

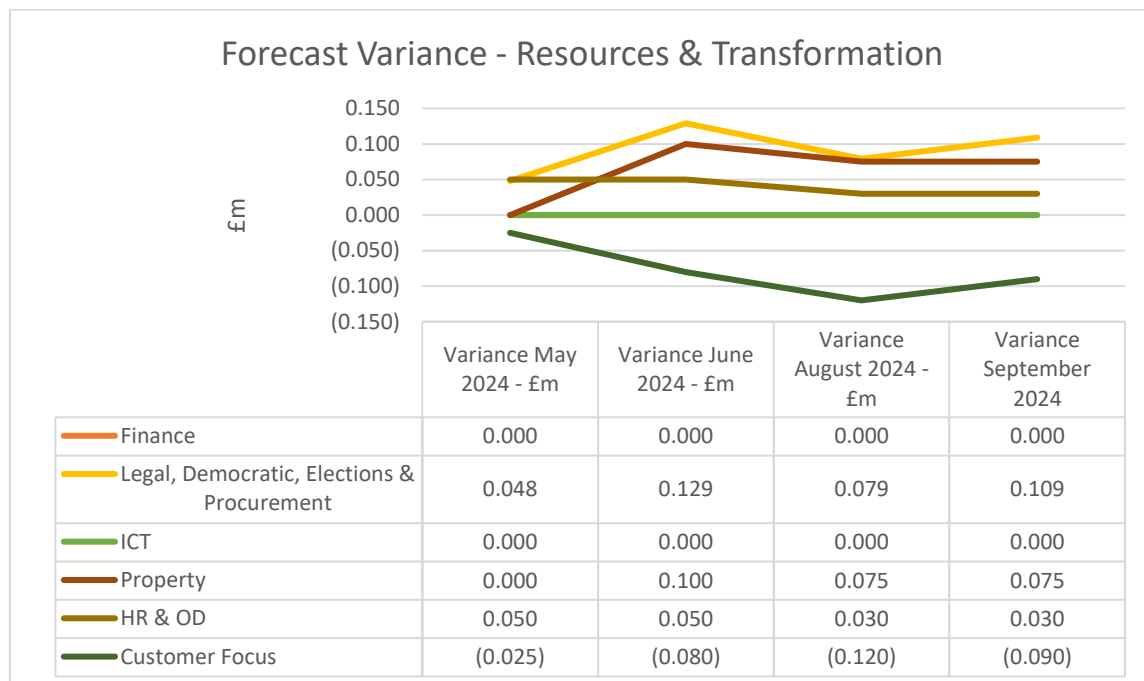
Appendix 2 - Report Details – Additional Revenue narrative

Resources & Transformation

Revenue:

Resources are forecasting £0.124m overspend against a budget of £9.801m (2.0%).

There are tight managerial controls within the resources directorate that have enabled a small forecast overspend. An understanding on the election costs is underway, and the team will work towards mitigating this further.



Finance

Variation
£0.000m

Finance is forecasting in line with budget.

Variation to August's
Forecast
£0.000m

Legal, Democratic,
Elections &
Procurement

Variation
£0.109m
Overspend

Professional support obtained through use of locum lawyers, maternity cover and other professional staff makes up the bulk of the overspend. The Monitoring Officer is responsible for securing appropriate and suitable legal advice, investigating and reporting on anything the Council does that has the potential to be an illegal action or investigating and reporting on any action that might count as maladministration. However, the service recognises that it needs to operate within its budget and will look to recruit to permanent positions as swiftly as possible. An additional point of note in regards to the legal budget is that there is a high element of unpredictability to costs which arise in dealing with legal instructions in regard to unforeseen matters arising, for which no 'ongoing' forecast and provision can be made. Whilst our risk management can seek to reduce this, it is unrealistic to assume this unplanned element can be completely eliminated.

Variation to August's
Forecast
£0.030m

£0.030m increase in staff costs, however, a permanent recruitment campaign has been implemented and legal fees are being increased in line with the law society suggested rates.

ICT

Variation
£0.000m overspend

IT are forecasting to be within budget with small overspends in supplies and services being offset by an underspend in salaries to be adjusted now that budgets are realigned for Digital and Innovation.

Variation to August's
Forecast
£0.000m

Property

Variation
£0.075m

1) £0.100m overspend at CQ remains unchanged and is due to void costs of holding vacant units and unscheduled necessary expenditure for car park lighting and other maintenance costs. Work to review contracts and market void units is continuing with the impact of reducing the overspend as the year progresses.

2) (£0.065m) in Property because of an underspend due to vacancies that will not be filled until October, admin charges generating an income, improved income from rent

reviews and lease renewals and reduced repair and maintenance costs.

3) £0.040m overspend in car parks has been reduced since last month due to lower contracts payments and because of an improvement in receipts. It is hoped this improvement in receipts will continue as the year progresses.

Variation to August's Forecast
£0.000m

Some units are under offer and lettings are expected to complete soon, thus the overspend is expected to reduce.

Customer Focus

Variation (£0.090m) underspend

Customer Focus is forecasting an underspend of (£0.090m) at year end. The bulk of this underspend is from holding on to vacancies.

Variation to August's Forecast
£0.030m

Main variation from last month is due to a drop in land charges income.

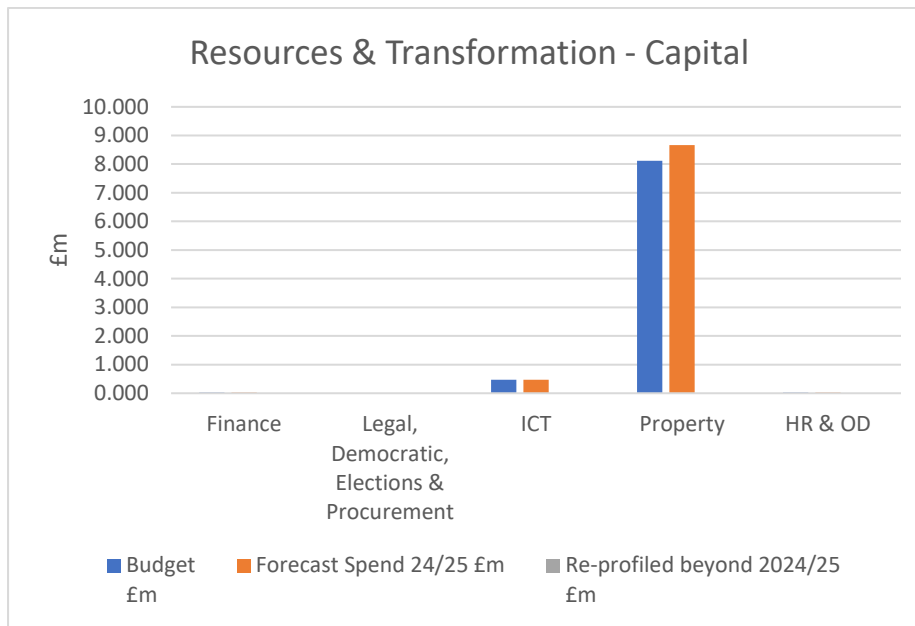
HR & OD

Variations Overspend £0.030m

Implementation of the managed payroll system has proven more economical and offered more resilience than the in-house service, however there is an anticipated overspend of £0.050m as a result of the implementation which the service is looking to mitigate with efficiencies within the HR budget. The current forecast is £0.030m overspend.

Variation to August's Forecast
£0.000m

Capital:



Service	Budget £m	Forecast Spend 24/25 £m	Re-profiled beyond 2024/25 £m	Variance to Budget £m	Prior Month Variance to Budget £m
Finance	0.020	0.020	0.000	0.000	0.000
Legal, Democratic, Elections & Procurement	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
ICT	0.472	0.472	0.000	0.000	0.000
Property	8.118	8.669	0.000	0.551	(0.038)
HR & OD	0.030	0.030	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total	8.640	9.191	0.000	0.551	(0.038)

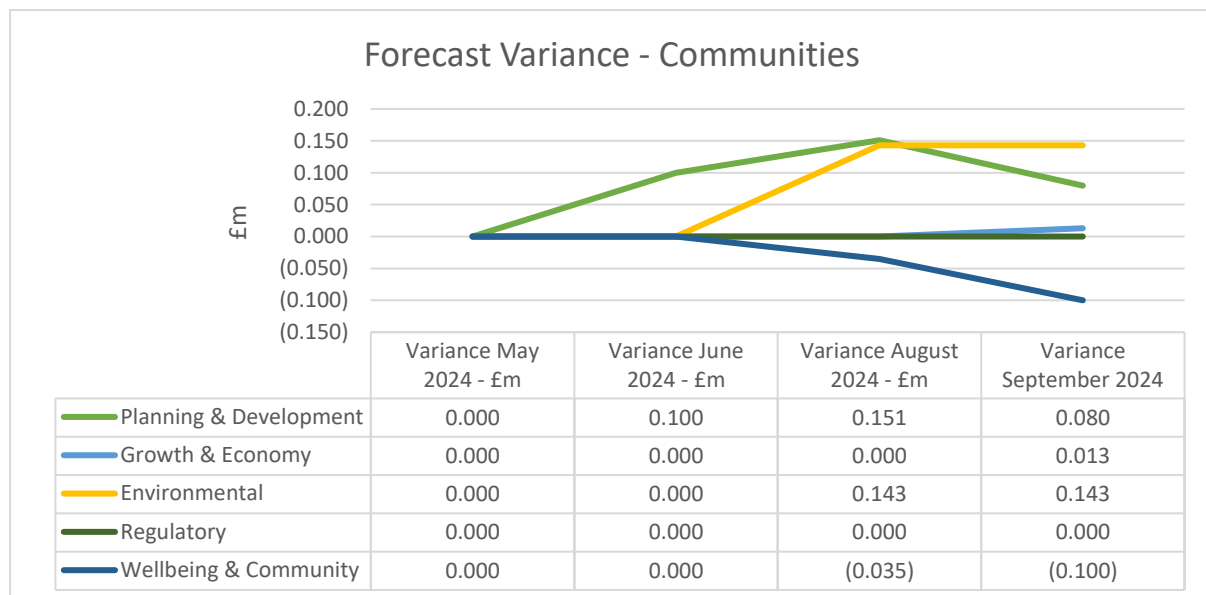
For detailed explanation and variances please see appendix 1.

Communities

Revenue:

Communities are forecasting a £0.262m overspend against a budget of £11.146m, (2.4%).

With a number of pressures emerging in the forecast to year end, the directorate leadership team has carried out a review of pressures and mitigations to contain across the Communities directorate in so far as possible. This has substantially reduced the forecast pressures to year end and will be closely monitored month by month to track progress and for any further changes.



Planning & Development

Variation
£0.080m overspend

Planning and Development is forecasting an overspend of £0.080m.

Development management has a forecast variance from budget of £0.075m. This includes a lower forecast for planning application fees for the year but higher expected income than forecast from Planning Performance Agreements.

Planning Policy, Conservation & Design and Building Control are close to budget (£0.001m and £0.002m over respectively).

Variation to August's Forecast

The main change since last month is the forecast that income from Planning Performance Agreements will be

(£0.071m)

circa (£0.076m) higher at year end than previously forecast.

There is active monitoring of costs relative to income to continue to put downward pressure on the forecast overspend.

Growth & Economy

Variation
£0.013m Overspend

Growth and Economy are predicting a £0.013m overspend. Delivery continues in relation to the Shared Prosperity Funding commitments, alongside the Bicester Garden Town programme and work in Banbury. Additional temporary resource has been secured for the development of a programme for Kidlington and to interim provide project management capacity.

Variation to August's
Forecast
£0.013m

Environmental

Variation
£0.143m overspend

The forecasted pressure of £0.143m within Environmental Services is primarily due to continued staffing pressures and agency costs within Waste and Recycling, this is being closely monitored and managed. These costs are being partly offset by additional income received through the garden waste subscriptions.

The service is looking at all options to mitigate the overspend.

Variation to August's
Forecast
£0.000m

The service is looking at all options to mitigate the overspend including all non-recruitment to vacant posts within the service and closer joint working and contracts with other Oxfordshire councils.

Regulatory

Variation
£0.000m

Regulatory Services and Community Safety are forecasting a balanced outturn.

Variation to August's
Forecast
£0.000m

Wellbeing & Housing

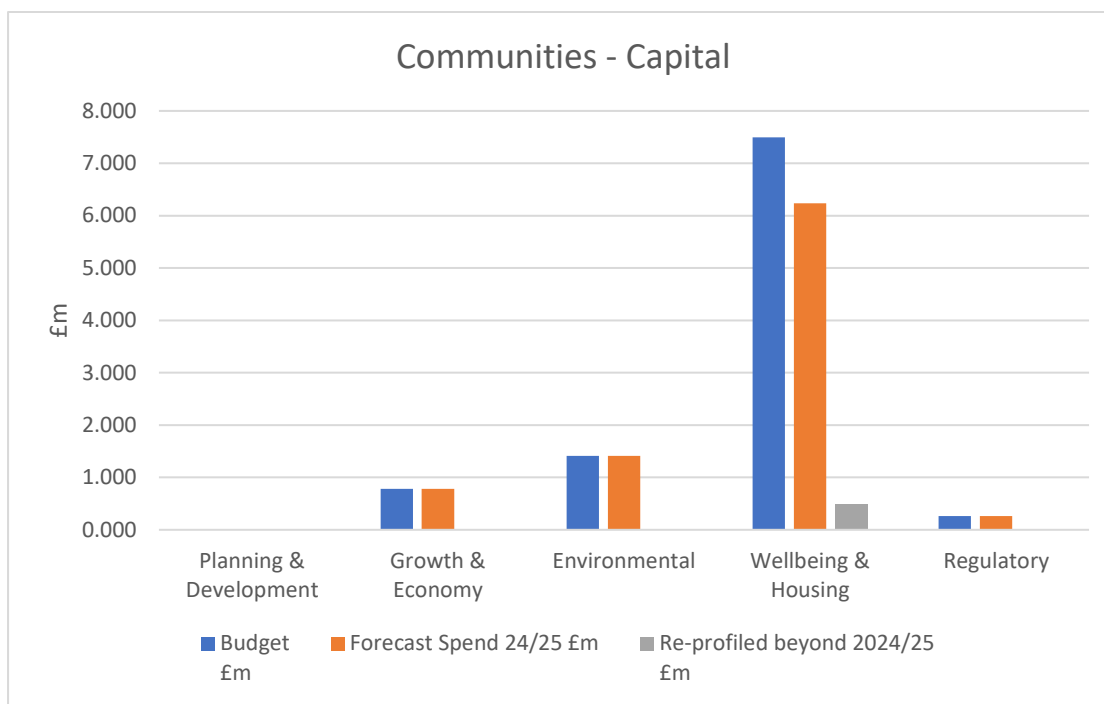
Variation
(£0.100m)
underspend

Services continue to actively manage pressures arising from inflation and unexpected service demands typical of operating front line services. The improved position is due to improved grant receipts and management of external funds to support provision continuing at agreed levels.

Variation to August's
Forecast
(£0.065m)

Pressures have been defrayed through operational efficiency and effective use of grants. Previous mitigations have been successful in containing the previous forecasted overspend.

Capital:



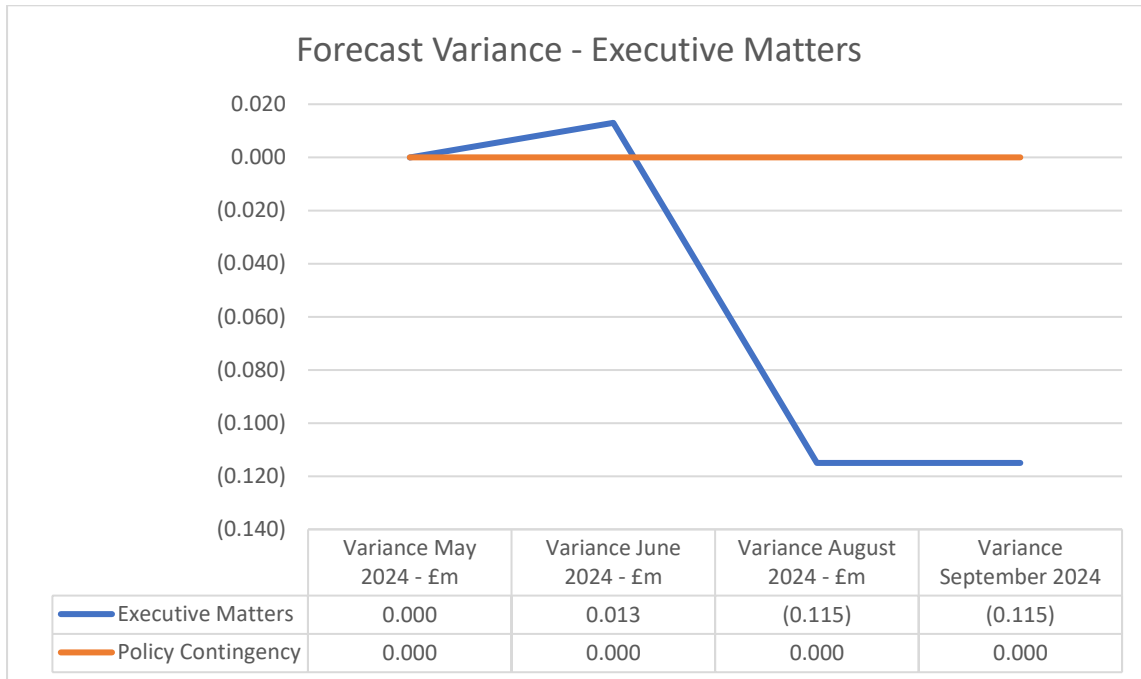
Service	Budget £m	Forecast Spend 24/25 £m	Re- profiled beyond 2024/25 £m	Variance to Budget £m	Prior Month Variance to Budget £m
Planning & Development	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Growth & Economy	0.780	0.780	0.000	0.000	0.000
Environmental	1.410	1.410	0.000	0.000	0.000
Wellbeing & Housing	7.495	6.236	0.481	(0.778)	(0.794)
Regulatory	0.265	0.265	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total	9.950	8.691	0.481	(0.778)	(0.794)

For detailed explanation and variances please see appendix 1.

Executive Matters

Revenue:

Executive Matters is reporting a (£0.115m) underspend against the budget of £4.293m (-2.7%).



Executive Matters

Variation
(£0.115m) underspend

Executive Matters are currently forecasting an over recovery of interest of (£0.115m).

Variation to August's
Forecast
(£0.000m)

Policy Contingency

Policy Contingency is forecasting on target with a budget of £3.827m, (0.00%)

Policy Contingency

Variation
(£0.000m)

Policy Contingency are currently forecasting on budget.

Variation to August's
Forecast
£0.000m
