

EAST SUSSEX FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Meeting	Policy & Resources Panel
Date	9 November 2023
Title of Report	Revenue and Capital Budget 2023/24 and Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28 Monitoring at Month 6 (end September).
By	Duncan Savage – Assistant Director Resources/Treasurer
Lead Officer	Alison Avery – Finance Manager

Background Papers	Fire Authority Service Planning processes for 2023/24 and beyond – Revenue Budget 2023/24 and Capital Asset Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28 Revenue and Capital Budget 2022/23 and Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2026/27 – Provisional Outturn
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Appendices	Appendix 1: Revenue Budget 2023/24 Objective Appendix 2: Savings Programme 2023/24 Appendix 3: Grants and Spending Plans 2023/24 Appendix 4: Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28 Appendix 5: Estates & Engineering Capital Budgets 2023/24 Appendix 6: Reserves 2023/24 Appendix 7: ITG Strategy 2023/24
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Implications (please tick ✓ and attach to report)

CORPORATE RISK		LEGAL	
ENVIRONMENTAL		POLICY	
FINANCIAL	✓	POLITICAL	
HEALTH & SAFETY		OTHER (please specify)	
HUMAN RESOURCES		CORE BRIEF	

PURPOSE OF REPORT	To report on the findings of the Month 6 monitoring undertaken on the Revenue and Capital Budget 2023/24 and Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28.
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	This is the third report to Members for the 2023/24 financial year and highlights the findings from the Month 6 monitoring undertaken on the Revenue Budget 2023/24 and 5 year
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Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28, approved by the Authority in February 2023.

A net revenue underspend to the sum of £7,000 has been identified, as summarised in Appendix 1. This is due to the following underspends:

- Treasury Management (£573,000)
- Corporate contingency (£298,000)
- IT project delays (£178,000)
- Additional funding (£159,000)
- Engineering underspends (£126,000)
- Protection vacancies (£116,000)
- CRM & Airbus licences (£88,000)
- Communications vacancies (£64,000)

These are offset by the following pressures:

- Wholetime overtime within Groups (£539,000)
- Wholetime pay within Groups (£473,000)
- Green book pay award (£150,000)
- CRM unachieved savings (£104,000)
- Control Room (£101,000)
- Payroll posts due to budget error (£98,000)
- Firelink contract uplift (£79,000)
- Unfunded pensions (£73,000)
- Procurement unachieved savings (£66,000)

There are a number of other small variances which contribute to the overspend.

Safer Communities is forecasting an overspend of £896,000. This has reduced since the last report as SLT has agreed to use of contingency to cover the impact of the pay award on the on call and overtime budgets. The Service must maintain a significant focus on delivering the plan to reduce this pressure to ensure it does not impact the 2024/25 revenue budget.

Work continues with budget managers to review the forecast position, including for staffing and overtime.

Performance against the Savings Programme is summarised in Appendix 2 and detailed in section 5.

Performance against grants and spending plans is summarised in Appendix 3 and detailed in section 6.

Revenue and Capital programme risks are detailed in section 3, focusing specifically on areas that are subject to further investigation and the outcome could result in significant additional pressures in the current and future financial years.

The original 2023/24 Capital Budget and five year Capital Strategy of £28,280,000 was approved by the Fire Authority on 9 February 2023. The Capital Strategy has been increased to £28,793,000 to include slippage of £975,000 and allocation of spend in advance of £462,000 from 2022/23.

The current year Capital Budget was approved by the Fire Authority at £8,421,000 and updated to £8,934,000 (Property £5,665,000 and Fleet and Equipment £3,279,000) including slippage of £975,000 brought forward from 2022/23, allocation of spend in advance of £462,000 from 2022/23.

Officers have reviewed the capital plans for 2023/24 and report slippage on delivery of projects to the value of £4,461,000 (49.9%) and spend in advance of £133,000. In addition underspend of £78,000 is expected against capital schemes. Detailed information is contained within section 8. The Estates and Engineering Capital Projects 2023/24 are detailed in Appendix 4.

The position on reserves shows an opening balance of £14,460,00. The forecast net drawdown from reserves is £6,277,000, a reduction of £1,016,000 compared to the planned drawdown of £7,293,000. This results in an estimated closing balance of £8,183,000, as detailed in section 10 and summarised in Appendix 6. This would reduce further, if reserves are used to cover the inflation related risks described elsewhere in this report. Work is ongoing to review likely drawdown of reserves (including grants brought forward) for the rest of the current year on both Revenue and Capital projects.

There is an increase in the interest receivable on the Authority's cash investments of £19,520,000 due to the Bank of England's increase in base rate. Interest receivable is projected at £650,000, resulting in a surplus of £500,000 when compared to the budget. Interest payments on fixed rate loans of £9,817,000 are unaffected. Loans totalling £0.4m are due to be repaid this financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is recommended to note:

- (i) the risks to Revenue Budget and the projected underspend;
- (ii) the forecast slippage and risks to the Capital Programme;
- (iii) the ITG strategy position;

- (iv) the reduced net forecast drawdown from reserves;
- (v) the grants available and spending plans;
- (vi) the monitoring of savings taken in 2023/24; and
- (vii) the current year investments and borrowing.

1. **INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Original Revenue Budget 2023/24 and Capital Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28 was approved at the meeting of the Fire Authority on 9 February 2023.
- 1.2 This is the third report to Members for the 2023/24 financial year and highlights the findings from Month 6 (end September) monitoring undertaken on the Revenue and Capital Budget 2023/24 and Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28. It should be noted the review is based on currently available information and the result may change as new information emerges during the year.

	This P&R (Month 6)	Last CFA (Month 4)	Movement
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Revenue (see section 2)	(7)	193	(200)
Capital in year (see section 7)	(4,406)	(2,318)	(2,132)

- 1.3 The Revenue Budget approved by the Fire Authority in February 2023 was a net expenditure requirement of £40,057,000
- 1.4 A net revenue underspend to the sum of £7,000 has been identified at Month 6 (end September) and is reflected in the Revenue Budget 2023/24 objective summary at Appendix 1 and detailed in section 2.
- 1.5 The savings requirement 2023/24 is £1,295,000. The current position shows we have delivered or are on course to deliver £1,230,000 (95%) of savings. There are two savings at risk, which also relate to prior year savings, as detailed in Section 5.
- 1.6 The grants available total £3.983m, including grants brought forward from previous years, as summarised in Appendix 3 and detailed in section 5.
- 1.7 The five year Capital Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28 was approved by the Fire Authority in February 2023 at £28,280,000. The Capital Strategy has been increased to £28,793,000 to include slippage of £975,000 and allocation of spend in advance of £462,000 from 2022/23. The 5 year Capital Programme is projected to underspend by £78,000 as summarised in Appendix 4 and detailed in section 8.

- 1.8 The Capital Budget for 2023/24 was approved by the Fire Authority at £8,421,000 and updated to £8,934,000 including slippage of £975,000 brought forward from 2022/23, allocation of spend in advance of £462,000 from 2022/23.
- 1.9 A number of Revenue Budget and Capital Programme risks are set out in section 3 which will be monitored throughout the year. The updated position on Contingency, Reserves, Borrowing and Investments is provided at sections 6, 8 and 9 respectively.

2. REVENUE BUDGET COMMENTARY

- 2.1 The Revenue Budget is projected to underspend by £7,000. This is summarised across divisions in Appendix 1 and detailed explanations are provided below.
- 2.2 Within the revenue forecast is an amount of £150,000 for the green book pay award sitting outside of the directorate areas.

This pressure reflects provision for a pay award of up to 6% in comparison to the budgeted amount of 4%. The employer's offer of a flat rate £1,925 has not been accepted.

- 2.3 **People Services:** Expected overspend of £66,000, as follows:

- 2.3.1 **HR:** Expected underspend of £54,000 (previous forecast £27,000 underspend). The underspend can be attributed to staff vacancies (£30,000), drawdown from People Strategy reserve to cover EDI training (£20,000), NHS prescriptions (£3,000), training (£3,000), offset by pressures due to maternity leave cover (£3,000), interview expenses in relation to the Direct Entrant post (£2,000). There are some other small variances within the department.

The movement since P4 can be attributed to transfer from reserves for EDI (£20,000) and a reduction in spend on advertising (£5,000), offset by an increase in staff costs due to extension of a FTC (£5,000).

- 2.3.2 **AD Admin Support:** Expected underspend of £36,000 (previous forecast £25,000 underspend). The underspend relates to a vacancy, with the movement since P4 relating to the length of the vacancy.

- 2.3.3 **Service Training Centre and Workforce Development:** An overspend of £53,000 is expected (previous forecast £57,000 underspend). The overspend can be attributed to on-call training overtime (£86,000), instructor overtime (£36,000), loss of commercial training income (£28,000) and wholetime covering absences (£18,000), offset by vacancies (£106,000), timber (£5,000) where excess inflation was provided and reduced usage of scrap cars (£4,000).

The movement since P4 can be attributed to the removal of the wholetime firefighter recruitment budget, which has been transferred to contingency (£175,000), pressure on commercial training income (£28,000), additional on-call training (£11,000), offset by additional vacancies (£50,000) and reduced trainer overtime (£31,000)

- 2.3.4 **Payroll:** An overspend of £77,000 is expected (previous forecast £84,000 overspend). The pressure is caused by an error in the budget for Pensions posts (£98,000) and pension advisory & interest charges (£6,000), offset by an underspend of £27,000 relating to vacancies.

The reduction since P4 can be attributed to finders fees being re-allocated (£11,000) and additional underspend relating to vacancy (£2,000), offset by additional pensions costs at £5,000.

- 2.3.5 **Occupational Health:** Expected overspend of £27,000 (previous forecast £27,000 overspend). The overspend relates to medical fees with an increased usage this year.

- 2.4 **Resources/Treasurer:** Expected underspend of £141,000, as follows:

- 2.4.1 **AD Resources/Treasurer :** An overspend of £1,000 is expected in relation to pay as budgets include a 1% vacancy factor.

- 2.4.2 **Estates:** An underspend of £46,000 is expected (previously forecast £131,000 underspend). The underspend can be attributed to staffing due to vacancies (£32,000) and condition surveys which won't be carried out in 2023/24 (£11,000), with a further £3,000 across the department.

The movement since P4 can be attributed to £120,000 utilities budget being transferred to contingency, with additional underspend due to vacancies (£21,000) and the condition surveys (£11,000).

- 2.4.3 **ITG:** Currently expecting an underspend of £120,000 (previous forecast £113,000 underspend). The underspend relates to project delays in Paging & Alerting, Health & Safety Management system and EDRMS (£92,000), delay in the rollout of MLL WAN services (£75,000), a reduction in CRM and Airbus licences (£88,000) and reduced charges from JFC (£10,000). These are offset by pressures for Firelink charges, where inflation of 13.5% has been applied (£79,000), additional Webex and Office 365 licences (£36,000), additional SIM cards for portable devices, caused by CRM tablets and increased mobile working (£18,000), assumed reduction in printing not realised (£8,000), staff vacancy factor not realised (£4,000).

The increase in underspend of £7,000 since P4 can mainly be attributed to the reduction in JFC charges (£10,000), with small movements in relation to other variances.

- 2.4.5 **Procurement:** An overspend of £36,000 is expected (previously forecast £3,000 overspend). A pressure of £45,000 relates to back-dated JE outcomes, with a further pressure of £44,000 relating to the PPE where there has been an inflationary increase of 14.3%. This is offset by underspends of £15,000 against the consultancy budget and £40,000 relating to staff pay with a part-year vacancy and the impact of pay being lower than budgeted.

The movement since P4 can be attributed to the back-dated pay awards (£45,000) offset by adjustment made to the vacancy period (£12,000).

2.4.6 **Legal Services:** A underspend of £12,000 is expected (previously forecast to budget). The spend is based on the current commitment, with the Q1 invoice being lower than expected.

2.5 **Planning and Improvement:** A forecast underspend of £167,000 is expected as follows:

2.5.1 **Communications:** An underspend of £63,000 is expected (previously forecast £60,000 underspend). Underspend of £64,000 relates to vacancies within the team, offset by pressures of £1,000 across a number of categories.

The movement of £3,000 since P4 can be attributed to pay costs as updated forecasts have been calculated in respect of cover for parental leave within the department.

2.5.2 **Performance:** An underspend of £92,000 is expected (previously forecast £42,000 underspend). The underspend relates to 2 vacancies in the team, an Analyst post and Officer to support HMICFRS inspection process.

The movement in forecast since P4 can be attributed to the vacancies. It had previously been forecast the Analyst post would be recruited to this year and the funding for the Officer would be required in 2024/25 and as such the underspend not previously reported.

The previous forecast underspend of £42,000 for advert/publicity costs in relation to the MTFP savings proposal has been reallocated to the contingency budget.

It is recommended the £44,000 underspend for the Office post is transferred to contingency.

2.5.4 **Cost of Democracy:** An underspend of £13,000 is expected (previously forecast £4,000 underspend). Underspend on webcasting (£15,000), members allowances (£5,000) and travelling (£2,000) are offset by an overspend of £10,000 on staffing relating to a backdated pay award and maternity cover.

The movement since P4 can be attributed to the underspend relating to webcasting (£15,000) offset by additional staff costs relating to maternity leave at £6,000.

2.6 **Safer Communities:** An overspend of £896,000 is expected with the variance detailed below.

Significant focus needs to be maintained on the Safer Communities action plan to reduce the forecast pressure for 2023/24 and to ensure that the position doesn't impact on the 2024/25 budget. These actions include:

- Fixed term contracts being reviewed by workforce planning to ensure they are only used when absolutely necessary and considered in conjunction with overtime risks of not doing so to minimise the pressure
- Performance measures need to be reported to ensure highly effective monitoring and approval of requests for overtime

- Overtime is closely monitored through the year, managers should be sighted on overtime dashboard reporting
- Review outstanding CRM savings to identify amount deliverable
- The annual leave, sickness and light duties policies are reviewed
- Occupational health contract is reviewed to ensure the process is conducive to ensuring staff return to work at the earliest opportunity

Finance are attending Group meetings on a monthly basis and are working with Station Managers to support their financial understanding and provide more detailed analysis of their station expenditure.

- 2.6.1 **AD Safer Communities:** An overspend of £104,000 is expected (as per P4 forecast). This pressure relates to savings as detailed in section 5.
- 2.6.2 **Safer Communities Contingency:** Previously this budget was reporting a £40,000 underspend, however this budget has been transferred to the groups to reduce the pressure.
- 2.6.3 **Groups:** The Groups are reporting an overspend of £970,000 (previous forecast overspend £1,098,000).

The forecast for the Groups includes the IRMP changes, although there are a number of moves still in progress. Finance and HR are working closely to ensure changes are reflected within the forecast.

Whilst re-profiled last financial year, the on-call budget does not appear to reflect current activity and spend patterns across the stations and further work is required to re-allocate these budgets.

It is unclear how the new crewing model will affect the reliance on overtime. The current forecast is extrapolated based on the overtime profile from 2022/23. The overtime paid in September was lower than forecast at P4, if this trend continues we should continue to see the overtime forecast reduce.

In September 2023 there were a total of 13 individuals on light duties, 20 individuals on long term absences and a total of 14 FTCs.

West: An overspend of £611,000 is expected. Overspend of £337,000 relates to wholetime pay, with an average over-establishment of 9.25 during the year. Additionally £237,000 overspend is due to overtime with a further £42,000 relating to on-call spend.

Central: An overspend of £122,000 is expected. Overspend of £91,000 relates to wholetime pay, with an average over-establishment of 2 during the year. Additionally £164,000 overspend is due to overtime and this is offset by an underspend of £129,000 relating to on-call spend.

East: An overspend of £238,000 is expected. Overspend of £45,000 relates to wholetime pay, with an average over-establishment of 0.5 during the year.

Additionally £138,000 overspend is due to overtime with a further £62,000 relating to on-call spend.

The movement across the Groups can be attributed to an increase in wholetime pay, with the extension of FTCs to cover long term sick/light duties. Overtime paid in September was lower than anticipated at P4 and this had reduced the overall forecast variance. More work has been undertaken on the on-call forecast, which had overall reduced based on year-to-date activity. Additionally £182,000 has been allocated to groups for the impact of the grey book pay award for on call and overtime.

- 2.6.6 **Prevention:** An underspend of £17,000 is expected (previous forecast £24,000 underspend). An underspend of £60,000 relates to vacancies within the department. These are offset by an overspend of £19,000 relating to Cadets, £12,000 overtime for Home Safety Visits and £5,000 for Soloprotect service charge which supports lone working. There are a number of other variances within the department.

The movement since P4 can be largely attributed to spend on franking (£5,000), along with other small movements.

- 2.6.7 **Protection:** An underspend of £116,000 (previously forecast to budget). The underspend relates to vacancies within the department.

Since P4 the department's position has been reviewed and this is the reason for the movement.

- 2.6.8 **IRMP:** An underspend of £45,000 is expected (as per P4 forecast). This is due to a temporary Group Manager position being held vacant.

- 2.7 **Operational Support & Resilience:** A forecast overspend of £43,000 is expected as follows:

- 2.7.1 **AD OSR:** An overspend of £5,000 is expected (previous forecast £6,000 overspend). The overspend can be attributed to FBU overtime for which there is no budget.

The reduction since P4 is attributable to the overtime, based on the year to date spend.

- 2.7.2 **Engineering:** An underspend of £126,000 is expected (previous forecast £31,000 overspend). The underspend can be attributed to equipment, including heavy rescue equipment (£222,000), fuel (£41,000), staff (£18,000), offset by overspends on vehicle maintenance and repairs (£137,000) and breathing apparatus (£14,000). There is overspend of £4,000 across a number of categories.

The forecast spend has reduced by £157,000 since P4, this can be attributed to equipment (£76,000) with purchase of RTC sets expected in 2024/25 now and a reduction relating to previous double count of PPV and Gas suits, costs for the

Vehicle Build Officer being transferred to capital (£38,000), fuel reduction based on latest prices (£29,000), tyres due to revised contract (£15,000).

- 2.7.3 **Ops P&P:** An overspend of £63,000 is expected (previous forecast £68,000 underspend). The overspend can be attributed to pressures in relation to hydrants (£88,000) and water rescue training (£3,000), offset by vacancies within the department (£28,000).

The movement since P4 can be attributed to hydrants (£77,000) and a reduction in vacancies (£55,000) as the Flexible Resource Pool (FRP) has been recruited in full. Previously the vacant FRP posts were not forecasted as it was felt this could result in a double count with the Safer Communities forecast.

There was a significant peak in spend on hydrants during August (£60,000), which is the reason for the increase in forecast, which is significantly higher than previous years where hydrants have been underspent. The spend has reduced in September and the team are working to understand the true impact on the revenue budget.

- 2.7.4 **Control Room:** An overspend of £101,000 is expected (previous forecast £25,000 overspend) based on the latest forecast received from Surrey FRS. The overspend can be attributed to staffing costs and IT systems.

Staff costs are higher than budgeted due to overtime, with additional costs for holiday pay and an extra bank holiday. The reasons for the overtime will be interrogated to determine whether there are controllable factors that can reduce future overtime levels. It is hoped the recent recruitment of bank staff will help to lower the amount.

There is also overspend on IT systems. Some of the overspend is due to the systems not being included within the budget and part is due to inflationary increases being higher than budgeted.

- 2.8 **CFO:** An overspend of £38,000 is expected (previous forecast £37,000 overspend). Overspend of £44,000 relates pay and is mainly due to the gold book pay award backdated to 1 January 2022. Additionally underspend of £8,000 is expected across a number of non-pay budgets.

The movement since P4 can be attributed to a review of non-pay budgets.

- 2.9 **Treasury Management:** This budget is reporting an underspend of £573,000 (previous forecast £571,000 underspend). The interest receivable for cash investments is expected to overachieve by £500,000 due to rising interest rates, with further underspends of £70,000 on interest payable and £2,000 on MRP due to slippage of the capital programme.

The movement since P4 can be attributed to the underspend of £2,000 on MRP, which had not previously been picked up in the forecast.

- 2.10 **Non-Delegated Costs:** An overspend of £139,000 is expected (previous forecast £142,000 overspend). £73,000 overspend is due to unfunded pension costs, with

£66,000 attributable to Procurement savings which have yet to be allocated across service budgets. Other small variances within non-delegated offset one another.

There is a small underspend of £5,000 currently forecast for ill health pensions, which includes costs for three new ill health retirements during 2023/24. There are a number of other potential ill health retirements in progress so there is a risk this forecast will increase. The position will continue to be monitored with HR as the year progresses.

The non-delegated budget includes the Workforce transition budget of £183,000. This is currently forecast to budget. At this stage a total of £132,000 has been committed for 2023/24, this covers:

- £100,000 - Work to support Future Foundations (Tranche 3) savings
- £16,000 – Benenden trial
- £10,000 – DBS checks
- £6,150 – Independent reporting lines
- £325 – 360 degree feedback

- 2.11 **Corporate Contingency:** A contingency budget of £298,000 is currently forecast to underspend and is supporting the overall forecast position.

Further information is provided in section 7.

- 2.12 **Financing:** Current information indicates that the Service will receive additional funding of £159,000 (as per previous forecast).

Based on forecasts from Local Government Futures it is expected an additional £74,000 will be received for Business Rates, with a further £86,000 received in relation to council tax surpluses.

3. REVENUE BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME RISKS

- 3.1 **Pension Costs:** There is continued reliance on one-off grant to fund increased contributions for FPS following the last quadrennial valuation. The most significant risk is the impact of Remedy for both McCloud / Sargeant and Matthews / O'Brien cases on the scheme valuation and employers contribution rates from 2024/25, which we understand the Government may cover through an additional one off grant. The Authority will be liable for any non-scheme costs including interest and unauthorised tax charges as well as any additional administrative costs. A Pension Administration reserve is held to fund costs resulting from remedy implementation. It is expected the balance of this reserve as at 31 March 2024 will be £134,000, with £82,000 committed in 2023/24 as funding for Pensions posts.
- 3.2 **Pay Award 2023/24:** The budget provided for 4% pay awards across gold, grey and green book staff.
- 3.2.1 Gold book pay awards backdated to January 2022 are included within the reported forecast position.

- 3.2.2 Grey book staff have been awarded 7% from 1 July 2022 and 5% from 1 July 2023, which is included within the forecast position.
- 3.2.3 Green book staff have been offered £1,925, this offer has been rejected. The forecast position makes provision for a pay award of up to 6%, although this is not a confirmed position.
- 3.3 **Worldwide Supply Chain Issues:** The impact of worldwide supply chain disruption is impacting construction projects across the nation. The dwindling supplies along with increased costs and long delivery times being experienced by the construction industry are impacting on the Capital Programme. Thus far the Estates team has worked with stakeholders to bring tender costs back within budget through value engineering where possible on those projects which the Authority committed to following the phase 1 review of the Estates Capital Programme, but this approach may not be sustainable. There are two potential impacts, firstly increases in the cost of projects and secondly slippage of projects and spend into future years (which could in itself lead to additional increased costs). The Estates Team is currently carrying out a review of the remaining capital programme as part of the MTFP savings review. A report will be made to SLT in October, but we are seeing significant inflationary pressures across all projects, especially on larger schemes such as Preston Circus of around 30%.
- 3.4 **Inflationary Contract Increases:** In addition to utilities and fuel additional budget provision was allocated for maintenance and term contracts (£70,000), legal services (£4,000) and catering (£6,000). A standard 2% inflationary budget increase was included for all non-pay totalling £181,000. This there is a risk pressures will arise across non pay spend budgets that cannot be absorbed. This position will continue to be monitored with input from Procurement.

4. **MANAGING REVENUE BUDGET PRESSURES**

- 4.1 As risks crystallise the resulting pressures will be included within the revenue budget forecast. A number of areas require further analysis to identify further pressures or opportunities.
- 4.2 SLT have agreed the following controls are put in place for 2023/24:
- Workforce Planning Group will be used as a mechanism to:
 - Approve recruitment to all vacancies
 - Approve the use of agency staff
 - Have oversight of overtime spend (with a particular focus on Safer Communities & Training)
 - Review and agree forecasts for operational (grey book) strength.
 - Management of discretionary spend to be a key focus, with Finance Business Partners working with budget managers to review opportunities to manage underspends on non-pay spend in 2023/24 with particular focus on areas such as training, estates maintenance and equipment (IT and Engineering).

5. **SAVINGS PROGRAMME 2023/24**

- 5.1 Appendix 2 summarises the net savings requirement 2023/24 of £1,295,000. Work is in ongoing with Service managers to identify and report actual delivery of savings compared to budgeted savings.
- 5.2 Current projections show we have delivered or are on course to deliver £1,230,000 (95%) of savings.

Procurement savings of £66,000 (£15,000 2023/24 and £51,000 prior year) are at risk and further work is required to understand if these can be delivered.

A pressure of £104,000 within Safer Communities (£50,000 2023/24 and £54,000 prior year) relating to CRM will be removed as part of budget setting for 2024/25. The CRM project resulted in a reduction in 4 posts, however these budget reductions were not allocated correctly against CRM at the time. There will be a further review through Tranche 3 to identify any further efficiencies.

6. **GRANTS 2023/24**

- 6.1 The Government has awarded grants for use on specific purposes and your officers will ensure these are delivered in accordance with grant conditions. These include grants awarded in year, brought forward from previous years where their spending plans fall over more than financial year and others that require development of spending plans. The amount available is £3.983m, as summarised in Appendix 3.
- 6.2 The latest grants are detailed below:
 - 6.2.2 **Surge Protection Grant Funding:** – this is specifically to deal with inspections for high rise buildings and other high-risk buildings. The grant conditions have been received. A further allocation of £358,079 has been awarded for 2023/24. A spend plan has been developed to utilise this grant and it is expected £101,000 will be drawn down from the £125,645 brought forward from 2022/23.
 - 6.2.4 **Accreditation & RPL Grant Funding:** £22,737 is carried forward from 2022/23 for the purposes of accrediting fire protection officers and fire safety engineers. It is anticipated this grant will be utilised over the next two years.
 - 6.2.5 **Fire Fighter Pension Scheme:** this is used towards the shortfall in employer's pension contributions.
 - 6.2.6 **New Dimensions:** £47,667 is carried forward from 2022/23 and additional £27,430 grant relates to 2023/24. A spending plan has been developed and it is expected £54,231 will be spent this year, with the balance of £20,866 carried forward to 2024/25. A half yearly review meeting is scheduled in October, when the spending plan will be reviewed.
 - 6.2.7 **Responding to New Risks:** £31,355 is carried forward from 2022/23, and additional £6,500 grant relates to 2023/24. A spending plan has been developed and it is expected £37,111 will be spent this year, with the balance of £744 carried

forward to 2024/25. A half yearly review meeting is scheduled in October, when the spending plan will be reviewed.

7. **CONTINGENCY 2023/24**

- 7.1 The Fire Authority maintains a contingency in order to assist it in managing one-off unforeseen pressures and making investments within the financial year. At its meeting held in February 2023, the Fire Authority agreed a contingency of £533,000 for the 2023/24 financial year. This included the general 2% inflation provision of £181,000 which has not been allocated out to relevant non pay spend budgets.
- 7.2 The contingency increased by £336,000 as approved by SLT and brings the total amount available to £869,000.

Commitments approved to date total £571,000 for the grey book pay award for wholetime and on call staff, leaving a contingency balance of £298,000 as at the end of September as detailed in the table below:

	£'000
Opening Balance 1 April 2023	533
Utilities underspend agreed by SLT in July	120
Wholetime recruitment underspend agreed by SLT in July	175
MTFP consultation underspend agreed by SLT in July	41
Available	869
Allocations	
Wholetime pay award	(571)
Amount Remaining end September	298

8. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME COMMENTARY**

- 8.1 The original 2023/24 Capital Budget and five year Capital Strategy of £28,280,000 was approved by the Fire Authority on 9 February 2023. The Capital Strategy has been increased to £28,793,000 to include slippage of £975,000 and allocation of spend in advance of £462,000 from 2022/23.
- 8.2 The Capital Programme is funded by: Capital Receipts Reserve £595,000, Capital Programme Reserves £13,895,000, and New Borrowing £14,224,000 as shown in the table below. Overall, the revised 5 year Capital Programme is forecasted to come in £79,000 underspent.

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Estates	4,680	2,849	4,347	3,151	1,090	16,117
Fleet & Equipment	3,741	2,529	1,741	1,928	2,224	12,163
Original Approved Programme	8,421	5,378	6,088	5,079	3,314	28,280
Slippage from 2022/23	975					975
Spend in Advance from 2022/23	(462)					(462)
Slippage to 2024/25	(4,461)	4,461				0
Spend in Advance from 2024/25	133	(133)				0
Underspend	(78)					(78)
Updated Capital Programme	4,528	9,706	6,088	5,079	3,314	28,715
Funded by:						
Capital Receipts Reserve	595	0	0	0	0	595
Capital Programme Reserve	3,933	2,462	2,000	2,500	3,000	13,895
New Borrowing / Need to Borrow		7,244	4,088	2,579	314	14,225
Updated Capital Programme	4,528	9,706	6,088	5,079	3,314	28,715

8.3 **Capital Funding** – The Service has also been successful in its bid for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding from Lewes District Council. £289,000 has been awarded which will part fund the planned enhancements at Barcombe and Seaford Fire Stations, reducing the need for future borrowing.

8.4 The **Capital Budget 2023/24** was approved by the Fire Authority at £8,421,000 and updated to £8,934,000 (Property £5,655,000 and Fleet and Equipment £3,279,000) including slippage of £975,000 brought forward from 2022/23 and allocation of spend in advance of £462,000 from 2022/23.

8.5 A review of the 2023/24 capital budget by officers has identified slippage to the value of £4,461,000 (49.9%) and spend in advance of £133,000. There is additional underspend of £78,000 expected, as summarised in Appendix 4.

8.5.1 The Estates / Property underspend is £4,214,000, of which £4,222,000 is slippage due to the reprioritisation and reprofiling of works and £8,000 relates to spend in advance. Work has been delayed in relation to Preston Circus, Roedean, Eastbourne, Bohemia Road, the four MPTH, Security, Sustainability, Training Towers, Bay Doors, Floors and IT Building works.

The underspend has increased by £1,983,000 since P4, including £329,000 on Preston Circus, £448,000 on Roedean, £536,000 on Eastbourne, £285,000 on Bohemia Road, £60,000 on Sustainability and £289,000 on Bay Doors, Floors & IT building works.

8.5.2 The Fleet underspend is £192,000. There is slippage of £239,000, £135,000 relates to the Fire Investigation and Hazmat vans, £67,000 relates to a decision to pause the purchase of pool cars whilst a review is undertaken, with a further £35,000 relating to IRMP equipment. Spend in advance of £125,000 relates to the water carrier, where budget was previously slipped to 2024/25 during budget setting. Underspend of £79,000 relates to five vehicle purchases, CCTV installation and equipment.

The forecast position includes the decision to capitalise 80% of the Vehicle Build Officer costs, however at this stage this is shown separately and will be allocated against projects in due course.

The forecast spend has reduced by £111,000 since P4, which can be attributed to slippage of the Fire Investigation and Hazmat vans, with underspend of £14,000 relating to installation costs for CCTV on vehicles, offset by £38,000 allocated for the Vehicle Build Officer.

9. IT STRATEGY 2023/24

9.1 A review of the 2023/24 IT Strategy forecasts indicates a total of £2.292m will be drawn down from the reserve this year, against an original plan of £5.268m. The main slippages relate to Process Digitisation (£301,000), ESN (£1.425m), Health & Safety system (£123,000), Pagers and Alerters (£428,000) and Telephony (£270,000). The full breakdown can be seen in Appendix 7.

There has been a reduction of £111,000 since P4, which can be attributed to Laptop lifing (£250,000), Lewes HQ network lifing (£30,000) and mobile phone device strategy/replacement (£60,000), offset by an increase of £229,000 for the Finance system replacement, which has been funded by a transfer from the Process Digitisation budget as approved by SLT.

10. RESERVES 2023/24

10.1 The Fire Authority maintains Reserves in order to assist it in managing its specific spending plans across the financial year (Earmarked Reserves), making provisions for the financial risks it faces (General Fund Reserves) and making investments (Capital Receipts Reserve).

10.2 The opening balance of reserves at 1 April 2023 is £14.460m.

10.3 The forecast net drawdown from reserves totals £6,277,000 compared to the original planned net drawdown of £7,293,000. This is a net reduction in drawdown of £1,016,000 resulting in an estimated balance at 31 March 2024 of £8,183,000 as summarised in the table below and detailed over individual reserves in Appendix 5.

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £'000	Original Planned Net Transfers 2023/24 £'000	Forecast Net Transfers 2023/24 £'000	Net change 2023/24 £'000	Balance at 31 March 2024 £'000
Earmarked Reserves	12,384	(7,086)	(6,076)	1,010	6,308
General Fund	1,556	319	319	0	1,875
Total Revenue Reserves	13,940	(6,767)	(5,757)	1,010	8,183
Total Capital Reserves	520	(526)	(520)	6	0
Total Usable Reserves	14,460	(7,293)	(6,277)	1,016	8,183

10.4 Work continues with budget managers to confirm the planned use of revenue and capital reserves in 2023/24.

10.5 The main reasons for the overall net reduction in forecast drawdown of £1,016,000 are as follows:

Earmarked Reserves – Decrease of £1,010,000

- £192,000 – changes to drawdown from Business Rates Pool Reserve based on P6 budget monitoring forecast for Protection spend and changes to contribution for 2022/23
- (£75,000) – increased drawdown from Mobilising reserve
- (£18,000) – increased drawdown from the Improvement & Efficiency reserve
- £973,000 – reduced drawdown from the Capital Programme Reserve
- (£71,000) – increased drawdown from the Covid reserve
- £44,000 – reduced drawdown from the Carry Forward Reserve
- (£1,000) – increased drawdown from cadets reserve
- £12,000 – reduced drawdown from People Strategy reserve
- £9,000 – reduced drawdown in respect of grant balances carried forward
- (£78,000) – increased drawdown from the ITG strategy reserve
- £23,000 – reduced drawdown from the Pensions Administration reserve

Capital Reserves – Decrease £6,000

- £6,000 – due to balance of Capital Receipts Reserve being lower than anticipated when the budget was set and additional capital receipts received during 2023/24.

11. BORROWING AND INVESTMENT

11.1 As at end September, the Authority held cash balances of £19,520,000 which were invested in accordance with the Treasury Management Strategy, as follows:

Counterparty	Duration	Amount	Interest Rate
		£m	%
Aberdeen Cash Money Market Fund	Overnight Access	3.000	5.29
Deutsche Cash Money Market Fund	Overnight Access	3.000	5.22
Aviva Cash Money Market Fund	Overnight Access	3.000	5.32
Federated Cash Money Market Fund	Overnight Access	0.520	5.35
Barclays	95 Day Notice	3.000	5.30
Goldman Sachs	Fixed to 02/11/23	1.000	5.58
Goldman Sachs	Fixed to 06/12/23	2.000	5.23
Standard Chartered ESG	Fixed to 05/01/24	1.000	5.81
Standard Chartered ESG	Fixed to 09/02/24	1.000	5.67
Natwest	Fixed to 01/08/24	1.000	5.91
Natwest	Fixed to 03/05/24	1.000	4.82
Total Investments		19.520	

- 11.2 The Bank of England base rate rose 0.25% to 5.25% in August. We are continuing to see an impact as Banks increase their rates on investments, resulting in higher levels of interest receivable. Latest modelling indicates the income of around £650,000 can be achieved, £500,000 above the budgeted level of £150,000.
- 11.3 The current forecast of a reduction in reserves of £6.286m means that the Service will need to monitor its liquidity and cashflow closely during the year and this may involve giving notice on some of its existing investments. Finance continues to work with the ESCC Treasury Management team to improve cash-flow monitoring.
- 11.4 The Authority's borrowing has reduced to £9,581,000, with the repayment of 2 loans totalling £236,000 in September 2023. The increase in base rate does not impact the interest payable on outstanding borrowing as these are subject to fixed interest rate deals.

No further borrowing is expected this financial year.

Revenue Budget 2023/24 – Objective Summary

	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Projected Outturn	Variance	Variance	Variance Month 4 Reported to SLT	Variance From Last Reported
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	£'000	£'000
People Services	4,200	4,044	4,111	66	1.6	176	(110)
Resources/Treasurer	9,093	8,974	8,832	(142)	(1.6)	(126)	(16)
Planning and Improvement	1,555	1,472	1,305	(167)	(11.3)	(64)	(103)
Total Deputy Chief Fire Officer	14,847	14,489	14,248	(241)	(11)	(13)	(228)
Safer Communities	22,862	23,491	24,386	896	3.8	1,093	(199)
Operational Support	4,942	4,915	4,958	43	0.9	(6)	49
Total Assistant Chief Fire Officer	27,805	28,406	29,344	938	5	1,087	(150)
CFO Staff	844	844	882	38	4.4	37	1
Treasury Management	755	755	182	(573)	(75.9)	(571)	(2)
Non Delegated costs	(1,052)	(1,060)	(919)	139	(13.2)	142	(2)
Corporate Contingency	533	298	0	(298)	(100.0)	(479)	181
Transfer from Reserves	(636)	(262)	(262)	0	0.0	0	0
Transfer to Reserves	1,961	1,587	1,587	0	0.0	0	0
Total Corporate	2,405	2,162	1,468	(694)	(185)	(871)	178
Green book pay award	0	0	150	150	0.0	150	0
Total Net Expenditure	45,057	45,057	45,210	153	(191)	353	(200)
Financed By:							
RSG	(3,662)	(3,662)	(3,661)	1	(0)	1	(0)
Council Tax	(31,093)	(31,093)	(31,093)	0	0	0	0
Business Rates	(7,776)	(7,776)	(7,827)	(51)	1	(51)	0
Service Grant Allocation	(408)	(408)	(408)	(0)	0	(0)	0
Covid-19 Local Tax Support Grant	(56)	(56)	(56)	0	0	0	0
S31 Grants	(2,063)	(2,063)	(2,086)	(23)	1	(23)	0
Collection Fund Surplus/Deficit	0	0	(86)	(86)	0	(86)	0
Total Financing	(45,057)	(45,057)	(45,217)	(159)	0	(159)	0
Total Over / (Under) Spend	0	0	(7)	(7)	0	193	(200)

Savings Programme 2023/24

Description	Savings 23/24	Projection 22/23	At Risk	R.A.G Rating
	£'000	£'000	£'000	Select Status
Reduce contingency - one year only - reversal	48	48		
IT Projects to be reprofiled - reversal	33	33		
Procurement savings	(25)	(10)	(15)	
Insurance - installation of CCTV on fleet	(15)	(15)		
Telent contract savings	3	3		
CRM Benefits realisation	(50)		(50)	
IRMP savings	(49)	(49)		
Finance Business Partner	(60)	(60)		
Finance Support Services Contract	(35)	(35)		
Insurance - removal of PA cover	(23)	(23)		
EIRS	(27)	(27)		
Trustmarque 0365 EA Agreement	(20)	(20)		
Astrium	(8)	(8)		
BT	(22)	(22)		
ITG Training	(3)	(3)		
SEE Phase 4	(30)	(30)		
Finance and Improvement	(30)	(30)		
Additional Rates Savings	(106)	(106)		
Licences	(4)	(4)		
Consultant Fees	(20)	(20)		
E-recruitment	(4)	(4)		
Firewatch Benefits realisation	25	25		
HR travel and licences	(9)	(9)		
NHS recharges	(4)	(4)		
VDU eye tests	(2)	(2)		
Occupational health psychology	(8)	(8)		
Occupational health medical fees	(10)	(10)		
Officers subsistence	(1)	(1)		
EDI training	(10)	(10)		
Car allowance	(4)	(4)		
External training	(160)	(160)		
Engineering Fitting Out	(30)	(30)		
Engineering Heavy Rescue Equipment	(52)	(52)		
Control IT SLA	(199)	(199)		
Budget Error - CRM	(54)	(54)		
Additional Availability Allowance	(20)	(20)		
NI reduction	(230)	(230)		
Support Staff Pay Vacancy Factor	(80)	(80)		
Total Net Savings	(1,295)	(1,230)	(65)	

Grants and Spending Plans 2023/24

Grants Requiring Claims	Lead AD	*Grant Brought Forward 1 April 2022	Grant 2023/24	Total Available Grant	Claim Quarter 1	Claim Quarter 2	Claim Quarter 3	Claim Quarter 4	Balance Remaining
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ESMCP - LTR Regional	Hannah Scott-Youlton	59,725	-	59,725	No claims will be made during 2023/24				59,725
**ESMCP - Infrastructure	Hannah Scott-Youlton	1,425,000	-	1,425,000	No claims expected during 2023/24				1,425,000
Accreditation & RPL Funding	Matt Lloyd	22,737	-	22,737	-	-	-	-	22,737
Surge Protection Grant Funding - Protection Uplift	Matt Lloyd	125,645	358,079	483,724	76,658	-	-	-	407,066
		1,939,347		1,991,186	76,658	-	-	-	1,914,528

Grants - No Claims Requirement	Lead AD	Balance Remaining	Grant 2023/24	Total Available Grant	Comments	Balance Remaining
		£		£		
COVID - 19	Duncan Savage	71,656	-	71,656	Available to spend on Efficiency & Productivity	71,656
Firelink	Duncan Savage	0	143,420	143,420	Used to fund Airwave costs in 2023/24	143,420
New Dimensions	Hannah Scott-Youlton	47,667	27,430	75,097	Plan to spend £54,231 in 2023/24	20,866
Pensions Grant	Duncan Savage	0	1,734,984	1,734,984	Used in 2023/24	1,734,984
Responding to New Risks	Hannah Scott-Youlton	31,355	6,500	37,855	Plan to spend £37,111 in 2023/24	744
Total		1,083,975	1,083,975	1,991,356		1,900,014
Overall Total Grants		3,023,322	1,083,975	3,982,542		3,814,542

Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28

Capital Programme Expenditure 2023-24 to 2027-28	Total Budget	Total Previous Years	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Remaining Spend	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Property									
Shared Investment Schemes									
Integrated Transport Project	800					800		800	-
Roedean Betterment	25		25					25	
Bohemia Road Betterment	95		95					95	
Fort Road - RIBA Stages 1-2	99	21	78					78	
Preston Circus	3,287	394	1,243	1,650				2,893	-
Total Shared Investment Schemes	4,306	415	1,441	1,650	-	800	-	3,891	-
Strategic Schemes									
- Replacement Fuel Tanks	492	450	42					42	-
- Partner contribution	(292)	(292)						-	-
- Replacement fuel tanks net cost	200	158	42	-	-	-	-	42	-
Design Guide	356	356						-	-
Hove	525	521	4					4	-
Roedean	482	53	429					429	-
Eastbourne	587	97	490					490	-
Bohemia Road	524	46	478					478	-
Security	386	95	291					291	-
Sustainability	171	22	119	30				149	-
MPTH	399	399						-	-
Eastbourne MPTH	259	26	233					233	-
Training Centre MPTH	308	34	274					274	-
Hove MPTH	278	24	254					254	-
Bohemia Road MPTH	257	26	231					231	-
Live Fire Training	4,000	49	34	437	2,500	980		3,951	-
Total Strategic Schemes	8,732	1,906	2,879	467	2,500	980	-	6,826	-
General Schemes									
General Schemes	830	830						-	-
Phase 1 General Costs	36	30	6					6	-
Seaford CIL	296	3	12	281				293	-
Seaford CIL partner Contribution	(133)			(133)				(133)	-
Barcombe CIL	392	4	14	374				388	-
Barcombe CIL Partner Contribution	(156)			(156)				(156)	-
The Ridge	408			20	388			408	-
Hailsham	184	19	8	10	147			165	-
Rye	532	12	36	17	467			520	-
Battle	163	1			56	106		162	-
Herstmonceux	279				50	229		279	-
Bexhill	460					200	260	460	-
Heathfield	280	9	9	19	243			271	-
Uckfield	495	8			100	387		487	-
Lewes	577	6			241	330		571	-
Pevensey	181					30	151	181	-
Forest Row	197					30	167	197	-
Mayfield	203					30	173	203	-
Broad Oak	30						30	30	-
Burwash	30						30	30	-
Wadhurst	50						50	50	-
Seaford HVP Alterations	94	94						-	-
Total General Schemes	5,428	1,016	85	432	1,642	1,163	1,090	4,412	-
Bay Doors, Floors, IT	1,515	7	795	300	205	208		1,508	-
Training Towers	279	1	278					278	-
Temperature Control in Sleeping Pods	195	18	177					177	-
Total Property	20,455	3,363	5,655	2,849	4,347	3,151	1,090	17,092	-
Vehicle Cameras	150		136					136	(14)
Grant Funds	(117)		(117)					(117)	-
Breathing Apparatus	1,000					500	500	1,000	-
Aerials	2,228	908	1,320					1,320	-
Aerial Rescue Pump	22	22						-	-
Fire Appliances	8,636	4,158	562	904	887	932	1,122	4,407	(71)
Ancillary Vehicles	2,831	774	799	1,037	153		77	2,066	9
Cars	2,262	861	102	286	531	261	215	1,395	(6)
Vans	2,358	1,018	323	302	170	235	310	1,340	-
Equipment	70		35					35	(35)
Employee Cost Allocation			38					38	38
Rounding Adj	2		2					2	-
Total Fleet and Equipment	16,228	7,741	3,200	2,529	1,741	1,928	2,224	11,622	(78)
Total Expenditure	36,683	11,104	8,855	5,378	6,088	5,079	3,314	28,714	(78)

Capital Programme 2023/24

Estates Capital Programme Expenditure 2023/24

Project	Total Budget	Forecast	Variance	Variance	Underspend/ Overspend	Spend in Advance	Slippage	P4 Variance	Movement
	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 %	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000
Roedean Betterment	25	25	-					0	-
Bohemia Road Betterment	95	60	(35)				(35)	(35)	-
Fort Road - RIBA Stages 1-2	80	80	-	0%				45	(45)
Preston Circus	1,304	377	(927)	-71%			(927)	(598)	(329)
Total Shared Investment Schemes	1,504	542	(962)				(962)	(588)	(374)
Replacement Fuel Tanks (incl. Partner contribution)	42	42	-					-	-
Design Guide:									
Hove	4	9	5	125%		5		(4)	9
Roedean	450	2	(448)	-100%			(448)	-	(448)
Eastbourne	536	-	(536)				(536)	-	(536)
Bohemia Road	534	249	(285)	-53%			(285)	-	(285)
Security	291	236	(55)				(55)	(55)	-
Sustainability	119	-	(119)				(119)	(59)	(60)
MPTH:									
Eastbourne MPTH	233	13	(220)	-94%			(220)	(220)	-
Training Centre MPTH	274	19	(255)	-93%			(255)	(255)	-
Hove MPTH	254	20	(234)	-92%			(234)	(234)	-
Bohemia Road MPTH	232	23	(209)	-90%			(209)	(208)	(1)
Live Fire Training	34	34	-					-	-
Total Strategic Schemes	3,003	647	(2,356)			5	(2,361)	(1,035)	(1,321)
Phase 1 General Costs	-	-	-					-	-
Seaford CIL (Incl. Partner contribution)	12	-	(12)	-100%			(12)	(12)	-
Barcombe CIL (Incl. Partner contribution)	14	1	(13)	-93%			(13)	(14)	1
Hallsham	8	-	(8)	-100%			(8)	(8)	-
Rye	36	38	2	6%		2		2	-
Heathfield	9	10	1	11%		1		-	1
Total General Schemes	79	49	(30)	(0)			(33)	(32)	2
Total Bay Door, Floor, IT Building Works	795	203	(592)	-74%			(592)	(303)	(289)
Total Training Towers	279	-	(279)	-100%			(279)	(278)	(1)
Rounding	(5)	-	5				5	-	-
Total	5,655	1,441	(4,214)	-75%		8	(4,222)	(2,236)	(1,983)

Fleet Capital Programme Expenditure 2023/24

Project	Total Budget	Forecast	Variance	Variance	Underspend/ Overspend	Spend in Advance	Slippage	P4 Variance	Movement
	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 %	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000
GX13ECD	525	525	-					-	-
GX0BJPF	795	795	-					-	-
Total Aerials	1,320	1,320							
GX09HJA	222	204	(18)	-8%	(18)			(18)	-
GX09HJC	222	204	(18)	-8%	(18)			(18)	-
GX57EUL	189	154	(35)	-19%	(35)			(35)	-
Total Fire Appliances	633	563	(71)		(71)			(71)	
MX08XSX	321	321	-					-	-
TRA14	4	4	-	0%				-	-
TRA6	43	43	-					-	-
TRA7	43	43	-					-	-
GX57 EUV	-	125	125			125		125	-
GX56 NWR	157	157	-	0%				-	-
GX56 NWS	157	157	-					-	-
GX03 AXM	-	9	9		9			9	-
QU04 VNW	65	65	-					-	-
Total Ancillary Vehicles	790	924	134		9	125		134	
GX15JIL	85	85	-					-	-
GU16LSC	33	33	-					-	-
GX17EBM	33	33	-					-	-
GX68DHA	37	37	-					-	-
Fire Investigation - NEW!	70	-	(70)					(70)	(70)
Hazmat - NEW!	65	-	(65)					(65)	(65)
Total Vans	323	188	(135)					(135)	
GV18 ABF	41	35	(6)	-14%	(6)			(6)	-
GX66JUV	14	-	(14)	-100%			(14)	(14)	-
GX66JVV	14	-	(14)	-100%			(14)	(14)	-
GX66JVV	13	-	(13)	-100%			(13)	(13)	-
GX66JVV	13	-	(13)	-100%			(13)	(13)	-
GX66JVZ	13	-	(13)	-100%			(13)	(13)	-
Total Cars	108	35	(73)		(6)			(73)	
Equipment	35	-	(35)		(35)			(35)	-
CCTV Cameras	150	136	(14)		(14)			-	(14)
ITF grant for CCTV cameras	(117)	(117)	-					-	-
Equipment (Operational IRMP)	35	-	(35)					(35)	-
Total Special Projects	103	19	(84)		(49)			(70)	(14)
Allocation of Employee costs	-	38	38			38		-	38
Rounding Adjustment	2	-	(2)					(2)	-
Total	3,279	3,087	(192)	-6%	(78)	125	(239)	(82)	(149)

Total Capital Programme 2023/24

Project	Total Budget	Forecast	Variance	Variance	Underspend/ Overspend	Spend in Advance	Slippage	P4 Variance	Movement
	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 %	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000
Total	8,934	4,528	(4,406)	-49%	(78)	133	(4,461)	(2,318)	(2,132)

Reserves 2023/24

Description	Opening Balance	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	Projected Closing Balance	Lead AD
	01/04/2023	Original Planned Transfers In	Original Planned Transfers Out	Original Planned Transfers Net	Forecast Transfers In	Forecast Transfers Out	Forecast Transfers Net	Net Change	as at 31 March 2024	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Earmarked Reserves										
Business Rate Pool Reserve*	1,093	0	(200)	(200)	(8)	0	(8)	192	1,085	Duncan Savage
Business Rates Retention Pilot - financial stability	80	0	(80)	(80)	0	(80)	(80)	0	0	Duncan Savage
Capital Programme Reserve	3,895	1000	(4,906)	(3,906)	1000	(3,933)	(2,933)	973	962	Duncan Savage
Covid-19	71	0	0	0	0	(71)	(71)	(71)	0	Duncan Savage
ESMCP ESFRS readiness	1,425	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,425	Hannah Scott-Youlton
ESMCP Regional Programme	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	Hannah Scott-Youlton
Improvement & Efficiency	521	0	(214)	(214)	0	(232)	(232)	(18)	289	Duncan Savage
Insurance	249	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	249	Duncan Savage
ITG Strategy	3,509	592	(2,199)	(1,607)	607	(2,292)	(1,685)	(78)	1,824	Duncan Savage
Mobilising Strategy	75	0	0	0	0	(75)	(75)	(75)	0	Duncan Savage
People Strategy	312	0	(130)	(130)	25	(143)	(118)	12	194	Julie King
Sprinklers	440	0	(440)	(440)	0	(440)	(440)	0	0	Hannah Scott-Youlton
BRR - Protection Uplift - Accreditation & RPL	23	0	(12)	(12)	0	(7)	(7)	5	16	Matt Lloyd
BRR - Protection Uplift - Protection	128	0	(96)	(96)	0	(101)	(101)	(5)	25	Matt Lloyd
Business Rate Tax Income Guarantee Scheme (75%)	16	0	(16)	(16)	0	(16)	(16)	0	0	Duncan Savage
Council Tax Income Guarantee Scheme (75%)	41	0	(42)	(42)	0	(41)	(41)	1	0	Duncan Savage
New Dimensions Grant	48	0	(32)	(32)	0	(27)	(27)	5	21	Hannah Scott-Youlton
Pensions Administration	216	0	(105)	(105)	0	(82)	(82)	23	134	Julie King
Responding to New Risks	31	0	(33)	(33)	0	(30)	(30)	3	1	Hannah Scott-Youlton
Carry Forwards	147	0	(173)	(173)	0	(129)	(129)	44	18	Duncan Savage
Cadets	6	0	0	0	5	(6)	(1)	(1)	5	Matt Lloyd
Total Earmarked Reserves	12,384	1,692	(6,678)	(7,086)	1,629	(7,705)	(6,076)	1,010	6,308	
General Fund	1,556	319	0	319	319	0	319	0	1,875	Duncan Savage
Total Revenue Reserves	13,940	1,911	(6,678)	(6,767)	1,948	(7,705)	(6,757)	1,010	8,183	
Capital Receipts Reserve	520	0	(526)	(526)	75	(595)	(520)	6	0	Duncan Savage
Total Capital Reserves	520	0	(526)	(526)	75	(595)	(520)	6	0	
Total Usable Reserves	14,460	1,911	(6,204)	(7,293)	2,023	(8,300)	(6,277)	1,016	8,183	

ITG Strategy

Appendix 7

Project	Total Budget	Forecast	Variance	Variance	P4 Forecast
	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 %	
CRM	296	296	0		296
EDRMS	592	62	(530)	-90%	62
ESN (ESMCP)	1425	0	(1,425)	-100%	0
Finance System Improvement / Replacement	272	501	229	84%	272
FireWatch Retained Pay Integration	55	0	(55)	-100%	0
Fleet & Asset Replacement System	111	111	0		111
GDPR File Cleanse	46	46	0		46
iLearn & FireWatch Integration	35	35	0		35
Increase Flexible working capabilities	25	25	0		25
Information Security	75	75	0		75
Integrated Health & Safety System	123	0	(123)	-100%	0
One to many video STC Cisco Room Kit	15	15	0		15
Pagers and Alerters	434	6	(428)	-99%	6
Performance Management System (Phase 2,3,4)	9	9	0		9
BI Mobilising Reporting (P21)	3	3	0		3
BI Mobilising Reporting system Phase 2 (inphase)	20	20	0		20
PSN Compliance	134	100	(34)	-25%	100
Total Business Projects	3,670	1,304	(2,366)	-64%	1075
IP Telephony Strategy	350	80	(270)	-77%	80
IT outsource re-tender	117	117	0		117
Laptop Lifing	250	0	(250)	-100%	250
Lewes HQ Network Lifing	30	0	(30)		30
Migrate Lifeboat to Sharepoint Online	65	65	0		65
MS Roadmap	244	244	0		244
Mobile Phone and Device Strategy / replacement	60	0	(60)	-100%	60
Upgrade TomTom Bridge	100	100	0		100
WAN strategy	382	382	0		382
Total IT Projects	1,598	988	(610)	-38%	1328
Total Projects Budget	5,268	2,292	(2,976)	-56%	2,403