

This report is public	
Quarter 1 Finance Monthly Performance Report 2025-2026	
Committee	Budget Planning Committee
Date of Committee	16 September 2025
Portfolio Holder presenting the report	Councillor Lesley McLean, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Property and Regeneration
Date Portfolio Holder agreed report	5 September 2025
Report of	Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer), Michael Furness

## Purpose of report

To report to the committee the council's financial position at the end of the financial year 2025-2026.

### 1. Recommendations

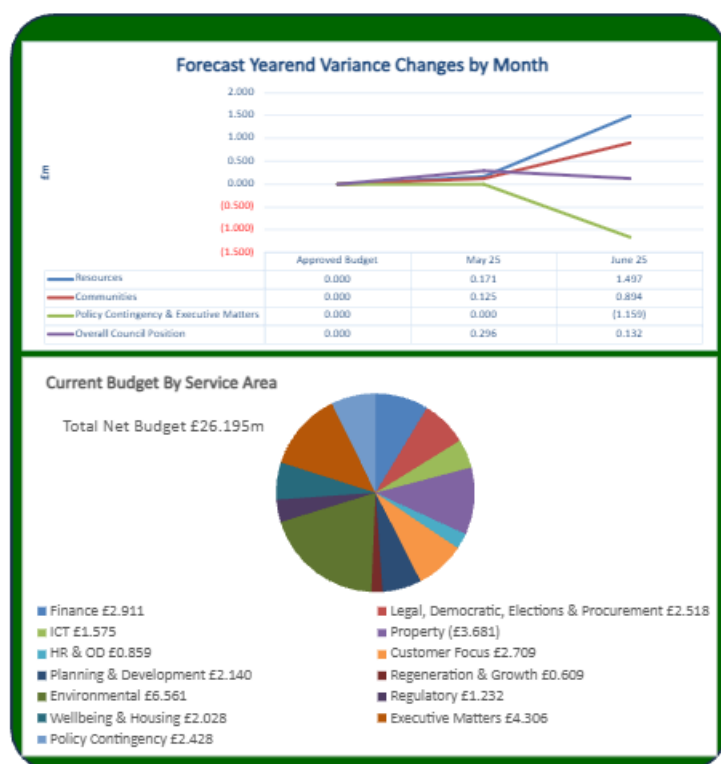
The Budget Planning Committee resolves:

- 1.1 To note the contents of this report.

### 2. Executive Summary

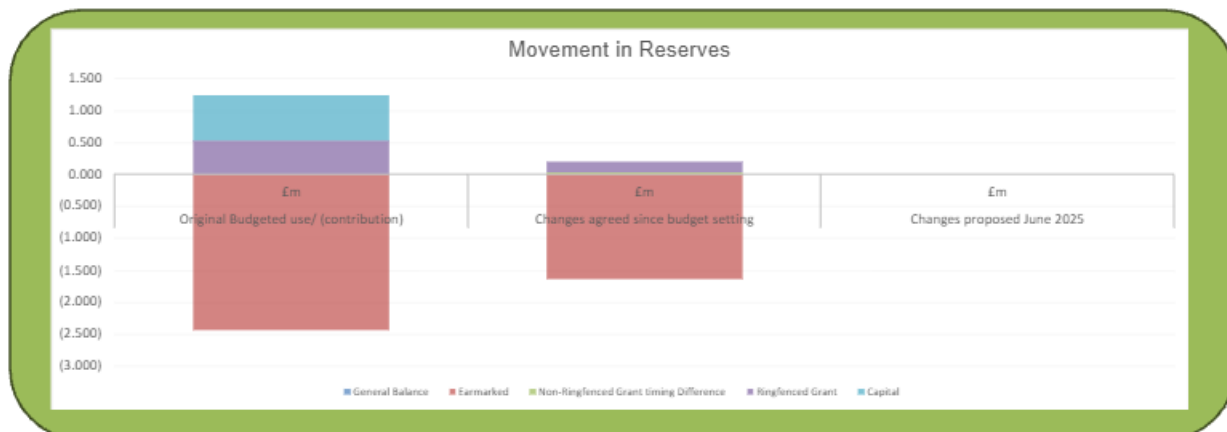
- 2.1 CDC monitors its financial position on a monthly basis. This report provides the forecast outturn position for the year end based on the position as at 30 June 2025.
- 2.2 The Finance section presents the forecast yearend revenue position for the 2025/26 financial year. It is concerning that there are significant forecast overspends identified in the Directorates for which mitigations have not been identified or proposed. The budget is the financial interpretation of the priorities of the council. Therefore, a service forecasting an overspend should always look to identify what mitigations could be put in place to reduce expenditure before expecting other services to look to reduce theirs; expenditure reductions may result in service delivery implications, which would require approval before being implemented.
- 2.3 It is critical for the council, in order to maintain strong levels of budgetary control, that it is recognised that service delivery cannot be maintained at the expense of budget management. Identifying budget mitigations is a fundamental part of budgetary control within the council and it must be applied across all areas. Whilst corporate mitigations have been partially identified for 2025/26, this does not reduce the responsibility of the services to operate within their approved budget. As a result, the council will resume discussion with those services with significant forecast overspends with the Budget Oversight Group so that mitigations can be identified and service implications considered. Where necessary mitigations will be brought before the committee for approval.

## 2.4 The summary position is provided in the dashboard:



Service Analysis														
Service	Finance	Legal, Democratic, Elections & Procurement	ICT	Property	HR & OD	Customer Focus	Planning & Development	Growth & Economy	Environmental	Regulatory	Wellbeing & Housing	Executive Matters	Policy Contingency	Total
Budget approved by Council	2.911	2.518	1.575	-3.681	0.859	2.709	2.140	0.609		6.561	1.232	2.028	4.306	26.195
Budget Adjustments approved:														
Current Budget	2.911	2.518	1.575	-3.681	0.859	2.709	2.14	0.609		6.561	1.232	2.028	4.306	26.195
Finance Overspend - Universal credit & fewer court summons delay in overtime policy	0.115				0.024									0.115
Top slice of grants & IT license costs											0.125			0.125
Environmental - gate fees, agency									0.769					0.769
Property				1.343									-1.100	0.243
IT			0.015											0.015
Additional EPR funding												-0.309		-0.309
Treasury												-0.350		-0.350
Dividend												-0.500		-0.500
Current (Under)/Overspends	0.115	0.000	0.015	1.343	0.024	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.769	0.000	0.125	-1.159	-1.100	0.132

Mitigation Table				
Service	Forecast Overspend	Potential Mitigations	Potential revised Forecast Outturn	Detail on mitigation
Finance	0.115		0.115	
Legal, Democratic, Elections & Procurement	0.000		0.000	
ICT	0.015		0.015	Filling a vacant post part way through the year
Property	1.343	(0.034)	1.309	Windfall Insurance Income for car park damages
HR & OD	0.024		0.024	
Customer Focus	0.000		0.000	
<b>Resources &amp; Transformation</b>	<b>1.497</b>	<b>-0.034</b>	<b>1.463</b>	
Planning & Development	0.000		0.000	
Regeneration & Growth	0.000		0.000	
Environmental	0.769		0.769	
Regulatory	0.000		0.000	
Wellbeing & Housing	0.125		0.125	
Communities	0.894	0.000	0.894	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.082</b>	<b>-0.034</b>	<b>2.048</b>	
<b>FUNDING</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Potential Revised Forecast (Surplus)/Deficit</b>			<b>2.048</b>	



## Implications & Impact Assessments

Implications	Commentary
<b>Finance</b>	<p>There are no financial implications associated directly with this report.</p> <p>Financial and Resource implications are detailed within sections 4.1 and 4.2 of this report. The reserves policy requires Executive to agree transfers to and from earmarked reserves and general balances during the financial year.</p> <p>It is critical for the council, in order to maintain strong levels of budgetary control, that it is recognised that service delivery cannot be maintained at the expense of budget management. Identifying budget mitigations is a fundamental part of budgetary control within the council and it must be applied across all areas. Whilst corporate mitigations have been partially identified for 2025/26, this does not reduce the responsibility of the services to operate within their approved budget. As a result, the council will resume discussion with those services with significant forecast overspends with the Budget Oversight Group so that mitigations can be identified and service implications considered. Where necessary mitigations will be brought before the committee for approval.</p> <p>Michael Furness, Assistant Director of Finance, 2 September 2025</p>
<b>Legal</b>	<p>There are no legal implications arising at this stage. However the report emphasises the importance of budget management and the need to maintain budgetary control.</p> <p>The Council has a fiduciary duty to council taxpayers, which means it must consider the prudent use of resources, including control of expenditure, financial prudence in the short and long term and the need to act in good faith in relation to compliance with statutory duties and exercising statutory powers. The Council has a statutory obligation to maintain a balanced budget and the monitoring process enables Executive to remain aware of issues and understand the actions being taken to maintain a balanced budget.</p>

	The report sets out as at June 2025 finance position for the Council as part of its fiduciary duty to implement budgetary controls and monitoring.			
	Denzil Turbervill, Head of Legal, 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025			
<b>Risk Management</b>	There are no risk implications arising directly from this report. Financial resilience risk is managed, and reported quarterly, through the Leadership Risk register.			
	Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance & Insight Team Leader, 22 August 2025			
<b>Impact Assessments</b>	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Commentary
<b>Equality Impact</b>		X		There are no equalities implications arising directly from this report.  Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance & Insight Team Leader, 22 August 2025
<b>A</b> Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		X		
<b>B</b> Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		X		
<b>Climate &amp; Environmental Impact</b>		X		N/A
<b>ICT &amp; Digital Impact</b>		X		N/A
<b>Data Impact</b>		X		N/A
<b>Procurement &amp; subsidy</b>		X		N/A
<b>Council Priorities</b>	N/A			
<b>Human Resources</b>	N/A			
<b>Property</b>	N/A			
<b>Consultation &amp; Engagement</b>	This report sets out the financial forecast for the financial year ended 31 March 2026, therefore no formal consultation or engagement is required.			

## Supporting Information

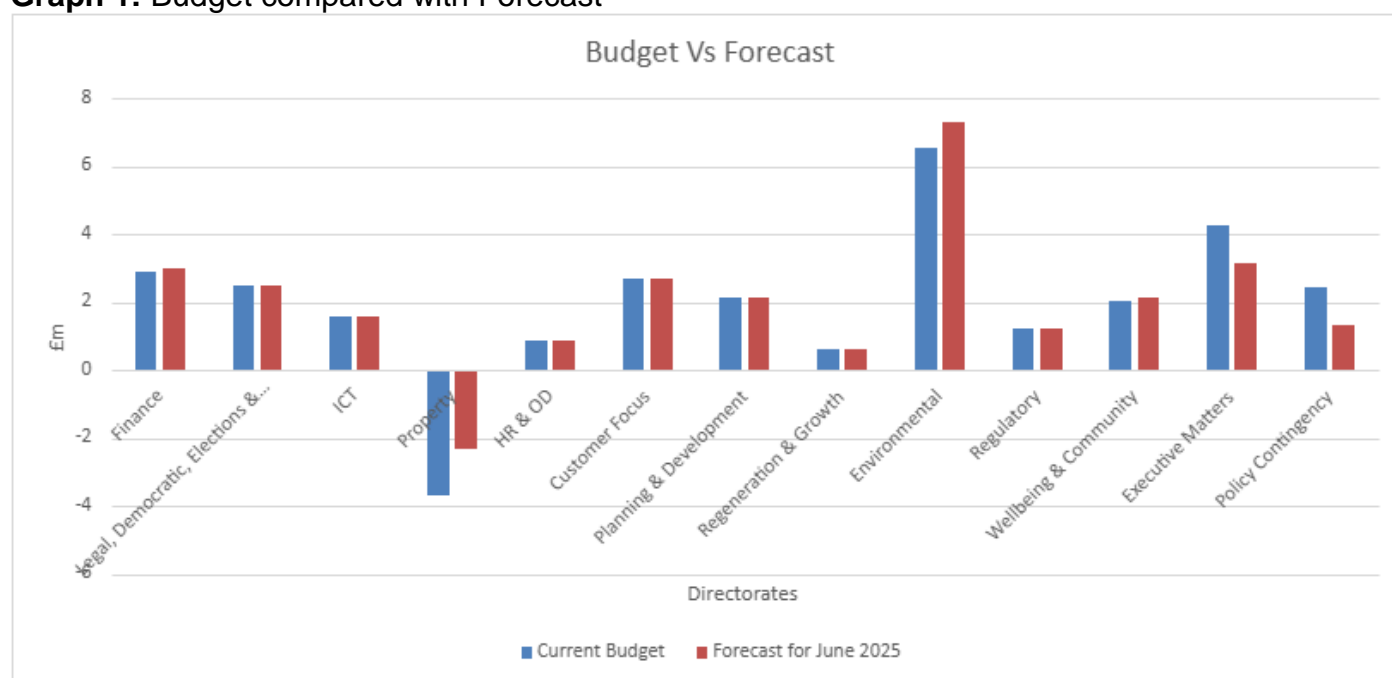
### 3. Background

- 3.1 The council actively and regularly monitors its financial position to ensure it can deliver its corporate priorities and respond effectively to emerging issues.
- 3.2 This monitoring takes place monthly for finance, so the council can identify potential issues at the earliest opportunity and put measures in place to mitigate them.

### 4. Details

- 4.1.1 As of June, directorates are forecasting an overall year end overspend of £2.391m (12.3% of net budget), a significant increase from the forecast year end position of £0.296m in May. This is driven mainly by pressures in Property (£1.343m) and Environmental Services (£0.769m). The Property overspend reflects a sharp deterioration since May. These pressures are partially offset by stable performance in most other services.
- 4.1.2 Within Executive Matters there is an underspend on treasury of £0.35m and officers believe it that given the last two years of dividends from Graven Hill it would not be imprudent to forecast a further £0.5m receipt this year. Finally, it is proposed that £1.1m of Market Risk be released from Policy Contingency to offset the remaining forecast directorate overspend until mitigations are put in place. The total forecast deficit, after funding, stands at £0.132m.
- 4.1.3 The projected outturn for services is summarised below in Table 1 and further detailed explanations for variances can be found in Appendix 2. The graph below shows the Budget compared with the forecast to the end of the financial year.

**Graph 1: Budget compared with Forecast**



**Table 1: Year End Position**

Service	Current Budget £m	June Forecast Outturn £m	June Variance (Under) / Over £m	% Variance to current budget %	May Variance (Under) / Over £m	Change since Previous (better) / worse £m	
Finance	2.911	3.026	0.115	4.0%	0.147	(0.032)	
Legal, Democratic, Elections & Procurement	2.518	2.518	0.000	0.0%	0.000	0.000	
ICT	1.575	1.590	0.015	1.0%	0.000	0.015	
Property	(3.681)	(2.338)	1.343	36.5%	0.000	1.343	
HR & OD	0.859	0.883	0.024	2.8%	0.024	0.000	
Customer Focus	2.709	2.709	0.000	0.0%	0.000	0.000	
<b>Resources &amp; Transformation</b>	<b>6.891</b>	<b>8.388</b>	<b>1.497</b>	<b>21.7%</b>	<b>0.171</b>	<b>1.326</b>	
Planning & Development	2.140	2.140	0.000	0.0%	0.000	0.000	
Regeneration & Growth	0.609	0.609	0.000	0.0%	0.000	0.000	
Environmental	6.561	7.330	0.769	11.7%	0.000	0.769	
Regulatory	1.232	1.232	0.000	0.0%	0.000	0.000	
Wellbeing & Housing	2.028	2.153	0.125	6.2%	0.125	0.000	
<b>Communities</b>	<b>12.570</b>	<b>13.464</b>	<b>0.894</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>0.125</b>	<b>0.769</b>	
<b>Subtotal for Directorates</b>	<b>19.461</b>	<b>21.852</b>	<b>2.391</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>0.296</b>	<b>2.095</b>	
Executive Matters	4.306	3.147	(1.159)	-26.9%	0.000	(1.159)	
Policy Contingency	2.428	1.328	(1.100)	-45.3%	0.000	(1.100)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.195</b>	<b>26.327</b>	<b>0.132</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.296</b>	<b>(0.164)</b>	
<b>FUNDING</b>	<b>(26.195)</b>	<b>(26.195)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
<b>Forecast (Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.132</b>	<b>0.132</b>		<b>0.296</b>	<b>(0.164)</b>	

**Note:** A positive variance is an overspend or a reduction in forecast income and a (negative) is an underspend or extra income received. Green represents an underspend and red represents a overspend for the current month's forecast.

4.1.4 Table 2 below analyses the variances to distinguish between base budget variances and variances resulting from the non-delivery of previously approved savings. The non-delivery of savings has a knock-on impact on the Medium-Term Financial Strategy as failure to deliver on an ongoing basis adds to future pressures.

**Table 2: Analysis of Variance – June 2025**

<b>Breakdown of current month forecast</b>	<b>June Forecast Outturn</b>	<b>Base Budget Over/ (Under)</b>	<b>Savings Non-Delivery</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Resources	1.497	1.451	0.046
Communities	0.894	0.894	0.000
<b>Subtotal Directorates</b>	<b>2.391</b>	<b>2.345</b>	<b>0.046</b>
Executive Matters	(1.159)	(1.159)	0.000
Policy Contingency	(1.100)	(1.100)	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.132</b>	<b>0.086</b>	<b>0.046</b>

<b>FUNDING</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>
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<b>(Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>0.132</b>	<b>0.086</b>	<b>0.046</b>
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Savings Non-Delivery as detailed above relates to:

- Removing vacant job posts where possible £0.019m
- Simplifying the job evaluation process by using one scheme instead of two – contract with Zellis not being renewed in November 2025 £0.007m
- Reducing weekday overtime rates to standard pay £0.020m

4.1.5 Table 3 below summarises the major forecast variances for the reporting period. Further details can be found in Appendix 2.

**Table 3: Top Major Variances:**

<b>Service</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>% Variance</b>
Property	3.681	1.343	36.5%
Environmental	6.561	0.769	11.7%
Wellbeing & Housing	2.028	0.125	6.2%
Finance	2.911	0.115	4.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.242</b>	<b>2.112</b>	

4.1.6 Allocations to and from reserves are made according to the Reserves Policy. There have been no further requests between 31 May and 30 June 2025.

**Table 4:** Reserves:

<b>Reserves</b>	<b>Balance 1 April 2025</b>	<b>Original Budgeted use/ (contribution)</b>	<b>Changes agreed since budget setting</b>	<b>Changes proposed June 2025</b>	<b>Balance 31 March 2026</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
General Balance	(7.853)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(7.853)
Earmarked	(31.264)	(2.444)	(1.635)	0.000	(35.343)
Non-Ringfenced	(0.033)	0.000	0.033	0.000	0.000
Grant timing Difference					
Ringfenced Grant	(1.918)	0.523	0.165	0.000	(1.230)
<b>Subtotal Revenue</b>	<b>(41.068)</b>	<b>(1.921)</b>	<b>(1.437)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(44.426)</b>
Capital*	(7.482)	0.720	0.000	0.000	(6.762)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(48.550)</b>	<b>(1.201)</b>	<b>(1.437)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(51.188)</b>

\*According to the Reserves Policy Executive are not required to approve contributions to Capital Reserves.

## 4.2 Capital

4.2.1 Table 5 below summarises the forecast spend against the full capital programme (i.e. spend across all years of the capital programme).

**Table 5:** Capital Project Forecast Outturn

<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Project Total Budget £m</b>	<b>Total Forecast Project Spend £m</b>	<b>Variance to Budget £m</b>	
Resources & Transformation	14.316	14.208	(0.108)	
Communities	33.840	27.959	(5.881)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>48.156</b>	<b>42.167</b>	<b>(5.989)</b>	

For further detail on individual schemes please see Appendix 1.

**Note:** A positive variance is an overspend or a reduction in forecast income and a (negative) is an underspend or extra income received.

Green represents an underspend and red represents a overspend for the outturn position.



**Table 6:** How the Capital Programme is financed

Financing	Prior Years' Spend £m	Profiled Spend 2025/26 £m	Profiled Spend Future Years £m	Projected Total £m
Borrowing	4.046	4.370	7.505	15.922
Capital Grants	2.560	5.112	10.062	17.733
Capital Receipts	5.213	0.062	0.000	5.275
S106 Receipts	0.213	0.924	2.099	3.237
	<b>12.032</b>	<b>10.468</b>	<b>19.666</b>	<b>42.167</b>

4.2.2 Table 7 below summarises the capital projects that are being requested to be reprofiled beyond 2025/26. The reprofiling of these projects has been reflected in Appendix 1 and in Tables 5 and 6 above.

**Table 7:** Requested Capital Budget Reprofiling

Code	Service	Project	Project Total Budget £m	Reprofiled Beyond 25/26 £m	Removed from Programme	Move to pipeline projects	Virements	Additional Capital Budget	% Change
40255	Property	Installation of Photovoltaic at CDC Property	0.079	(0.071)					-89.87%
40263	Property	Kidlington Leisure New Electrical Main	0.200	(0.020)					-10.00%
40278	Property	Development of New Land Bicester Depot	3.975	(2.541)					-63.92%
40279	Property	Spiceball Sports Centre - Solar PV Car Ports	0.177	(0.170)					-96.05%
40280	Property	Kidlington Sports Centre - Solar PV Car Ports	0.135	(0.135)					-100.00%
40281	Property	Noth Oxfordshire Academy - Solar Panels	0.018	(0.018)					-100.00%
40282	Property	Community Centre Solar Panels	0.106	(0.106)					-100.00%
40283	Property	Thorpe Lane - Solar Panels	0.034	(0.034)					-100.00%
40284	Property	Thorpe Lane Heater Replacement	0.028	(0.024)					-85.71%
40237	ICT	Council Website & Digital Service	0.250		(0.122)				-48.80%
40326	ICT	Digital Futures Programme (Business Cases Required)	0.217		(0.217)				-100.00%
40062	Regeneration & Growth	East West Railways	4.350		(4.194)				-96.41%
40216	Environmental	Street Scene Furniture and Fencing project	0.060	(0.015)					-25.00%
40218	Environmental	Depot Fuel System Renewal	0.050		(0.035)				-70.00%
40222	Environmental	Burnehyll - Bicester Country Park	0.246	(0.061)					-24.80%
40320	Environmental	Net Zero Capital Projects (Business Cases Required)	0.064			(0.064)			-100.00%
40321	Environmental	Landscape Software Upgrade	0.025		(0.025)				-100.00%
40322	Environmental	Upgrade of Street Cleansing IT System	0.025		(0.008)				-32.00%
40019	Wellbeing & Housing	Bicester Leisure Centre Extension	0.122			(0.079)			-64.75%
40251	Wellbeing & Housing	Longford Park Art	0.045	(0.045)					-100.00%
40294	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - Ambrosden Community Facility Project	0.020		(0.020)				-100.00%
40295	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - Ambrosden Indoor Sport Project	0.065		(0.065)				-100.00%
40296	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - Ambrosden Outdoor Sports	0.130		(0.130)				-100.00%
40297	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - Ardley & Fewcott Play Area Project	0.008		(0.008)				-100.00%
40300	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - Bicester Leisure Centre Extension	1.154			(1.154)			-100.00%

40301	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - Graven Hill Outdoor Sport Project	0.052		(0.052)				-100.00%
40307	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - Kidlington & Gosford Leisure Centre	0.020		(0.020)				-100.00%
40308	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - Milton Road Community Facility & Sports Pitch	0.479	(0.471)					-98.33%
40310	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - Spiceball Leisure Centre Improvements	0.014				(0.014)		-100.00%
40311	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - The Hill Improvements Project	0.050		(0.050)				-100.00%
40319	Wellbeing & Housing	Local Authority Housing Fund R2	1.641		(0.007)				-0.43%
40329	Wellbeing & Housing	Spiceball Leisure Centre Structural Beams	0.130				0.014	0.029	33.08%
40336	Wellbeing & Housing	S106 - Kingsmere Public Art	0.028	(0.028)					-100.00%
			13.997	(3.739)	(4.953)	(1.297)	0.000	0.029	

For further detail please see Appendix 1.

## 5. Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

5.1 The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: This report summarises the council's forecast financial position up to the end of Quarter 1 2025, therefore there are no alternative options to consider.

## 6 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

6.1 It is recommended that the contents of the report are noted.

### Decision Information

<b>Key Decision</b>	N/A
<b>Subject to Call in</b>	N/A
<b>If not, why not subject to call in</b>	N/A
<b>Ward(s) Affected</b>	All

### Document Information

<b>Appendices</b>	
<b>Appendix 1</b>	Capital Forecast June 2025
<b>Appendix 2</b>	Detailed Revenue Narrative on Forecast June 2025
<b>Appendix 3</b>	Virements June 2025
<b>Appendix 4</b>	Funding June 2025
<b>Background Papers</b>	N/A
<b>Reference Papers</b>	N/A

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