Page)	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
			7	41	5	32	2	9	2	9
		THIS UPDATE	48		37		11		11	
			Percentage	complete	77%		Percentage overdue		100%	
			7	41	5	33	2	8	-	8
			•							

LAST UPDATE

7	41	5	33	2	8	-	8	
48		38		1	0	8		
Percentage complete		79%		Percentage overdue			80%	

Internal Audit Programme Update

The Follow Up audit has completed, concluding the audit plan for 2020/21. The debrief has been circulated to all parties involved, and we are expecting the final report in the next few weeks.

Representatives of the Corporate Services team met with RSM to agree the audit plan for 2021/22. The draft plan will include:

- Value for money/efficiency saving
- Fleet Strategy
- ICT Transformation (Digital and Data Strategy)
- Cybersecurity
- Competency management and Heath & Safety
- Key Financial Controls
- Follow up of completed recommendations

Updates On Outstanding Recommendations

There are no new recommendations since the last update.

One recommendation was re-opened in the month - the action is being re-visited to ensure it has been fully implemented.

There are 11 overdue recommendations, up from 8 in the last update, due to recommendations falling past their due dates. Meetings have been held with audit sponsors, and actions agreed for the coming weeks.

Please contact Austin Page for any questions relating to the internal audit programme.