

# APPENDIX E

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEALTH & WELLBEING DEPARTMENT REVENUE  
OUTTURN 2019-20**

**Report of: Director of Public Health and Wellbeing  
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**LEAD EXECUTIVE MEMBERS: Councillor Khtija Malik (Public Health & Commissioning), Councillor Javed Hussain (Adult Services)**

## **REPORT**

### **Revenue Budget Overview for the Year**

1. Net expenditure for the Department for 2019/20 was:
  - Public Health Services £14.630 million, fully funded by the Public Health Grant;
  - Wellbeing Services, including Adult Social Care £60.711 million (incl. advanced receipt of Covid-19 funding)

The Public Health budget has an underspend of £0.546 million (3.6%) in 2019/20 against the approved budget at the start of the year and in line with the specified grant conditions, this has been allocated to the specific Public Health reserve and will be carried forward to 2020/21 to continue supporting spend on public health activity.

Wellbeing has a total underspend of £5.888 million for the year compared to budget, but £5.423m of this relates to the first instalment of LA Emergency Support Funding received from the Government to meet cost on tackling Covid-19. The variation to budget excluding this grant is a small underspend of £0.465 million (0.7%) in 2019/20. The £5.423 million received for Covid-19 has been transferred to reserves, so this can be drawn-down and used to meet the additional Covid-19 related costs being incurred in 2020/21.

### **Forecast Movements Reported in the 2019/20 Monitoring**

1. The Public Health Grant saw a further planned central government reduction of £0.406m leaving a total available grant of £14.979m in 2019-20. Committed spend in 2019/20 was being partly funded by use of £0.124m of the specific reserve held by the service and a BCF contribution of £0.100m towards Social Prescribing spend. The Wellbeing service was projecting a net underspend which was made up primarily of over spends in Special Education Transport, Adult Social Care contracts, and the department's contribution towards the nation graduate development programme; offset by various under spends across staffing and other budgets. The Adult Social Care service was also projecting an overall underspend however there continued to be cost pressure across Mental Health purchased care, Learning Disability Purchased care, additional payments to home care providers to help stabilise the market, in house Supported Living and Respite services, Emergency Duty Team and continued use of expensive agency staff to sustain the service. These budget pressures were offset by underspends across in-house support in the community services covering Day Care, Extra Care and Reablement due to staff vacancies and in care management as the Side by Side early help project is embedded as business as usual. and also existing staffing resources benefited from grant funding including iBCF and Winter Pressure funding.

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2. The cumulative position forecast for the department in this year's monitoring was:
  - an underspend of £0.201 million for Public Health services
  - a net underspend of around £0.553 million for wellbeing services primarily on adult social care costs

The main variations reported in the monitoring include:

## Overspends & Income pressures

- £0.091m overspend on Mental Health & Residential Purchased Care
- £0.143m overspend on in-house Respite Service and Supported Living
- £0.105m overspend on Emergency Duty Team
- £0.105m overspend on Home Care Purchase Care
- £0.109m overspend due to of increased ASC Bad Debts provision
- £0.274m overspend on SEN and home to school transport

## Underspends, Savings or Additional Income:

- £0.181m underspend within Public Health funded posts due to of vacancies
- £0.261m underspend on Physical Disability and older Persons Purchased Care
- £0.230m underspend on Physical Disability and Older Persons Day Care
- £0.300m underspend on Extra Care and Reablement
- £0.136m underspend as a result of reduction in internal Support Service charges from the Passenger Transport Unit for day services
- £0.185m underspend in Adults Commissioning due to of vacancies
- £0.136m underspends on Healthy Lives Children Commissioning due to of staff vacancies.

## **Final 2019/20 Position and Changes from the Forecast**

3. The department's final spend compared to the approved budget and to the monitoring forecast is attached at Appendix E(i), summarised by service level for each Service Director. This shows:
  - a change of £0.345 million further underspend in the final position for public health services compared to the forecast
  - a reduction of around £0.088 million in the underspend in the final position for Wellbeing including Adult Social Care compared to the forecast.

This is primarily due to:

- Further underspends in staffing and demand led public health contracts and also £0.224 million contributions to Social Prescription from the specific reserve and BCF
- Various minor movements within Wellbeing services including Adult Social Care resulted in £0.088 million reduction in underspend.

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There are no budget carry forward requests made into 2020/21.

## Departmental Outlook from the 2019/20 Outturn

4. Although the department's general fund services have underspent at the end of the financial year, there continues to be cost pressures around continued growth particularly around specialist mental health and residential placements. Local providers can support the needs of some clients, however additional support is required over and above the standard service which is increasing costs. Early analysis of the early support project Side by Side is showing fewer people need to have long term care support following assessment and those that do are at a lower cost.
5. Public Health & Wellbeing department has successfully identified cost reductions to deliver the savings target needed in 2019/20 for the General Fund and has reduced Public Health spend to match the further grant reduction of £406k in 2019/20. The latest spending round announced by the Chancellor increased the Public Health Grant for 2020/21 by 4.03% however there is uncertainty about any additional costs which may also be transferred to the Council.
6. The Chancellor announced the continuation of the Improved Better Care Fund and Winter Pressure Grant in 2020-21. The Council has also applied a further 2% Council Tax precept for adult care. These will both help fund cost and demand pressures within Adults Social care, however the funding that is available will only cover the impact of inflation, provider cost increases from the rise in the national living wage, pay and pension costs increases and some demographic growth in particular clients transitioning from Children's Services. The Government has also proposed continuation of the Social Care Grant for Adults & Children's Services but the majority of this will be used to meet the ongoing pressure in Children's Social Care.
7. The overspend on SEN external transport budgets continued in 2019/20 due to of high levels of demand for the service. It has proved difficult to identify savings from the initial invest to save project and further modelling is required given the increasing number of children with SEN. However there are now new proposals that are being put forward to achieve reductions in spend. However this is a demand led and very volatile service, and continued growing demand pressure within SEN services may also impact on transport. The impact of the increased living wage, fuel costs and the level of complexity on young people's transport support is also likely to impact on future negotiations on contract prices.
8. Furthermore as a result of Covid-19 pandemic, there is an immediate and urgent requirement for all the departments in the Council to deliver further efficiencies and savings in 2020/21. The Public Health & Wellbeing department is also looking at all the possible options to reduce GF expenditure further and deliver more savings including re-prioritising the Public Health spend within the grant conditions.