

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

WEDNESDAY 23 JUNE 2004 at 10.00am

Agenda Item No.

7

REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITOR TO 29 FEBRUARY 2004

Report of Director of Children, Schools & Families and the Finance Director

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Executive Members: Robert Gordon, Executive Member for Education
Jane Pitman, Executive Member for Children's Services

1. Purpose of report

To enable the Committee to identify if there are any issues arising from the budget monitor that they wish to scrutinise.

2. Summary

The revenue budget projected overspend has fallen from £6.509m as reported for April to December 2003 to £6.386m based on April to February 2004. Movements are shown in Section 2 of this report.

The capital forecast underspend has remained at £9.2m over the same period, as shown in Section 2.

3. Conclusion

Members are asked to note the variations and consider if there are any items arising out of the budget monitor report which should be subject of further scrutiny.

1. Background

- 1.1 Each area of the CSF budget is allocated to a named manager who has responsibility for ensuring that the services are delivered within the available funds. At the end of each month, from May onwards, a report is prepared that sets out any changes in the budget, predicted variances, virement and carry forward proposals and any other items of budgetary concern.
- 1.2 Copies of the report are sent to Group Sokesmen and to Corporate Finance who produce periodic summary reports that are considered by Cabinet.
- 1.3 At their meeting on 12 May, the Scrutiny Co-ordination Panel resolved: *"That the regular Budget Monitor and 'Traffic Light' Monitor reports be included on the agenda of Scrutiny Committees on the basis that the reports are for noting not for discussion and to enable the Committees to identify issues for scrutiny."*
- 1.4 Copies of the reports produced to the end of February 2004 are attached for consideration as follows:

Revenue Monitor

Appendix 1 (Summary Table) and

Appendix 2 (Detailed Analysis)

Capital Monitor

Appendix 3 (Summary Table) and

Appendix 4 (Detailed Analysis)

2. Financial Implications

2.1 Movements in Revenue Monitor

	£'000k	Appendix 2 Para Ref
SEN Home to School Transport	(76)	2.1.3
Additional spend from SSI Inspection	100	2.1.20
Child Protection	(141)	?
IT Equipment and Administrative Costs	412	2.1.1.5
Child and Adolescent Mental Health	106	2.1.6
Units and Bases	(155)	?
Variations below £50k	<u>(369)</u>	
TOTAL	<u><u>(123)</u></u>	

2.2 Movements in Capital Monitor

There are no movements to report.

3. Access to Service Implications

No access to service implications have been identified.

Background material referred to by the author while compiling this report:

Children & Families Panel report 11 December 2003: Out of County Placements