

SEPTEMBER 2009 - SALARIES

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>2009/10</u>			<u>2008/09</u>		
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u> <u>TO 30/09/09</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>PROVISION</u> <u>(ORIGINAL)</u>	<u>VARIATION</u> <u>FROM BUDGET</u> <u>(ORIGINAL)</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u> <u>TO 30/09/08</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>PROVISION</u> <u>(ORIGINAL)</u>	<u>VARIATION</u> <u>FROM BUDGET</u> <u>(ORIGINAL)</u>
	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>%</u>
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE	419	437	-4.1	415	426	-2.6
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	699	728	-4.0	651	671	-3.0
CORPORATE SUPPORT SERVICE DIRECTORATE *	1,228	1,234	-0.5	1,144	1,160	-1.4
FINANCE & ICT DIRECTORATE *	1,938	1,919	1.0	1,822	1,931	-5.6
HOUSING DIRECTORATE *	2,488	2,637	-5.7	2,463	2,547	-3.3
ENVIRONMENT & STREET SCENE DIRECTORATE *	1,799	1,921	-6.4	1,715	1,805	-5.0
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE *	1,021	1,166	-12.4	1,041	1,157	-10.0
TOTAL	9,592	10,042	-4.5	9,251	9,697	-4.6

* Agency costs are included in the salaries expenditure.

A vacancy allowance has been deducted in all service budget provisions.

The Budget Provision figures for 2009/10 include 3.36% inflation (2.60% Pay Award & 0.76% Ers Superannuation)

	09/10 Full Year Budget £'000	Second Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		Comments
		09/10 Budget £'000	09/10 Actual £'000	08/09 Actual £'000	£'000	%	
<u>Major expenditure items:</u>							
Grants to Voluntary Groups	195	73	73	22	0	0.00	As the result of a change in the method of accounting, grants committed in 2008/09 but not paid out are no longer carried forward as credits to expenditure but as an increase to the budget. Grants carried forward amounted to £64,412, of which £33,487 were outstanding at the end of Quarter 2. Grants approved in the first two quarters amount to £65,896 of which £42,136 has been paid out.
Voluntary Sector Support	165	83	82	82	-1	-1.20	The figures include grants to the CAB and VAEF which are paid twice yearly in 50% instalments in April and October 2009
	360	156	155	104			

	09/10 Full Year Budget £'000	Second Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		Comments
		09/10 Budget £'000	09/10 Actual £'000	08/09 Actual £'000	£'000	%	
Major expenditure items:							
Building Maintenance	348	88	87	84	-1	-1.14	The budget Profiling has been based on the expenditure pattern for the previous three years.
	348	88	87	84			

	09/10 Full Year Budget £'000	Second Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		Comments
		09/10 Budget £'000	09/10 Actual £'000	08/09 Actual £'000	£'000	%	
<u>Major income items:</u>							
Hackney Carriages	148	76	98	84	22	28.95	There has been a continuing increase in the number of applications for private hire driver and vehicle licenses possibly due to rising levels of unemployment, and the switch to this occupation.
Fleet Operations MOTs	225	107	151	120	44	41.12	MOTs are undertaken by the Fleet Operations unit at Langston Road depot, and have seen a steady increase in numbers and related income as the facility has become popular and firmly established in Loughton.
Licensing & Registrations	101	49	28	58	-21	-42.86	The first half of 2009/10 has seen a decrease in the number of premises license, temporary event and gambling applications received, possibly due to the current economic climate.
Local Land Charges	150	84	89	90	5	5.95	With reports of an improvement in the housing market, and a significant increase on previous quarters, land charges income does now appear to be recovering and has achieved the same level of income as in the first half of 2008/09. The number of official searches for the first half year stands at 757, which is 90% of the figures for the previous half year. Personal searches are 838 which is 95% of the figures for the previous year. As a result of changes in Government legislation controlling local authority charges for property searches the official search fee was reduced from £120 to £100 on 6 April 2009. The new charging regime for personal searches has assisted in achieving a higher level of income from this source.

2009/10 FINANCIAL MONITORING - CORPORATE SUPPORT SERVICES

	09/10 Full Year Budget £'000	Second Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		<u>Comments</u>
		09/10 Budget £'000	09/10 Actual £'000	08/09 Actual £'000	£'000	%	
<u>Major income items:</u>							
Industrial Estates	877	623	644	613	21	3.37	Included in this item is additional income from rent arrears for properties at Oakwood Hill Industrial Estate where leases have been reviewed and backdated to April 2008. There have been reductions in income at Brooker Road Industrial Estate resulting from reduced rent from advertising hoardings, and voids at Oakwood Hill Workshop units.
Land & Property	221	127	90	99	-37	-29.13	Commission from the David Lloyd Centre turnover is yet to be received for 2008/09, and will be included in Quarter 3.
	1,098	750	734	712			

	09/10 Full Year Budget £'000	Second Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		Comments
		09/10 Budget £'000	09/10 Actual £'000	08/09 Actual £'000	£'000	%	
<u>Major expenditure items</u>							
Forward Planning	508	92	90	42	-2	-2.12	The majority of this budget relates to the Local Development Framework, work for which is on-going but has been delayed due to the extension of the public consultation exercise and uncertainties around the East of England plan. The major expenditure items are currently scheduled for the third and fourth quarters of the year but are under review.
	508	92	90	42			
<u>Major income items</u>							
Development Control	605	287	277	328	-10	-3.48	Development Control income for the first quarter includes the application fee for St Johns School amounting to £48,530, despite this the level is still below that achieved in the first quarter of 2008/09. There has been a decrease in the number of applications received of approximately 20% compared to the same period last year.
Building Control Fee Earning	642	341	277	321	-64	-18.77	
	1,246	628	554	649			

	09/10 Full Year Budget £'000	Second Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		Comments
		09/10 Budget £'000	09/10 Actual £'000	08/09 Actual £'000	£'000	%	
<u>Major expenditure items:</u>							
Information Technology	821	664	664	602	0	0.00	The majority of maintenance contracts payments are now made to suppliers annually in advance, as a result the expenditure in the first half year is higher than in previous years and the budget has been reprofiled accordingly. There have been some increases in maintenance costs but these can be contained within the overall ICT budgets.
Telephones	192	106	90	64	-16	-15.09	Maintenance costs for the switchboard are now paid annually in advance, instead of on a quarterly basis, which accounts for the variance between 2008/09 and the current year.
Bank & Audit Charges	247	51	43	42	-8	-15.69	Much of the expenditure falls in the second half of the year and the budget has been profiled accordingly. There is expected to be a small ongoing saving on Bank Charges.
	1,260	821	797	708			
<u>Major income items:</u>							
Investment Income	2,142	1,070	708	1,800	-362	-33.83	Investment interest has been lower than expected, due to the worsening market rates since the estimates were produced and the early return of a long term investment by the borrower. The estimated level of investment interest will not now be achieved.
	2,142	1,070	708	1,800			

	09/10 Full Year Budget	Second Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		<u>Comments</u>
		09/10 Budget	09/10 Actual	08/09 Actual	£'000	%	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000			
<u>Major expenditure items:</u>							
Museum	85	49	54	49	5	17	The museum have been occupying space at the Royal Gunpowder Mills free of charge, however a charge for this is now made which has led to an overspend. This will be covered by underspends on other budgets within the Museum cost centre.

2009/10 FINANCIAL MONITORING - HOUSING GENERAL FUND

	09/10 Full Year Budget £'000	Second Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		<u>Comments</u>
		09/10 Budget £'000	09/10 Actual £'000	08/09 Actual £'000	£'000	%	
		<u>Major expenditure items</u>					
Bed & Breakfast Accommodation	138	69	45	72	-24	-34.78	The underspend on expenditure and the reduction in income is due to a drop in placements in Bed & Breakfast Accommodation. The work of the Homelessness prevention team has been instrumental in achieving this. The income actual for quarter 2 has been reduced by £13,000 for bad debt write offs.
<u>Major income items</u>							
Bed & Breakfast Accommodation	158	79	21	71	-58	-73.4	

	09/10	Second Quarter			09/10		Comments
	Full Year	09/10	09/10	08/09	Variance		
	Budget	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget v Actual		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	
<u>Major expenditure items:</u>							
Refuse Collection	1,818	710	406	349	-304	-42.82	} The underspend relates to the July and August contract payments, not being paid by the end of September. These were paid during October and when comparing six months actual to six months budget there is a small underspend.
Street Cleansing	1,436	538	328	209	-210	-39.03	
Recycling	2,182	1,030	731	658	-299	-29.03	
Highways General Fund	371	159	150	162	-9	-5.66	
Off Street Parking	553	316	275	279	-41	-12.97	} Contractor invoices are currently one month in arrears, and maintenance costs of off street parking are below expectations.
On Street Parking	380	152	128	114	-24	-15.79	
Playgrounds & Open Spaces	230	116	113	103	-3	-2.59	
North Weald Centre	316	176	113	177	-63	-35.80	} The main underspend relates to NNDR for Hangar 1 which is now occupied. Other underspends relate to maintenance of North Weald Airfield.
	7,286	3,197	2,244	2,051			

FINANCIAL MONITORING - ENVIRONMENTAL AND STREET SCENE

	09/10 Full Year Budget £'000	Second Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		Comments
		09/10 Budget £'000	09/10 Actual £'000	08/09 Actual £'000	£'000	%	
<u>Contract cost Monitoring</u>							
Leisure Facilities:-							
Loughton Leisure Centre	27	9	10	8	1	11.11	}
Epping Sports Centre	292	97	96	50	-1	-1.03	}
Waltham Abbey Swimming Pool	460	153	151	142	-2	-1.31	}
Ongar Sports Centre	297	99	98	91	-1	-1.01	}
	1,076	358	355	291			
<u>Major income items:</u>							
Refuse Collection	151	48	41	42	-7	-14.58	
Recycling	910	303	248	392	-55	0.00	
Off Street Parking	1,088	536	595	546	59	11.01)
On Street Parking	519	259	241	246	-18	-6.95)
North Weald Centre	1,361	848	838	704	-10	-1.18	
	4,029	1,994	1,963	1,930			

The first quarter of the tipping away contribution has been less than expected.

New operating procedures set up by the County Council mean recycling credits are currently 2 months in arrears.

The variance in the main relates to PCN income. There is some doubt as to whether the split between on street and off street income is correct. This is currently under investigation.

Hangar lease payments are lower than expected due to Hangar 5 being unoccupied. This has partly been offset by an increase in other casual rents.

2009/10 FINANCIAL MONITORING - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

ANNEX 9a

	09/10 Full Year Budget £'000	First Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		Comments
		09/10 Budget £'000	09/10 Actual £'000	08/09 Actual £'000	£'000	%	
<u>Major expenditure items:</u>							
Managing Tenancies	277	252	252	233	0	0.00	
Housing Repairs	5,947	2,973	2,435	2,598	-538	-18.10	The underspend mainly relates to the responsive repairs area of the repairs fund. The budget is profiled evenly across the year, as it is unknown when responsive repairs will be required.
Special Services	1,720	817	547	618	-270	-33.05	There are a number of areas showing an underspend the most significant relates to gas heating (£80,000). The Council received a refund of £30,000 relating to estimated charges from previous yeras, and costs this year have not increased as much as originally anticipated. The other areas that show significant underspends relates to Housing Land Cleansing (£42,000) and Tree Maintenance (£48,000), it is anticipated that these will be spent by the end of the financial year.
Housing Subsidy	11,194	5,597	5,117	5,324	-480	-8.58	The reduction in expenditure relates to a drop in guideline rent formula following the Government announcement to recommend a reduction in rents from 6% to 3% for 2009-10.
	<u>19,138</u>	<u>9,639</u>	<u>8,351</u>	<u>8,773</u>			

2009/10 FINANCIAL MONITORING - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

ANNEX 9b

	09/10 Full Year Budget	First Quarter			09/10 Variance Budget v Actual		Comments
		09/10 Budget	09/10 Actual	08/09 Actual	£'000	%	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000			
<u>Major income items:</u>							
Non-Dwelling Rents	2,552	1,276	1,284	1,214	8	0.63	Whilst shop rents are showing a £25,000 increase in income, due to a number of rent reviews and fewer empty shops than assumed within the budget; there is a lower than expected income for garages, showing a £17,000 reduction in garage rent due to a higher than expected empty garages. The rent refunds for shops in the Broadway are not included within these figures. There has been four Council House sale in the first half of the year.
Gross Dwelling Rent	25,386	12,693	12,680	11,289	-13	-0.10	
	27,938	13,969	13,964	12,503			