

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, Senior Finance Business Partner		
Presented By	Neil Cross - Chief Finance Officer		
Subject	Budget Review - November 2022		
Type of Report:	Information		

SUMMARY

This paper reports on expenditure against budget as at November 2022 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 for Year to Date compared to the Budget.
- 2 - Note the capital expenditure spend against budget for period to November 2022

Executive Summary



Results for the period to November 2022

The YTD position shows a surplus of £977k, this is £200k less than the Budgeted BAU position. In the month, there was a surplus of £27k compared to a budgeted deficit of £10k.

YTD Pay explanations

Wholetime Firefighters:

YTD we are £403k under BAU Budget:

- 11.0FTE under on Operational staff.
- Change in Pension scheme.
- Offset underspends with unbudgeted YTD ASW.

On Call Firefighters:

- Data shows that £464k of On Call costs related to Heatwave shouts.
- Higher On Call activity due to turnout and training activity

Control:

- £57k of the Overspend relates to additional overtime and increased resource in the team.

Support staff:

- Secondary contracts within Support staff is tracking 293k underspent YTD.
- £105k is from recharging partnership forums.

Non Pay

YTD Core non pay costs include £134k overspend in Non pay costs (Support cost overspends relate to unbudgeted mileage, overspend of fuel costs in Property and Equipment, offset by savings in MRP)

Funding

The overspends are offset by the council tax pooling amount coming through funding.

Government Grants includes the Service Grant which contains funding that covered the 1.25% increase in NI, the increase in NI ended on 6th November.

The other element of the Service Grant is un-ringfenced and has been allocated to one off investments. The Budget for this has been flat phased whereas the Grant actuals are offset against the costs when they come in which explains the underspend, this is due to timing.

A one off grant for electrical safety has been included for £4.8k in the month.

Operational income in the month is higher due to £59k coming through interest received on short term investments, detail of these are included on the Cashflow Forecast.

The expenditure allocated against Earmarked Reserves has been realigned and is in line with the Decision sheets, this has no net impact on the I&E.

Balance Sheet Statement and Cashflow Forecast

The Balance Sheet report on page 7 shows the key monthly rather than year to date movements.

Cash and cash equivalents decreased from £30.0m to £27.4m in the month, this was due to Project cost outflows.

The Cashflow Forecast on page 8 shows the forecast cash position of the Authority for the next twelve months.

Capital

The Capital Programme is actively monitored by several groups at the Authority, including the Programme Management Board and Strategic Fleet Sub-Group. The budget for 2022-23 is £9.087m.

There were 10 appliances bought in the year, these are reflected in the Capital report.

Other

There was one property sale in the month.

YTD Summary Income and Expenditure Statement to 30th November 2022



Prior Year YTD Actuals £'000s	Prior year YTD Budget £'000s	Prior Year Variance (Actuals Vs Budget)	Description	Core YTD Actual £'000s	COVID £'000s	Earmarked Projects £'000s	YTD Actual £'000s	Core YTD Budget £'000s	COVID Budget £'000s	Earmarked Projects Budget £'000s	YTD Budget £'000s	Budget Vs Actuals £'000s	Variance %	Core Budget Vs Core Actuals £'000s	Variance %
23,643	23,882	239	Wholetime Firefighters	22,841	-	667	23,508	23,244	-	586	23,830	321	1%	403	2%
4,941	4,613	(328)	On Call Firefighters	6,170	3	-	6,173	4,749	-	-	4,749	(1,423)	(30%)	(1,420)	(30%)
1,045	1,045	(1)	Control	1,112	-	-	1,112	1,049	-	-	1,049	(63)	(6%)	(63)	(6%)
10,419	9,914	(505)	Support Staff	10,188	-	341	10,528	10,484	-	607	11,091	563	5%	297	3%
40,048	39,454	(594)	Total Employment Costs	40,310	3	1,008	41,321	39,526	-	1,193	40,719	(602)	(1%)	(784)	(2%)
1,524	1,430	(94)	Support Costs	1,196	1	244	1,441	1,067	-	200	1,267	(174)	(14%)	(129)	(10%)
6,668	6,683	15	Premises & Equipment	6,973	5	-	6,979	6,688	-	-	6,688	(291)	(4%)	(286)	(4%)
2,189	2,191	2	Other Costs & Services	2,152	30	177	2,359	2,289	-	-	2,289	(70)	(3%)	136	6%
1,407	1,469	63	Ill health pension costs	1,476	-	-	1,476	1,497	-	-	1,497	22	1%	22	1%
3,683	3,722	39	Financing Items	3,809	-	-	3,809	3,932	-	-	3,932	123	3%	123	3%
15,470	15,495	24	Total Other Costs	15,606	36	421	16,064	15,473	-	200	15,673	(392)	(2%)	(134)	(1%)
-	-	-	Investment in productivity improvement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55,519	54,949	(570)	Gross Expenditure	55,916	39	1,430	57,386	54,999	-	1,393	56,392	(994)	(2%)	(918)	(2%)
(1,000)	(650)	350	Operational income	(1,210)	(1)	1	(1,211)	(944)	-	-	(944)	267	(28%)	267	(28%)
54,519	54,299	(220)	Net Expenditure before Funding	54,706	38	1,430	56,175	54,055	-	1,393	55,448	(727)	(1%)	(651)	(1%)
			Funding												
(4,758)	(4,258)	501	Government Grants	(4,939)	(1)	-	(4,940)	(5,033)	-	-	(5,033)	(92)	2%	(94)	2%
(6,458)	(6,454)	4	Revenue Support Grant	(6,651)	-	-	(6,651)	(6,651)	-	-	(6,651)	0	(0%)	0	(0%)
(11,525)	(11,166)	359	National Non-Domestic Rates	(10,731)	-	-	(10,731)	(10,731)	-	-	(10,731)	-	-	-	-
(50)	(91)	(41)	Council Tax Collection Account	(531)	-	-	(531)	-	-	-	-	531	-	531	-
(31,944)	(31,791)	153	Council Tax Precept	(32,817)	-	-	(32,817)	(32,817)	-	-	(32,817)	0	(0%)	0	(0%)
6	(24)	(30)	Council Tax Collection Impact	(13)	-	-	(13)	-	-	-	-	13	-	13	-
(54,728)	(53,784)	945	Total Funding	(55,683)	(1)	-	(55,684)	(55,232)	-	-	(55,232)	452	(1%)	451	(1%)
(209)	515	725	Funding Gap / (Surplus)	(977)	37	1,430	491	(1,177)	-	1,393	216	(275)	(127%)	(200)	(92%)
(24)	-	24	Cont'ns to/(from) General Bals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(1,371)	(368)	1,003	Cont'ns to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(0)	(41)	(1,431)	(1,472)	-	-	(1,393)	(1,393)	79	-	0	(0%)
(1,395)	(368)	1,027	Total Contribution to/(from) Reserves	(0)	(41)	(1,431)	(1,472)	-	-	(1,393)	(1,393)	79	-	0	(0%)
(1,605)	147	1,752	Net Gap / (Surplus)	(977)	(4)	(0)	(981)	(1,177)	-	-	(1,177)	(195)	-	(200)	-

Period Summary Income and Expenditure Statement to 30th November 2022



Prior Year Period Actuals £'000s	Prior year Period Budget £'000s	Prior Year Variance (Actuals Vs Budget)	Description	Core Period Actual £'000s	COVID £'000s	Earmarked Projects £'000s	Period Actual £'000s	Core Budget £'000s	COVID Budget £'000s	Earmarked Projects Budget £'000s	Period Budget £'000s	Budget Vs Actuals £'000s	Variance %	Core Budget Vs Core Actuals £'000s	Variance %
2,954	2,814	(140)	Wholetime Firefighters	2,765	-	74	2,839	2,857	-	69	2,926	87	3%	92	3%
658	590	(67)	On Call Firefighters	723	3	-	726	594	-	-	594	(132)	(22%)	(130)	(22%)
130	131	1	Control	137	-	-	137	131	-	-	131	(6)	(4%)	(6)	(4%)
1,228	1,240	12	Support Staff	1,295	-	11	1,307	1,310	-	27	1,337	30	2%	15	1%
4,969	4,775	(194)	Total Employment Costs	4,921	3	85	5,009	4,892	-	96	4,988	(21)	(0%)	(29)	(1%)
190	179	(12)	Support Costs	150	-	74	224	133	-	25	158	(65)	(41%)	(17)	(11%)
797	835	38	Premises & Equipment	930	-	-	930	855	-	-	855	(76)	(9%)	(76)	(9%)
362	275	(87)	Other Costs & Services	272	-	5	278	287	-	-	287	9	3%	15	5%
167	177	10	Ill health pension costs	181	-	-	181	172	-	-	172	(9)	(5%)	(9)	(5%)
436	465	29	Financing Items	478	-	-	478	491	-	-	491	14	3%	14	3%
1,952	1,932	(21)	Total Other Costs	2,011	-	79	2,091	1,939	-	25	1,964	(127)	(6%)	(73)	(4%)
-	-	-	Investment in productivity improvement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6,921	6,706	(215)	Gross Expenditure	6,932	3	164	7,100	6,831	-	121	6,952	(148)	(2%)	(102)	(1%)
(145)	(81)	64	Operational income	(189)	-	(0)	(189)	(118)	-	-	(118)	71	(60%)	71	(60%)
6,776	6,625	(151)	Net Expenditure	6,744	3	164	6,911	6,713	-	121	6,834	(77)	(1%)	(31)	(0%)
			Funding												
(581)	(532)	48	Government Grants	(644)	-	-	(644)	(629)	-	-	(629)	15	(2%)	15	(2%)
(516)	(516)	-	Revenue Support Grant	(532)	-	-	(532)	(532)	-	-	(532)	0	(0%)	0	(0%)
(1,731)	(1,370)	361	National Non-Domestic Rates	(1,287)	-	-	(1,287)	(1,304)	-	-	(1,304)	(18)	1%	(18)	1%
(5)	(5)	-	Council Tax Collection Account	(69)	-	-	(69)	-	-	-	-	69	-	69	-
(4,160)	(4,160)	-	Council Tax Precept	(4,238)	-	-	(4,238)	(4,238)	-	-	(4,238)	-	-	-	-
(1)	(3)	(2)	Council Tax Collection Impact	(1)	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
(6,994)	(6,587)	407	Total Funding	(6,771)	-	-	(6,771)	(6,703)	-	-	(6,703)	68	(1%)	68	(1%)
(218)	38	256	Funding Gap / (Surplus)	(27)	3	164	140	10	-	121	130	(10)		37	
28	-	(28)	Cont'ns to/(from) General Bals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(103)	(44)	60	Cont'ns to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	-	(3)	(164)	(167)	-	-	(121)	(121)	46	(38%)	-	-
(76)	(44)	32	Total Contribution to/(from) Reserves	-	(3)	(164)	(167)	-	-	(121)	(121)	46	(38%)	-	-
(294)	(6)	288	Net Gap / (Surplus)	(27)	-	(0)	(27)	10	-	-	10	37		37	

Balance Sheet - 30th November 2022



Essex County
Fire & Rescue Service

	30th Nov 2022 £000's	31st Oct 2022 £000's	31st Mar 2022 £000's	Variance Month £000's	Variance YTD £000's
Property, plant & equipment					
Land and buildings	126,217	126,527	126,527	(310)	(310)
* Vehicles, plant & equipment	10,089	10,089	10,089	-	-
Assets under construction	5,437	5,151	1,985	286	3,452
Long term investments	-	-	-	-	-
Long term assets	141,743	141,767	138,601	(24)	3,142
Inventories	558	540	424	18	133
Short term debtors	4,894	4,829	8,746	65	(3,852)
Cash and cash equivalents	29,227	30,882	20,473	(1,655)	8,754
Assets held for sale	-	-	1,445	-	(1,445)
Current assets	34,679	36,252	31,089	(1,573)	3,590
* Short term borrowings	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,250)	-	250
Short term creditors	(9,125)	(11,082)	(7,557)	1,957	(1,568)
Grants received in advance	(4,116)	(4,041)	(1,233)	(75)	(2,883)
Current liabilities	(14,241)	(16,124)	(10,040)	1,882	(4,201)
Long term borrowing	(23,500)	(23,500)	(23,500)	-	-
Provisions	(1,000)	(1,000)	(994)	-	(6)
* Pension liability - LGPS	(30,253)	(30,253)	(30,253)	-	-
Pension liability - FPS	(872,096)	(872,096)	(872,200)	-	104
Long term liabilities	(926,849)	(926,849)	(926,947)	-	98
NET LIABILITIES	(764,668)	(764,953)	(767,297)	285	2,628
Usable reserves					
General fund	5,322	5,295	4,341	27	981
Earmarked general fund reserves	9,563	9,730	11,035	(167)	(1,472)
Capital receipts reserve	14,963	14,598	13,153	365	1,810
Usable reserves	29,848	29,623	28,529	225	1,319
Unusable reserves					
Revaluation reserve	40,324	40,499	41,336	(175)	(1,013)
Capital adjustment account	69,196	68,960	66,978	235	2,218
* Holiday pay account	(1,269)	(1,269)	(1,269)	-	-
* Collection fund adjustment account	(418)	(418)	(418)	-	-
Pension reserve	(902,349)	(902,349)	(902,453)	-	105
Unusable reserves	(794,516)	(794,576)	(795,826)	60	1,310
TOTAL RESERVES	(764,668)	(764,953)	(767,297)	285	2,629

* Balances adjusted at year end only.

Key Movements

Fixed Assets:

- Increase in Assets under construction of £286k for the month.
- Significant expenditure in the month included work on phases 1 and 2 of the Training Project as well as the delivery of Shoeburyness.

Current Assets:

- Small increase in short term debtors due to movements in working capital.
- £1,655k reduction in cash and cash equivalents as cash outflows exceeded inflows for the month, as seen in the cashflow on page 8.
- One property was sold this month for £365k.

Current Liabilities

- Short term creditors have reduced by £209k due to a reduction in purchase ledger, offset by movements in the firefighters pension fund.
- Grants received in advance have increased by £75k due to grant receipts in the month.

Long-term Liabilities:

- No movement in long-term liabilities in the month.

Reserves:

Movements in Usable Reserves:

- The movements in General and Earmarked Reserves tie back to the summary Income & Expenditure statement on page 3.

Movements in Unusable Reserves:

- No movement in the revaluation reserve in the month.

- The movement in the Capital Adjustment Account reflect adjustments for MRP in the month offset by disposal movements.

Operational Income



Operational Income	YTD Actual £	YTD Budget £	Variance YTD £	Variance YTD %	Current Full Year Budget £	Comments
Cycle to Work Scheme	(19,889)	(20,008)	(119)	1%	(30,012)	
Childcare Vouchers	(13,543)	(40,000)	(26,457)	66%	(60,000)	
Canteen Income	(58,270)	(42,664)	15,606	(37%)	(63,996)	
Sale of Vehicle Spares	(56,383)	(16,664)	39,719	(238%)	(24,996)	
Aerial Sites	(84,650)	(86,664)	(2,014)	2%	(129,996)	
Solar Panel Income	(32,939)	(43,336)	(10,397)	24%	(65,004)	
Hydrant Tests	(67,454)	(53,336)	14,118	(26%)	(80,004)	
Lease Cars - Employee Contributions	(5,632)	(4,000)	1,632	(41%)	(6,000)	
Service Charges	(792)	(400)	392	(98%)	(600)	
Secondments	(170,608)	(109,808)	60,800	(55%)	(164,712)	
Community Safety General	(53,377)	(52,216)	1,161	(2%)	(78,324)	
Labour Credit	(92,318)	(36,664)	55,654	(152%)	(54,996)	
Section 13/16	(28,553)	(40,000)	(11,447)	29%	(60,000)	
Provision of Hire Vehicles & Equipment	(3,559)	0	3,559	0%	0	
Interest Received Short Term Investments	(179,345)	(6,664)	172,681	(2591%)	(9,996)	
Community Safety Youth Work	(31,857)	0	31,857	0%	0	
Shared Services Income	(206,605)	(200,008)	6,597	(3%)	(300,012)	
Other Miscellaneous Income	(86,901)	(114,336)	(27,435)	24%	(171,504)	
Total Operational Income	(1,210,805)	(943,501)	267,304	(28%)	(1,415,252)	

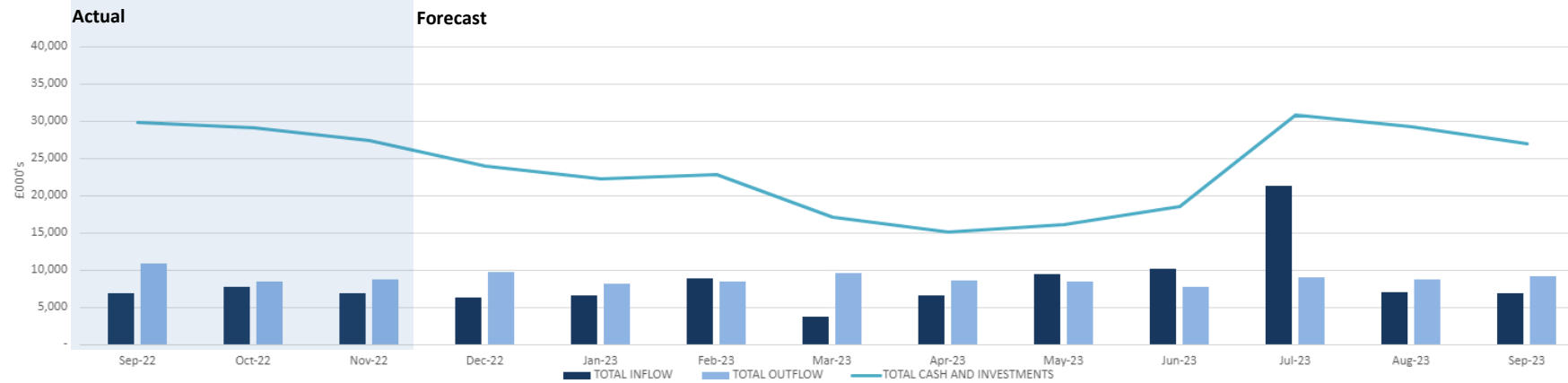
Specific Government Grants Income

Specific Government Grants	YTD Actual £	YTD Budget £	Variance YTD £	Variance YTD %	Current Full Year Budget £	Comments
Addn Pens Grant Accr	(2,344,363)	(2,344,360)	3	(0%)	(3,516,545)	Central Govt. Grant for Pensions - increase in Employers contribution
DCLG BRR 2022-23	(936,232)	(936,232)	0	0%	(1,404,348)	Business Rate relief
USAR Grant 2022-23	(571,258)	(571,040)	218	(0%)	(856,560)	
Firelink Grant 2022-23	(411,336)	(415,656)	(4,320)	1%	(617,000)	Communications Network (Firelink) grant and New Risk Mosaic programme funding.
Services Grant (employers NI 1.25%) 2022-23	(293,986)	(310,664)	(16,678)	5%	(466,000)	Circa £500k to offset NI increase 1.25%, actuals are coming in around £35k rather than £39k budgeted
Services Grant (One off investments) 2022-23	(271,742)	(458,664)	(186,922)	41%	(688,000)	Grant of circa £688k to fund one off investments, the funding is being released as costs are incurred.
Grenfell Grant release	(67,381)	0	67,381	0%	0	Grenfell grant released against ringfenced spend.
Other Grant Income	(18,081)	0	18,081		0	Home Office grant in relation to internal Audit costs (Redmond review grant offset monthly against audit fees).
Subtotal-Govt Grants	(4,914,381)	(5,036,616)	(122,235)	(2%)	(7,548,453)	

Cashflow Forecast



FORECAST CASH INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS



COMMENTARY

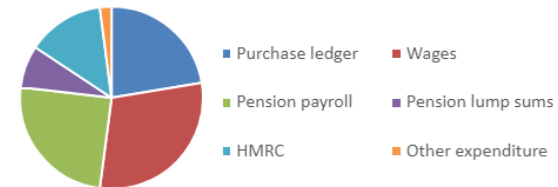
Total cash and investments at the end of November was £27.4m, down from £31.0m in October. Key inflows and outflows for the month are summarised below:

- Cash inflows include precepts of £4.1m and grants of £1.7m. These receipts are in line with expectation.
- Cash outflows include purchase ledger payments of £2.2m, which is slightly higher than the expected range of £1-2m due to project costs.
- The Authority hold investments of £24m, including £18m of fixed term investments in UK government gilts and bank deposits.
- The remaining investments are in money market funds. These are highly liquid investments, and can be drawn down on the same-day. This gives the Authority flexibility to invest over longer periods in the DMO to obtain more favourable rates. Only £3m can be invested in each money market fund under the Treasury Mangement Strategy.
- There was one day crewed house sale in November for £365k.

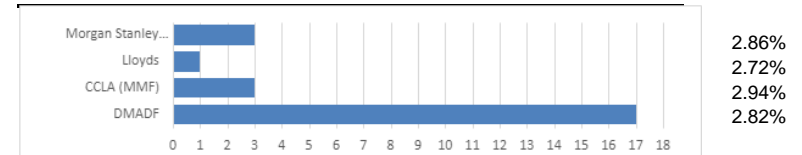
TREASURY MANAGEMENT INDICATORS

	Actual	Explanation of Indicators
Credit risk indicator	AAA	The average credit rating of investments must be A or greater.
Liquidity risk indicator	£29m	The target cash available within 3 months is £8.5m.
Monthly interest rate movement	0.22%	Change in average interest rate received.
Price risk indicator	£nil	The limit on the amount that can be invested beyond 12 months.
Refinancing rate indicator:		
<i>Under 12 months</i>	0%	A large proportion of the Authority's debt expires within 5-10 years. The Finance team have reviewed the impact of early repayment, and found there would be no advantage of doing so. Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) debt requires full payment of interest up to the date of expiry.
<i>12 months and within 24 months</i>	4%	
<i>24 months and within 5 years</i>	8%	
<i>5 years and within 10 years</i>	61%	
<i>10 years and within 15 years</i>	27%	
<i>15 years and above</i>	0%	

EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS



INVESTMENTS

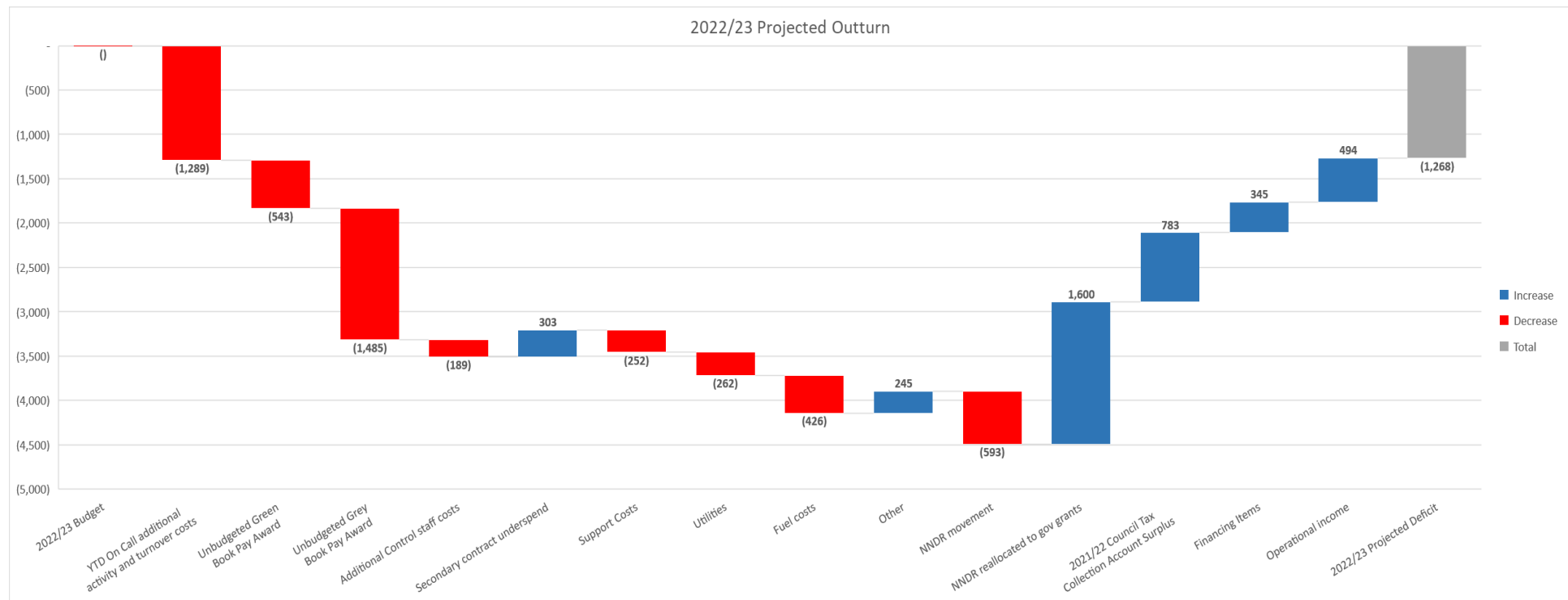


Outturn movement from Full Year Budget



Description	2022-23 FY Budget £'000	YTD Actuals	YTG	Q2 Forecast £'000	Movement from Budget to Q2 £'000	Variance of movement %
Wholetime Firefighters	36,337	23,508	13,592	37,100	(763)	(2%)
On-Call Firefighters	7,263	6,173	3,329	9,502	(2,238)	(31%)
Control	1,604	1,112	657	1,769	(165)	(10%)
Support Staff	16,732	10,528	6,100	16,628	104	1%
Inter Department Cross Charges						
Total Employment Costs	61,937	41,321	23,677	64,999	(3,062)	(5%)
Other Service Expenditure						
Support Costs	1,904	1,441	716	2,158	(254)	(13%)
Premises & Equipment	10,206	6,979	3,863	10,842	(635)	(6%)
Other Costs & Services	3,425	2,359	1,200	3,559	(135)	(4%)
Ill Health Pension costs	2,184	1,476	700	2,176	8	0%
Financing Items	5,897	3,809	1,744	5,553	345	6%
Productivity improvement investment						
Total Other Costs	23,617	16,064	8,223	24,287	(670)	(3%)
Gross Operating Expenditure	85,554	57,386	31,901	89,286	(3,732)	(4%)
Operational income	(1,415)	(1,211)	(700)	(1,911)	496	(35%)
Net Expenditure	84,138	56,175	31,201	87,375	(3,237)	(4%)
Funding						
Government Grants Income	(7,549)	(4,940)	(4,209)	(9,149)	1,600	(21%)
Revenue Support Grant	(8,780)	(6,651)	(2,129)	(8,780)	0	(0%)
National Non-Domestic Rates	(16,519)	(10,731)	(5,194)	(15,926)	(593)	4%
Council Tax Collection Account		(531)	(252)	(783)	783	-
Council Tax Precepts	(49,315)	(32,817)	(16,498)	(49,315)	0	(0%)
Council Tax Collection Impact		(13)		(13)	13	-
Cont'ns to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(1,976)	(1,472)	(669)	(2,141)	165	(8%)
Total Funding	(84,139)	(57,156)	(28,951)	(86,107)	1,968	(2%)
Funding Gap/ (Surplus)	()	(981)	2,250	1,268	(1,269)	

Movement in Forecast compared to Original Budget (Excludes any reserve funded movements)



Key core movements:

- 4 additional FTE included in the forecast with the costs being offset from the additional funding coming through for the council tax collection account.
- Additional unbudgeted pay award has been built into the outturn subject to latest offers.
- Council Tax collection funding of £782k has been confirmed.
- Support costs include higher YTD settlement and training costs and the forecast higher mileage trends.
- Utility costs due to increase from October 2022 (45% increase in Electricity and 110% increase in Gas costs).
- Fuel includes YTD overspends based on quantity increasing along with increasing prices. A further overspend in Fuel costs of £170k in the year is also
- NNDR reallocated to Government Grants. Additional funding from NNDR.
- A lower MRP (capital charge) has been factored into the financing items.
- Additional income in vehicle servicing due to increased activity has been included in the Operational income.

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service - Capital Expenditure as at 30th November 2022



Capital	Budget 2022/23	Forecast - Prior month	Adjustment to Forecast	Forecast - Current Month	Actual Spend
New Premises					
Service Workshops - New	-	-	-	-	-
Existing Premises					
Asset Protection	1,300	1,103	(101)	1,002	549
Asset Improvement Works Training Facilities Improvement	1,246	1,852	-	1,852	772
Asset Improvement Works - Shoeburyness	1,224	1,337	-	1,337	475
Total Property	3,771	4,292	(101)	4,191	1,795
Equipment	320	454	(110)	344	30
Information Technology					
Projects	3,792	2,043	-	2,043	641
Total Information Technology	3,792	2,043	-	2,043	641
Vehicles					
New Appliances	941	941	-	941	917
Other Vehicles	264	187	-	187	69
Total Vehicles	1,205	1,128	-	1,128	985
Total Capital Expenditure	9,087	7,917	(211)	7,706	3,452

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service - Capital Expenditure as at 30th November 2022



* To be agreed at asset board
 ** Provision for limited capacity limiting spend to agreed level of £1.7m

	Asset Life	Budget 2022/23	Forecast - Prior Month	Adjustment to Forecast	Forecast - Current Month	Actual Spend	Spend Brought Forward	Committed Orders
B113 - Vehicles								
Appliances (Pumping)	15	941,135	941,135	-	941,135	916,529	1,388,865	24,606
Light Vehicles	6	79,647	90,000	-	90,000	58,095	-	30,620
Officers Cars (Principal Officers)	4	80,000	80,000	-	80,000	-	-	38,433
Light Vans	6	-	-	-	-	10,652	-	-
Ladders	12	4,500	17,000	-	17,000	-	-	-
Total B113 - Vehicles		1,205,282	1,128,135	-	1,128,135	985,276	1,388,865	93,659
B116 - Operational Equipment								
Hose Reel Branch/Main Line Branch	10	160,000	180,000	-	180,000	2,265	-	50,675
BA Contamination machine	10	80,000	80,000	(80,000)	-	-	-	-
Foam replacement	8	-	80,000	-	80,000	-	-	-
Method entry equipment	8	30,000	30,000	(30,000)	-	-	-	-
Smoke blocking curtains	8	30,000	28,140	-	28,140	28,140	-	-
Fog spikes (temperature reduction equipment)	8	20,000	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	-
Tyre Inflation Units	8	-	12,000	-	12,000	-	-	-
Fitness Equipment		-	24,000	-	24,000	-	-	-
Total B116 - Operational Equipment		320,000	454,140	(110,000)	344,140	30,405	-	50,675
B114 - ICT Equipment								
Digital & Data Strategy								
DEVICES	3	216,667	216,667	-	216,667	124,949	-	-
NETWORK	3	1,160,000	600,000	-	600,000	21,271	-	212,984
VOICE	3	47,197	47,197	-	47,197	24,936	-	-
Civica API - to be reviewed		-	-	-	-	8,332	-	-
Other Projects								
Station End Equipment	3	450,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Control Project	7	1,917,732	1,179,282	-	1,179,282	461,531	-	1,398,099
Total B114 - ICT Equipment		3,791,596	2,043,146	-	2,043,146	641,019	-	1,611,082

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service - Capital Expenditure as at 30th November 2022



* To be agreed at asset board

	Asset Life	Budget 2022/23	Forecast - Prior Month	Adjustment to Forecast	Forecast - Current Month	Actual Spend	Spend Brought Forward	Committed Orders
B112 - Land & Building								
Lexden Workshops Relocation	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total B112 - Land & Building		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B117 - Asset Improvements								
Asset Improvement Works - Shoeburyness	20	1,224,478	1,337,000	-	1,337,000	474,695	290,522	780,458
Asset Protection Works - Training Facilities:								
Phase 1 - Chelmsford, Greys, Southend, SWF	20	681,416	692,000	-	692,000	626,782	112,848	77,082
Phase 2 - Braintree, Brentwood	20	280,256	356,000	-	356,000	144,758	-	135,530
Phase 3 - Harlow, Safron Waldon and Clacton	20	284,365	502,000	-	502,000	-	-	-
Phase 3 (E) - Clacton		-	232,000	-	232,000	-	-	-
Witham Working at Height	20	-	70,000	-	70,000	-	-	22,870
Total B117 - Asset Improvement		2,470,515	3,189,000	-	3,189,000	1,246,235	403,370	1,015,940
B118 - Asset Protection								
Confirmed Projects for 2022/23								
Dunmow Yard	20	166,000	147,000	-	147,000	146,617	-	5,316
Waltham Abbey drill yard	20	60,000	60,000	-	60,000	-	-	-
Chelmsford refurbishment/rec room	20	35,000	99,000	-	99,000	73,218	-	55,737
Baddow boilers	20	90,000	97,000	-	97,000	67,008	-	30,177
BA Compressor Installation works - Clacton	20	50,000	77,000	-	77,000	53,997	17,314	10,832
STC Boiler	20	-	58,000	-	58,000	44,566	-	-
Harlow Bay Floors	20	-	100,000	-	100,000	-	-	-
Rochford Windows	20	-	101,000	(101,000)	-	-	-	-
AB floors	20	117,600	214,000	-	214,000	154,776	52,618	60,192
Other Projects Including Planning Stage								
Great Baddow Roof	20	-	150,000	-	150,000	-	-	-
Witham TC offices	20	7,000	-	-	-	-	116,930	-
Witham TC boiler	20	80,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Epping part refurbishment	20	60,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Orsett Fra (50%)	20	240,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retentions and small works	20	-	-	-	-	9,050	5,830	5,135
Chelmsford TC boilers	20	24,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
Projects to be confirmed by Property Services	20	369,900	-	-	-	-	-	-
B118 - Asset Protection		1,300,000	1,103,000	(101,000)	1,002,000	549,231	192,692	167,389
TOTAL FORECAST 2022-23		9,087,393	7,917,421	(211,000)	7,706,421	3,452,166	1,984,927	2,938,745



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 (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985	
List of background documents – including appendices, hardcopy or electronic including any relevant link/s.	
Appendices: Internal and External Audit Recommendations Expected Outturn	
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



Appendices

Internal Audit recommendations and External Audit update



Financial Year	Audit Report Title	Owner	Total Recommendations		Completed Recommendations		Recommendations Outstanding		Recommendations outside of due date		Months O/S	
			High	Medium	High	Medium	High	Medium	High	Medium		
2021/22	Follow up 21/22	Various action owners	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	1	7 Months	
2022/23	Emergency Response Driving	Assistant Chief Executive - People Values and Culture	-	3	-	1	-	2	-	2	4 Months	
2022/23	Follow up 22/23	Various action owners	-	6	-	-	-	6	-	-	0 Months	
2022/23	Control Project	Head of ICT	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	0 Months	
THIS UPDATE			-	13	-	2	-	11	-	3		
			13		2		11		3			
			Percentage complete				15%		Percentage overdue		27%	
LAST UPDATE			2	12	2	8	-	4	-	4		
			14		10		4		4			
			Percentage complete				71%		Percentage overdue		100%	

External Audit Update

The completion of the audit is contingent on the audit of Essex Pension Fund. The report was initially expected for October, but this has since been delayed and is due to be finalised in December. The publication deadline of final audited accounts is the 30th November - the final accounts have been published with the caveat that further audit work is required.

Looking forward to the current year end, the draft accounts deadline is 31st May 2023, brought forward from July. The Finance Team will need to carefully plan for this shortened timeframe, and is liaising with other departments to ensure all stakeholders are sighted, given the additional pressure this will create.

Internal Audit Update

The Follow-up, Control Project and Cybersecurity audits have all completed, with final reports received for the Follow-up and Control Project:

- The Follow-up - Reasonable Progress.
- The Control Project - Reasonable Assurance.
- The Cybersecurity - To be agreed.

One action was closed this month and re-raised as part of the Follow-up review.

There are 3 overdue recommendations. Action owners have been reminded to progress their recommendations, and further meetings have been arranged with key stakeholders.

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

2022-23 Outturn Projection



Description	BAU Budget £'000s	COVID Budget £'000s	Earmarked Projects Budget £'000s	2022-23 FY Budget £'000	BAU Forecast £'000s	COVID Forecast £'000s	Earmarked Projects Forecast £'000s	Q2 Forecast £'000	Movement from Budget to Q2 £'000	Variance %	BAU Forecast movement	Variance %
Wholetime Firefighters	35,767	-	571	36,337	36,238	-	863	37,100	(763)	(2%)	(471)	(1%)
On-Call Firefighters	7,263	-	-	7,263	9,499	3	-	9,502	(2,238)	(31%)	(2,235)	(31%)
Control	1,604	-	-	1,604	1,769	-	-	1,769	(165)	(10%)	(165)	(10%)
Support Staff	15,977	-	755	16,732	15,964	-	664	16,628	104	1%	13	0%
Inter Department Cross Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Employment Costs	60,611	-	1,326	61,937	63,470	3	1,526	64,999	(3,062)	(5%)	(2,858)	(5%)
Other Service Expenditure												
Support Costs	1,604	-	300	1,904	1,857	1	300	2,158	(254)	(13%)	(252)	(16%)
Premises & Equipment	10,106	-	100	10,206	10,737	5	100	10,842	(635)	(6%)	(630)	(6%)
Other Costs & Services	3,175	-	250	3,425	3,352	30	177	3,559	(135)	(4%)	(178)	(6%)
Ill Health Pension costs	2,184	-	-	2,184	2,176	-	-	2,176	8	0%	8	0%
Financing Items	5,897	-	-	5,897	5,553	-	-	5,553	345	6%	345	6%
Productivity improvement investment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other Costs	22,967	-	650	23,617	23,674	36	577	24,287	(670)	(3%)	(707)	(3%)
Gross Operating Expenditure	83,578	-	1,976	85,554	87,144	39	2,103	89,286	(3,732)	(4%)	(3,565)	(4%)
Operational income	(1,415)	-	-	(1,415)	(1,910)	(1)	-	(1,911)	496	(35%)	494	(35%)
Net Expenditure	82,163	-	1,976	84,138	85,234	38	2,103	87,375	(3,237)	(4%)	(3,071)	(4%)
Funding												
Government Grants Income	(7,549)	-	-	(7,549)	(9,149)	-	-	(9,149)	1,600	(21%)	1,600	(21%)
Revenue Support Grant	(8,780)	-	-	(8,780)	(8,780)	-	-	(8,780)	()	0%	0	(0%)
National Non-Domestic Rates	(16,519)	-	-	(16,519)	(15,926)	-	-	(15,926)	(593)	4%	(593)	4%
Council Tax Collection Account	-	-	-	-	(783)	-	-	(783)	783	-	783	-
Council Tax Precepts	(49,315)	-	-	(49,315)	(49,315)	-	-	(49,315)	()	0%	0	(0%)
Council Tax Collection Impact	-	-	-	-	(13)	-	-	(13)	13	-	13	-
Cont'ns to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	0	-	(1,976)	(1,976)	-	(38)	(2,103)	(2,141)	165	(8%)	-	-
Total Funding	(82,162)	-	(1,976)	(84,139)	(83,966)	(38)	(2,103)	(86,107)	1,968	(2%)	1,803	(2%)
Funding Gap/ (Surplus)	-	-	(1)	()	1,268	0	(0)	1,268	(1,269)		(1,268)	