

General Fund Financial Monitoring Quarter 3 2023/24

Babergh District Council March 2024



1. Background

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- 2. The General Fund Budget for 2023/24 was approved by Council in February 2023. After the easing of COVID pressures on the Council's budget new challenges are being driven by the economic effects of the War in Ukraine and the Cost-of-Living crisis, with inflationary pressures on costs and reductions in expected income. The impact of these factors across the whole organisation is projected to result in overspends.
- 3. Inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) remains high at 5.3% (Dec 2023), and while it is assumed to have reached a peak, continuing pressures on the cost of fuel, materials and services has been reflected in the forecast variances for 2023/24.
- 4. The Bank of England base rate remains at 5.25% (Jan.2024) and while the rate is assumed to have peaked reductions are not expected until May at the earliest. Monitoring continues to identify any risk to the Council's position and a review of the effects of the Council's borrowing has led to adjustments in the forecast to account for the additional borrowing costs.

5. Forecast position for 2023/24

- Budget monitoring is a key tool and indicator on the delivery of the Council's plans and priorities for the year. There will, of course, always be reasons why there are variances such as the current inflationary pressures.
- 7. Based upon financial performance and discussions with budget managers and the Senior Leadership Team, key variations on expenditure and income compared to budget have been identified.
- 8. The overall position of the Council's Revenue General Fund for 2023/24 is forecast to be a deficit of £440k against a budgeted surplus of £22k. This is a projection based on current trends, which may fluctuate as the year progresses. Statutory increases to planning fees have kicked in,

- which along with two large Solar Farm applications have partly reduced the income deficit forecast at Quarter 2. It is proposed that any shortfall against budget be funded form the Council's reserves. This use of reserves has been factored into the reserves position that was included in the budget report to Full Council in February 2024..
- 9. The key variances that make up this overspend are shown in the following sections of this report. A significant variance is in the forecast increase in income interest income arising from the council's shortterm cash deposits. Work on enhancing the modelling for forecasting financing costs and interest income is being undertaken by the Finance Team.. Interest income from CIFCO Ltd is forecast to be below budget as the estimate incorrectly included principal repayment amounts which cannot be credited to the revenue budget.
- 10. Employee costs are also under pressure with several senior positions unfilled in Finance and Electoral Services which are currently filled by interims. Employee costs are approximately 50% of the Councils expenditure and an increase of 4% was included in the budget. The pay award for the 2023/24 year has now been settled and the effects worked into the forecast. Recruitment remains challenging and the Council continues to experience gaps between people leaving the organisation and these posts being filled. The budget includes a £0.550m vacancy management factor of 5% on salaries centrally held outside of the service areas. The results of the Pay & Rewards project have added pressure to staffing costs. Some mitigation on the deficit against the salary budget will come from capitalisation of Salary costs for Capital and Transformation projects.

2. General Fund Revenue – Forecast

Service Area		Budget 23/24	Full Year Forecast 23/24	Variance to Budget (underspend) / overspend	Variance a % of Budget
		£'000	£'000	£'000	
	Assets & Investments	301	417	115	38%
	Communities & Wellbeing	815	735	(80)	-10%
	Corporate Resources	2,056	2,363	306	15%
	Customers, Digital Transformation & Improvement	2,210	2,178	(32)	-1%
	Economic Growth & Climate Change	477	476	(1)	0%
Net Service Costs	Operations	3,919	3,889	(30)	-1%
	Housing	677	572	(105)	-16%
			1,360	· /	26%
	Law & Governance	1,079		281	
	Planning & Building Control	1,205	1,280	75	6%
	HR & Organisational Development	695	707	13	2%
	Senior Leadership Team	731	729	(1)	0%
Housing Benefits	HB Transfer Payments	11,769	11,769	-	0%
	HB Grants and Contributions	(11,885)	(11,885)	-	0%
Net expenditure on s	services as above	14,049	14,589	540	4%
Recharges	Charge to HRA/Capital	(1,937)	(1,868)	69	4%
	Interest Payable on lending to CIFCO	208	208	-	0%
Capital Financing	Interest Payable - Other	1,271	1,271	-	0%
Costs	Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	1,708	1,565	(143)	-8%
	Pooled Funds Net Income	(569)	(510)	59	10%
Investment Income	Interest Receivable - CIFCO	(2,187)	(2,040)	147	7%
	Interest Receivable	(15)	(250)	(235)	-1567%
Total Net Cost of Se		12,528	12,965	437	3%
	New Homes Bonus	(825)	(825)	-	0%
0	Revenue Support Grant (RSG)	(130)	(130)	-	0%
Government Grants	Services Grant	(86)	(86)	-	0%
	Rural Services Delivery Grant	(266)	(266)	-	0%
	Funding Guarantee	(68)	(68)	-	0%
	Baseline Business Rates	(705)	(685)	19	-3%
	Growth / Pooling Benefit Business Rates Pool - Removal of Top Slicing	(457)	(457)	-	0%
Business Rates	S31 Business Rates Grant	(3,283)	(3,315)	(32)	1%
Dusilless Rates	Business rates - Renewable Energy	(3,263)	(3,313)	(32)	100%
	Enterprise Zone income & renewable energy	(319)	(226)	94	29%
	Business Rates Prior Year Deficit	25	25	- 54	0%
	Council Tax	(6,416)	(6,416)	-	0%
Council Tax	Council Tax Prior Year Surplus	(21)	(21)	-	0%
Total Funding		(12,551)	(12,548)	3	0%
Net Position Before	Reserves	(22)		440	

3. General Fund Revenue – Major Variances

Area	Full Year Budget £'000	Full Year Forecast £'000	Variance £'000	Comments	% Variance
Assets & Investments	301	417	115		38%
Strategic Property	219	335	116	£110K overspend on backdated management fees for Borehamgate. £7K overspend on reactive soakaway repairs to depot. £11K overspend from writing off bad debt from prior tenant. New tenant in situ and payments up to date. £6K overspend Car Park rental of Corks Lane Hadleigh payable to Hadleigh Town Council. (£19K) underspend on employee costs following transitional vacancies.	53%
The Councils' Companies	82	81	(1)		-1%
Communities & Wellbeing	815	735	(80)		-10%
Communities	587	501	(86)	Underspends forecast on Health and Wellbeing (£69k), Community Achievement Awards (£5k), Physical Activity (£23k), Suffolk Youth Focus (£6k), Healthy Behaviours (£43k) and Community Safety (£18k) budgets. Overspend on Community Grants £24k and salaries £57k (pay review and less from reserves than budgeted)	-15%
Leisure Contracts	228	234	6	Reactive repairs to Hadleigh Pool and Kingfisher Centre electrical repairs.	2%
Corporate Resources	1,940	2,246	306		16%
Finance, Commissioning & Procurement	1,940	2,246	306	Overspend on Agency staffing to cover various vacancies in the team due to difficulty with recruitment and under budgeted on insurance premiums due to inflationary increases.	16%
Customers, Digital Transformation & Improvement	2,210	2,178	(32)		-1%
Communications	235	239	5	£1.7k overspend on salaries due to Pay & Reward Outcomes, (£3k) underspend due to unspent operating budgets and £6.1k overspend on Subscriptions due to increase in Media Access Licence costs for the current financial year.	2%
Customer Operations	614	608	(6)	(£24k) underspend due to vacancy savings in Q1 & Q2 and £18k unbudgeted spend for Inform 360 Services subscription costs.	-1%
ICT	977	949	(28)	(£14k) underspend due vacant post for full year, £10k cost pressure on BT line charges due to 300% increase in costs, (£22k) underspend on SCC contract due to contract being less than budgeted for and (£2k) underspend on operating costs.	-3%
Strategic Policy, Performance & Improvements	384	381	(2)	(£30k) underspend due to vacancies in Q1 and £27k unbudgeted costs for Corporate Plan Refresh which has been funded from the salary underspend.	-1%
Economic Growth & Climate Change	477	476	(1)		0%
Climate Change	95	95	(0)		0%
Economic Growth & Climate Change	382	381	(1)		0%
Housing	677	572	(105)		-16%
PV Panels	(149)	(154)	(4)		-3%
Housing Solutions	827	726	(101)	(£100k) budgeted reserves in Homelessness not utilised, (£76k) underspend on salaries due to vacancies including Housing Standards Manager which has not been filled. Savings reduced by £23k in Independent Living Service as not all expenditure qualifies for Disabled Facilities Grant funding and also £52k in Rough Sleepers service covering Corporate recharges not covered by the grant.	-12%

3. General Fund Revenue – Major Variances

Area	Full Year Budget £'000	Full Year Forecast £'000	Variance £'000	Comments	% Variance
HR & Organisational Development	695	707	13		2%
HR & OD	695	707	13	Overspend due to additional resource in team. (approx. £18.5k), £16.5k additional costs due to Pay and Reward outcomes and yearly Pay Award, £5k overspend on Suffolk County Council advert costs due to an increase in vacancies and £5k increase in Subscription costs. (£33k) underspend on the Training budget is offsetting the cost pressures.	2%
Law & Governance	1,079	1,360	281		26%
Electoral Services & Land Charges	123	304	181	£18k overspend on salaries due to Pay inflation and Pay & Reward Review. £58k Consultancy fees to run service until new Corporate Manager is in place, Land Charge income forecast £52k over budget. Overspend on May 23 Elections is £46k and £7k is to be paid back to the Elections Claim Unit (ECU) for the 2021 Election underspend.	148%
Governance & Civic Office	462	548	86	Member Allowances 65k over budget due to increases agreed after the 22/23 budget was set along with an additional increase in 23/24 related to the staff Pay & Reward Review. £5k overspend on Car Mileage Allowance, £6k on Training and £10k overspend forecast on postage costs.	19%
Internal Audit, Risk & Data	93	97	3		4%
Shared Legal Service	401	411	10	£10k overspend due to implementation costs for new Case Management System (CMS)	2%
Operations	3,919	3,889	(30)		-1%
Car Parking	354	203	(151)	(£75K) underspend due to Car Park Strategy revenue implementation works on hold while proposal to vary charging is reviewed. The budget for this was created following recommendations from the Parking Strategy. (£55K) underspend on Business Rates revaluation for the year billed. (£13K) underspend from savings expected on electricity budgeted from Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting installation. (£6K) underspend on ticketing stationery for machines. (£3K) underspend on employee costs.	-43%
Health & Safety, Business Continuity and Emergency Planning	212	204	(7)	Underspend on salary costs pending recruitment of permanent Corporate Manager	-3%
Public Protection	586	540	(47)	Transitional vacancies, job adverts out with a view of full establishment from Q03. Employee costs for backlog COVID works funded by additional income from prior years deferred Contain Outbreak Management Funding (COMF) contributions. Incentives being funded in year across Operations and Communities teams to reduce health inequalities in our district due to the fallout of the COVID pandemic.	-8%
Public Realm	1,381	1,582	201	Equipment and fleet costs overspent £67K. £133K overspend on Employees following pay & reward review and cover for long term absences in streets team.	15%
Recycling, Waste & Fleet	1,350	1,350	0	Favourable variances include waste Contract (£45K); Garden Waste income growth (£34K); Transitional officer vacancies (£23K); underspend to budget Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) costs (£12K); Trade waste income growth (£8K). Offset by proposed reduction in drawdown of budgeted waste reserve of £122k.	0%
Service Improvement (Environment & Community	35	10	(26)	Current employee resource seconded to Corporate Resources.	-73%

3. General Fund Revenue – Major Variances

Area	Full Year Budget £'000	Full Year Forecast £'000	Variance £'000	Comments	% Variance
Planning & Building Control	1,205	1,280	75		6%
Building Control	139	208	69	£97k Reduction in income partially offset by staff savings (£21k)	49%
Development Management, Heritage & Enforcement	624	623	(1)	2 large solar applications have reduced the expected shortfall in income which is now £162k. This is offset with less costs on Judicial Reviews (£107k), increased Pre app income (£30k) and staff savings (£28k)	0%
Service Improvement (Sustainable Communities)	38	39	0		0%
Strategic Planning	403	410	7	£110k Neighbourhood Planning income less than expected due to claim window timings partially offset by staff savings (£58k), underspends on consultancy fees (£34k), conference expenses (£1k) and advertising (£3K).	2%
Senior Leadership Team	731	729	(1)		0%
Senior Leadership Team	731	729	(1)		0%
Grand Total	14,049	14,589	540		4%

4. Earmarked Reserves

	Opening			Further			_	Estimated				Balance as at
	Balance as at		Actual Movement From	•	Forecast Balance			Balance	Committed	Committed	Committed	31st March
Reserve	31/03/23	at 31/03/24	Reserve 2023/24	Forecast 2023/24	as at 31/03/24	2024/25	2024/25	31/03/2025	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028
Business Rates & Council Tax	3,545,890	3,545,890	- 1,313,501	- 879,000	1,353,389	0	0	1,353,389	0	0	0	1,353,389
Business Rates Retention Pilot (BRRP)	792,182	732,182	-	52,295	784,477	0	-580,789	203,687	-37,124	0	0	166,564
Carry Forwards	147,258	147,258	-	- 39,600	107,658	0	0	107,658	0	0	0	107,658
Climate Change and Biodiversity	249,507	182,680	-	- 75,533	107,147	11,301	0	118,447	11,866	12,459	13,082	155,853
Community Housing Fund	122,309	94,194	-	28,115	122,309	0	-31,480	90,829	-32,425	-33,397	-24,005	1,002
Commuted Maintenance Payments	1,346,309	1,346,309	-	38,522	1,384,831	0	-123,050	1,261,781	-123,050	-126,478	-127,637	884,616
COVID 19	1,501,470	1,367,852	-	- 1,350,110	17,742	0	-17,742	0	0	0	0	0
Elections Equipment	35,000	35,000	-	-	35,000	0	0	35,000	0	0	0	35,000
Elections Fund	90,386	110,386	- 90,386	- 20,000	0	30,000	0	30,000	30,900	31,827	32,782	125,509
Expected Credit Loss Reserve			-	937,850	937,850	0	-937,850	0	0	0	0	0
Financial Resilience Reserve		-	-	256,708	256,708	1,124,496	0	1,381,204	0	0	0	1,381,204
Financing the Budget Reserve		-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government Grants	259,376	239,491	-	19,885	259,376	0	0	259,376	0	0	0	259,376
Homelessness	291,097	190,999	-	- 20,000	170,999	0	-28,404	142,595	-28,404	-28,404	-28,404	57,383
Neighbourhood Planning Grants	48,711	73,418	-	2,320	75,739	90,000	-26,523	139,216	63,477	63,477	63,477	329,647
Planning (Legal)	741,808	600,808	- 3,003	-	597,805	0	-428,000	169,805	-56,602	-56,602	-56,602	0
Planning Enforcement	92,848	92,848	-	-	92,848	0	0	92,848	0	0	0	92,848
Rough Sleepers	16,592	16,592	-	-	16,592	0	0	16,592	0	0	0	16,592
Strategic Planning / Joint Local Plan	322,466	322,466	-	- 237,466	85,000	0	-10,000	75,000	-10,000	-10,000	0	55,000
Strategic Priorities	1,871,206	1,582,486	- 64,000	- 556,241	962,245	0	-655,374	306,871	-111,914	-77,386	-77,386	40,186
Temporary Accommodation	220,138	160,981	-	66,000	226,981	0	-217,637	9,344	0	0	0	9,344
Waste	380,056	235,932	-	-	235,932	0	-235,930	2	0	0	0	2
Well-being	84,873	78,655	- 70,000	- 4,432	4,223	0	0	4,223	0	0	0	4,223
TOTAL	12,159,482	11,156,427	- 1,540,890	- 1,780,687	7,834,850	1,255,797	-3,292,780	5,797,867	-293,276	-224,504	-204,692	5,075,395

1. Background

- Use of capital and one-off funds is critical and needs to be linked into our future delivery plans.
- 3. With complex capital schemes it is difficult to accurately assess the level of payments that will be made during the financial year. The Council continues to embark on new projects where it is difficult to accurately predict how payments will fall. Councillors should therefore focus on whether overall outcomes are being achieved because of the capital investment rather than variances against the plan for a particular year.

4. Forecast position for 2023/24

- 5. The £10.2m variance on the budget of £19.3m is primarily influenced by the following projects;
 - Slippage into 2024/25
 - Belle Vue £1.9m
 - Housing Grants £1.4m
 - Approvals given to delay projects until 2025/26 (as part of Budget Setting at Council meeting in February 2024).
 - A1071 Roadside Commercial Workspace Development £1.9m
 - Strategic Investment Fund £2.8m
 - Leisure Centres renewals £1m
 - Joint Depot £1.2m
- 6. Details of the variances to budget are shown on the following slides.

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24	Revised Budget 2023/24	Actual Spend at Q3	Forecast at Q3	Budget Variance	Expected Carry Forward to 2024/25	Explanation of Major Variances
Assets and Investments						
Hamilton Road Regeneration	108,187	21,494	35,187	(73,000)	(73,000)	This project is currently on hold. Viability of scheme to be discussed.
Planned Maintenance / Enhancements - Corporate Buildings	182,375	24,569	33,000	(149,375)	(149,375)	Currently funding consultancy costs for new HQ Office move and new depot scoping works. The carry forward budget is to make semi-permanent enhancements to ageing depots should there be a substantial delay in sourcing a new depot such as drainage improvements, roof enhancements.
New Joint Depot	1,200,000	-	-	(1,200,000)		£6m required over 2024-26 period. Approved at Council Feb 23. 2024/25 expenditure for land purchase, design fees and part time project management. Assuming completion 2 years from March 2024, (1 year legals/design/planning and 1 year to build). Request will be made to move budget to 2025/26 as part of the budget setting approvals at Council in Feb 2024.
Regen Fund - HQ Sites	-	-	-	-	-	This scheme has now been combined withh the Housing Delivery programme by Babergh Growth Ltd (see below)
Borehamgate	255,000	-	145,000	(110,000)	(110,000)	Ongoing work to protect and enhance income. Scheme is to refurbish and bring up to standard vacant commercial units to be let. Officers to deliver this scheme have been recruited and part delivery is likely in 23/24 with the remainder in 24/25. This includes works to the Post Office Unit, office, Kings House Toilets.
Strategic Investment Fund	2,777,000	-	-	(2,777,000)		Funding for opportunistic and time sensitive projects/acquisitions to achieve key council service objectives. Request will be made to move budget to 2025/26 as part of the budget setting approvals at Council in Feb 2024
Housing Delivery - Capital Loan to Babergh Growth Ltd (formerly shown separately as Babergh Growth Ltd. & Regen Fund- HQ Sites)	5,989,976	2,974,096	5,464,000	(525,976)	(525,976)	Construction currently in progress. Merging of two budget heads of the Babergh Growth Ltd and Regeneration Fund - HQ Sites (Former Council Offices).
Total Assets and Investments	10,512,538	3,020,158	5,677,187	(4,835,351)	(858,351)	

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24	Revised Budget 2023/24	Actual Spend at Q3	Forecast at Q3	Budget Variance	Expected Carry Forward to 2024/25	Explanation of Major Variances
Corporate Resources						
Replacement Finance Management System	75,000	285,642	356,052	281,052	-	Costs are 50/50 split. 23/24 overspend included for 24/25 budget approval.
Total Corporate Resources	75,000	285,642	356,052	281,052	-	
Customers, Digital Transformation and Improvement						
ICT - Hardware/Software Refresh:	150,000	22,551	48,000	(102,000)		£102k profiled to 24/25 - Collaboration Hardware/Hybrid Working – to spend around 50% of budget in 23/24,
Public Protection - Verso Software Upgrade Project	-	30,000	30,000	30,000	-	To be re-charged from ICT budget. Invoice £60K set-up costs - split 50:50 for new licence software.
Addl Projects Major Contracts	-	61,000	61,000	61,000		Re: Oracle - No Budget
Total Customers, Digital Transformation and Improvement	150,000	113,551	139,000	(11,000)	(102,000)	

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24	Revised Budget 2023/24	Actual Spend at Q3	Forecast at Q3	Budget Variance	Expected Carry Forward to 2024/25	Explanation of Major Variances
Economic Development and Regeneration						
Solar Car Ports	-	3,744	3,744			Project completed
EV Charging Points	180,000	121,450	202,973	22,973		Forecast overspend due to changes in plans in Phase 1b and Phase 2 and costs at new sites costing more.
Belle Vue	1,916,730	10,970	12,000	(1,904,730)	(1,904,730)	Minimal spend in 23/24. Remaining budget to be carried forward to 2024/25.
A1071 Roadside Workspace Development	2,078,000	7,160	10,000	(2,068,000)	-	Request will be made to move budget to 2025/26 as part of the budget setting approvals at Council in Feb 2024. Currently surveys and design work being carried out. Once a programme of works has been agreed then the budget will be utilised in 25/26.
Total Economic Development and Regeneration	4,174,730	143,324	224,973	(3,949,757)	(1,904,730)	
General Fund Housing						
Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant	1,000,304	486,922	541,323	(458,981)		We are planning to spend the Grant allocation received from County of £760,251. Policies are being reviewed to increase Minor Adaptation grants from £7.5k to £15k and Discretionary Funding Grants from £10k to £20k. Cabinet will need to approve these increases for 2024/25.
Renovation / Home Repair Grants	120,557	31,784	70,000	(50,557)		Currently loans are offered to ensure properties meet required legal standards, discussions are being had with Landlords to get traction for a new scheme to improve the fabrics of a property, waiting for feedback. Also looking at shortening the terms of the loans made. £50k moved to next FY.
Empty Homes Grant	441,000	-	-	(441,000)	(441,000)	No spend currently expected. Budget requirements to be reviewed.
Grants for Affordable Housing	400,000	-	-	(400,000)	(400,000)	No spend currently expected. Budget requirements to be reviewed by members.
Total General Fund Housing	1,961,862	518,706	611,323	(1,350,538)	(1,350,538)	

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24	Revised Budget 2023/24	Actual Spend at Q3	Forecast at Q3	Budget Variance ▼	Expected Carry Forward to 2024/25	Explanation of Major Variances
Leisure Contracts						
Kingfisher Leisure Centre - Repairs and Renewals	645,050	41,970	90,000	(555,050)	-	£90k expecetd to be spent in 23/24. Request will be made to move remaining budget to 2025/26 as part of the budget setting approvals at Council meeting in Feb 2024. Budget will be used as match funding against grants from Sport England to enhance the swim facilities of Leisure Centres in Babergh.
Hadleigh Pool and Leisure - Repairs and Renewals	497,000	9,711	18,500	(478,500)	-	£18.5k expected to be spent in 23/24. Request will be made to move remaining budget to 2025/26 as part of the budget setting approvals at Council meeting in Feb 2024. Carry Forward capital budget will be used as match funding against grants from Sport England to enhance the swim facilities of Leisure Centres in Babergh.
Total Leisure Contracts	1,142,050	51,681	108,500	(1,033,550)	-	
Operations						
Replacement Refuse Freighters - Joint Scheme	210,580	229,100	216,880	6,300		Estimated costs based on previous purchases plus inflation.
Recycling Bins	75,000	79,850	89,950	14,950		Budget request to be increased to reflect actual costs in 2023/24 and growth in Housing Developments. Continued increased new build developments means more bins are required.
Total Operations	285,580	308,950	306,830	21,250	-	

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24	Revised Budget 2023/24	Actual Spend at Q3	Forecast at Q3	Budget Variance	Expected Carry Forward to 2024/25	Explanation of Major Variances
Planning						
CIL Funded Infrastructure Grants	-	984,118	1,070,967	1,070,967		Forecast budget for 24/25 based on potential spend for existing approved CIL Bids, funded from CIL Reserve.
Total Planning		984,118	1,070,967	1,070,967		
Public Realm						
Vehicle and Plant Renewals	120,000	74,828	120,000	-		Scheme is for replacing old for new trailer (normally 8 year shelf life)
S106 Open Spaces Grants	-	131,703	131,703	131,703		Matched to Actual Spend, funded from S106 monies
Planned Maintenance / Enhancements - Car Parks	56,680	4,140	56,680	1	•	
Pin Mill - Planned Maintenance	136,000	-	36,000	(100,000)		Current ivestigations underway to plan enhancements of the hard at Chelmondiston. Scheme likely to complete in 24/25.
Gaol Lane, Toilet Refurb	60,000	24,958	60,000	-		Project nearing completion
Parking Strategy Implementation	165,000	-	15,000	(150,000)		Request will be made to move remaining budget to 2025/26 as part of the budget setting approvals at Council meeting in Feb 2024. For Car Park Strategy implementations including signage and meter equipment to bring improved enforcement. Delays in project due to new political scope and requirement.
Total Public Realm	537,680	235,629	419,383	(118,297)	(100,000)	

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24	Revised Budget 2023/24	Actual Spend at Q3	Forecast at Q3	Budget Variance	Expected Carry Forward to 2024/25	Explanation of Major Variances
Sustainable Communities						
Play Equipment	303,000	140,279	285,000	(18,000)	(18,000)	Budget is remaining amounts brought forward from previous years. The Works to be undertaken are still to be developed.
Community Development Grants	120,000	91,199	120,000	-		The budget is oversubscribed and we expect the budget to be fully allocated to community organisations each year. Whilst all funding will be allocated this financial year, applicants are given 6 months to spend from award. As such full spend will not be achieved within the same financial year and carry forward will be requested for those grants awarded.
Total Sustainable Communities	423,000	231,478	405,000	(18,000)	(18,000)	
Total General Fund Capital Spend	19,262,440	5,893,238	8,966,907	(10,220,533)	(4,333,620)	