#### **Report of the Director of Finance**

#### **County Council Financial Outturn**

- 1. This report presents the final position for both revenue and capital budgets at the end of the 2022/23 financial year.
- 2. The final outturn position is an overspend of £11.294m. The quarter 3 forecast was an overspend of £11.635m.
- 3. This final outturn position reflects pressures reported during the year relating to inflation and increasing demand in Children's Services. It also reflects the previously reported position relating to contributing to reserves to fund pressures and risks arising in future years. The Contingency budget has been fully spent this year, with amounts allocated to Children's Services and to fund the pay award.
- 4. The capital programme shows total expenditure of £91.224m. This reflects our continued investment in school places, highways, and economic regeneration.
- 5. A detailed breakdown of the revenue position can be found in **Appendix 5** with the capital position shown in **Appendix 6**.
- 6. The following paragraphs contain a key financial summary of how each of the portfolio areas have performed during the year.

7. Health & Care £26,000 saving

8. Public Health & Prevention

Breakeven

- 9. Adults Public Health service has underspent by £2.181m which has been transferred to the Public Health reserve at the financial year end. Some of this funding is earmarked for projects in the new financial year including sexual health expansion project, oral health, detox programme and for the adults' social worker pilot. The remainder will contribute to contingency against the risks that the Public Health ring fenced grant is reduced in future years.
- 10. The Sexual Health budgets have underspent by £0.452m. The main reasons for this position are a slight underspend on contracts of £80,000 along with a reduction in activity which has been lower than expected, particularly on out of area contracts.

- 11. A project working with GPs on expanding sexual health programmes has been delayed, results in an additional underspend of £0.107m and this work is planned for delivery in the new financial year.
- 12. Healthy Communities budgets have underspent by £0.543m. There is an underspend of £73,000 against the core contract along with a reduction in Payment by Results contracts of £0.471m as the anticipated outcomes from the programme have not been delivered, resulting in a reduction in costs.
- 13. Funding of £0.189m was received late in the financial year for the adult's social worker pilot. Given the timing of the allocation, this has not been spent in year and expenditure has been planned for 2023/24.
- 14. There was a contingency budget of £0.749m held in Public Health, of which £0.193m was utilised for Supportive Communities expenditure, leaving a balance of £0.553m which has not been required.
- 15. There were also miscellaneous underspends of £0.137m across the services.
- 16. Adult Social Care & Safeguarding

Breakeven

- 17. There were vacancies in the Adults Learning Disability Team (ALDT) throughout the year which led to a saving of £0.9m. The vacancies will be filled next year to ensure adequate capacity to complete assessments and reviews in a timely way.
- 18. Savings from staffing vacancies, and general expenditure budgets across Adult Social Work & Safeguarding, First Contact and Adults Social Care have resulted in savings of £1.256m. There was a £1.531m overspend for the Section 75 Agreement with the Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT). This was due to the 2022/23 NHS pay award being higher than budgeted and some unbudgeted agency costs being incurred. The outturn is higher than previously forecast due to a further NHS pay deal being offered to NHS staff at the end of March in an attempt to settle the on going pay dispute. Other variances amount to a saving of £0.541m.
- 19. In-House Provider Services
- 20. Learning Disability In-House provider services ended the year underspent by £0.462. This is largely due to vacancies being held in the residential services during the restructure, savings made in the Complex Needs Service and savings on the training budget. In addition, there was a saving of £1.532m against the budget for the new Independence At Home (IAH) Service as this

- only became operational in the final quarter of the year and it will take time for it to build up to full capacity. The balance has been allocated to reserves.
- 21. The saving position for In-House Provider Services has improved from a forecast of £1.656m at quarter 3 to an actual saving of £1.994m, an increase of £0.338m. In the quarter 3 report it was proposed that £3.405m would be contributed to reserves to mitigate pressures as set out below.
- 22. Care Commissioning

£26,000 saving

- 23. The final outturn for the Older People's placement budget is a saving of £9.638m compared to the forecast of £6.096m reported at quarter 4. The improvement from the quarter 4 position has arisen mainly from additional client income. Contributions have increased by £3.575m mainly from nursing care and domiciliary care services.
- 24. The number of residential and nursing placements have increased throughout the year, however demand has been managed effectively and the rate of increase of placements has been maintained below the demand resulting from the growing older population. This has been offset to some degree by continuing price pressures, which have been exacerbated by the Government's Fair Cost of Care exercise. The saving target for Block Booked Beds was not delivered in full. However, additional block booked beds are being commissioned and existing capacity is monitored carefully to ensure effective utilisation. These factors have resulted in a final underspend on residential and nursing placements of £1.692m. Additional funding was built into the 2022/23 budget for home care for Older People, recognising the changing demography. Challenges with recruitment and retention have limited the rate at which providers can increase capacity, although this picked up in the second half of the year with a significant increase in home care volumes and a concomitant decrease in the number of people waiting for home care. This has resulted in a final underspend on home care of £3.697m, a slight improvement from the £3.590m previously reported. All other Older People's savings have been delivered in full.
- 25. The final position on Older People's client income is an over achievement against budget of £4.606m. This in an increase of £3.576m compared to the position at quarter 4. In particular, we have seen a significant increase in income from nursing placements in addition to increased client contributions from home care. Income levels for other services remained broadly in line with quarter 4.

- 26. Other variances in the Older People budget resulted in an overspend of £0.357m.
- 27. The final outturn for the Physical Disabilities budget is a saving of £0.745m. This is an improvement from the £0.245m overspend reported at quarter 4. The main reason for this change is a lower number of service users in residential and nursing placements than planned, resulting in £0.907m reduction in costs. The final saving against Physical Disabilities residential and nursing placements budgets is £0.856m.
- 28. Other variances in the Physical Disabilities budget result in an overspend of £0.111m.
- 29. The Learning Disability placement budget has overspent by £0.611m. Residential and Supported Living placement costs rose during the year due to an increase in referrals which led to overspends against these budgets and there was also a growth in the cost of Direct Payments. These pressures were partially offset by additional health income and savings in Homecare, Day Opportunities and Replacement Care services. The Council reached a cost sharing agreement with NHS partners in respect of the placement costs of people discharged as part of the Transforming Care Partnership (TCP) which resulted in savings. The Learning Disability MTFS savings were also delivered in full.
- 30. The Mental Health budget was underspent by £0.1m with a small underspend on both the contracts and the placements budgets. This is better than forecast earlier in the year when overspends were reported. The improvement is largely due to additional NHS income in the final quarter of the year. There has however been growth in nursing and residential placements as well as an increase in the number of people benefitting from receiving a direct payment during the year. The placement budget was increased in recognition of the growth in placement costs during the last two years but there remains a risk of further increases in referrals following the Covid pandemic.
- 31. The Carers budget has underspent by £0.463m, the Advocacy budget by £0.188m and the Prisoners budget by £0.255m. Variances for these services have been forecast during the year and are due to lower activity than budgeted. There is a small overspend of £12,000 due to some additional temporary commissioning costs which is slightly less than previously forecast.
- 32. Other variances amount to a saving of £1.633m.
- 33. In previous reports a strategy of ensuring sufficient sums are contained in earmarked reserves to address pressures over the MTFS period has been

reported. These pressures are arising from activities involved in managing the care market, the significant impact of inflation on service delivery and demand led pressures in adults services. It was agreed to make suitable provision to reserves depending on the final outturn position. Sums have been transferred from Care Commissioning to reserves as follows –

- £5m has been added to the Corporate Inflation Reserve as a result of inflation and the Covid pandemic significantly increasing care providers cost which are reflected in the prices offered to the council.
- £19.173m will be added to the Health & Care Risk Reserve to mitigate the financial risk posed by the Adults Social Care Reforms and pressures associated with the care market including any pressures relating to the fee review exercise to determine 2023/24 fee rates. Although the funding reforms have been delayed until October 2023, adults social care assurance will produce additional costs not factored into the MTFS and the 'fair cost of care' policy is already exacerbating the increase in care providers' costs. Note that this was made possible in part by the use of Contain Outbreak Management Fund grant funding in line with conditions to fund a proportion of the 2022/23 fee uplift, recognising that the Council awarded a higher than usual uplift to support care providers with Covid related costs. The provision of reserves to lessen the risk around Adult Social Care Reforms is a short, non-recurrent measure and does not address the underlying and on-going impact. The Council, along with other stakeholders, will continue to lobby the Government to request that the reforms are fully funded.

#### 34. Covid Funding

- 35. There has been £19.169m of Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) brought forward to 2022/23 and £9.465m has been spent in year resulting in a carry forward to 2023/24 (in line with grant conditions and guidance from UKHSA) of £9.704m. The quarter 4 COMF return has been submitted, setting out the planned spend for 2023/24 of £5.802m for purposes of Covid control and Covid recovery, including mitigating the impact of Covid on health and health inequalities in Staffordshire's population and highlighting that £3.902m will remain unspent at the end of the year. There is a risk that this will be clawed back at that time as it is not clear from recent guidance whether carry forward to future years will be permissible.
- 36. Better Care Fund 2022/23
- 37. Following discussions in February's Joint Commissioning Board (JCB), an amendment was made to the 2022/23 BCF plan to include an additional

- £11.6m of non-recurrent funding to improve and sustain health and social care services in Staffordshire.
- 38. This amendment was in line with permissions in the BCF guidance and was agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) chairs in line with their delegated approval, ICBs, SCC and West Midlands BCF manager. Subsequently, a further £0.5m of funding was identified by the ICB to contribute to the schemes listed in the table below, resulting in a total transfer value of £12.1m.

Expenditure by Service	£m
Home First Reablement	6.0
Home First growth / Additional Activity	1.9
Additional Beds to support closures due to Covid	2.6
Care Home Beds to support Discharge to Assess	1.6
Total	12.1

- 39. The council and the ICB are required to complete an end of year template to report on progress made in 2022/23 across the BCF schemes and the required metrics. The Adult Social Care Discharge Fund end of year information is required by 23<sup>rd</sup> May.
- 40. Better Care Fund 2023/25
- 41. The 2023/25 BCF Policy Framework and accompanying guidance was issued on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023. This requires the submission of BCF plans by 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023, to include a narrative plan and an expenditure template, capacity and demand, as well as ambitions and delivery plans for BCF metrics, signed off by the HWB. Plans are expected to be assured by 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
- 42. Work has commenced on drafting the BCF plans for submission, the working assumption is that all existing BCF schemes will continue with relevant inflationary uplifts.
- 43. The March Health and Wellbeing board (HWB) have delegated authority to the HWB chairs to approve all plans. Cabinet approved on the 19<sup>th</sup> April for the Director of Health and Care to enter into a legal agreement under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006 in order to implement the 2023/25 BCF plans once drafted and approved by the Council and the ICB. The ICB will require the Section 75 to be agreed through the ICB governance.

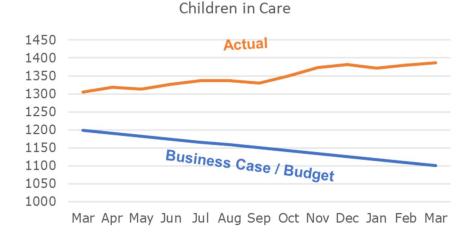
#### 44. Families & Communities

£11.948 overspend

45. Children's Services

£12.880m overspend

- 46. The final outturn for Children's Services is an overspend of £12.9m, which is £1m higher than previously forecast due to additional one off costs now prudently brought in for historic legal costs currently working through the court system.
- 47. The number of Children in Care (CiC) has increased from the start of the year, and, at the end of March stands at 1,387 (including 109 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC), that has more than doubled in the last 6 months). This is significantly removed from the approved business case and underlying assumptions that make up the existing budget and MTFS.



- 48. The service continues to deliver on the transformation programme and to embed the new structure across our services. However progress has been hindered by continuing recruitment and retention problems. This has caused not only an over reliance on more expensive agency support for essential service delivery (leading to a forecast overspend of £2.9m across the District structure) but also some inconsistency of support and capacity. Proposals have been worked up to address these concerns and have been approved as part of the MTFS going forward.
- 49. There are mitigating savings of £0.2m due to additional UASC grant but also allowing for an anticipated increase in the required provision for bad debts of £0.5m and additional historic legal costs of £1m, there is an underlying overspend of £19.9m for Childrens Services.
- 50. As previously reported, an allocation of £6m has been provided from the Corporate Contingency budget and a further £1m earmarked from other one

off corporate resources towards the rising costs of inflation, reducing the overspend to £12.9m

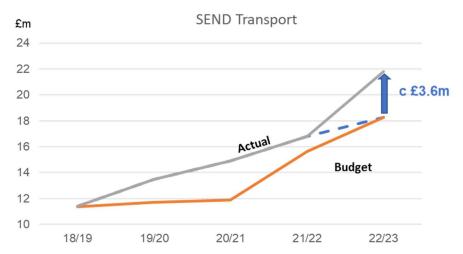
51. Children's Public Health

Breakeven

- 52. There is a saving of £0.164m for the service, as a ringfenced grant this balance has been transferred to reserves to be used for Public Health related services going forward.
- 53. This saving is mainly due to reduction in costs associated with smoking in pregnancy service and a reduction in demand, a saving on the 0-19 children's contract with MPFT and a saving against the breastfeeding service due to initial operational delays.
- 54. Education Services

£0.151m saving

- 55. Education Services has a saving of £0.151m, which is no change from the position previously reported.
- 56. The most significant budget pressure within the service is SEND transport which is £3.6m overspent as a result of increasing demand due to the rise in Education and Health Care Plan's (EHCPs). This has been exacerbated by unprecedented rises in inflation, in particular fuel.

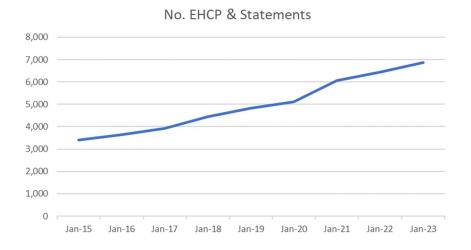


57. This pressure has been mitigated this year through other one-off contributions from Corporate Contingency and reserves, however there is a risk that, while significant additional resource has been provided in the MTFS for 2023/24, that continuing rises in demand and on going inflationary pressures could lead to further pressures going forward. A review of SEND transport is being implemented to identify any actions that may be taken to mitigate the existing demand and costs as far as possible.

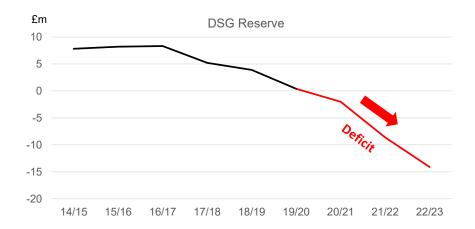
- 58. There are other small savings across the service, mainly historic teacher pension contributions, that lead to the overall saving of £0.1m.
- 59. SEND High Needs Block

£8.2m overspend

60. The High Needs Block is overspent by £9.1m and reflects continuing growing demand for SEND support. This is impacting across all areas but especially the Independent sector with numbers now double what they were just three years ago – and given the more expensive placement costs, this is by some way the largest budget pressure for the High Needs Block.



- 61. Staffordshire County Council is not alone in this difficult financial predicament, it is a position shared by the majority of Councils across the sector. The Government has put in place a 'statutory override' requiring that accumulated DSG deficits should remain ringfenced separate to the Councils other reserves and that this has been extended through to the end of 2025/26.
- 62. Accordingly, this overspend will be charged against the DSG reserve which at the end of 2021/22 was already £8.6m in deficit. Given the overspend in 2022/23, this deficit has increased to £14.2m after allowing for other transfers from the Early Years Block, Central Block and most significantly surplus growth fund contributions as approved by the school's forum. This is consistent with the forecast DSG deficit previously reported which concludes that the deficit could reach circa £80m by 2026/27.



#### 63. Wellbeing & Partnerships

£0.768m saving

- 64. The service has an outturn saving position of £0.8m. This is in line with the position previously reports and largely reflects the fact that existing staff were utilised to respond and administer the government funded Afghan resettlement 'Bridging Accommodation' programme and there are covered in the staffing budget.
- 65. There are also other small savings across the service totalling £0.1m as a result of one off staff vacancies and associated service running costs, most significantly within the Early Years service.

#### 66. Economy, Infrastructure & Skills

£0.252m saving

67. Business & Enterprise

£0.141m saving

- 68. The outturn for the service is a saving of £0.141m, broadly in line with the forecasts at quarter 3 and 4. This includes a provision of £0.2m for future work around strategic corridors in the next few years. The main reason for this underspend is a slippage on Enterprise Centres projects and a saving on County Farms from temporary staff vacancies.
- 69. Infrastructure & Highways

£48,000 overspend

- 70. The final position for the services is a small overspend, although there are various overspends and savings across the budget area. This is similar to the position reported at quarter 3 and 4.
- 71. A £0.2m saving on vacancies in the Community Infrastructure area is offset by an income budget pressure in the Highways Lab, pressure on the land charges budget within Sustainable Development and an increase of £50,000 to the bad debt provision in the Infrastructure & Highways area.

- 72. The outturn position includes transferring the underspend of highways transformation monies into reserves to use on priority work in the early part of 2023/24. It also includes transferring the £0.7m balance from the additional revenue inflation allocation into 2023/24 to protect against further inflationary pressures that are expected in future years, as the situation around inflation and material supplies remains challenging.
- 73. Transport, Connectivity & Waste

£10,000 saving

- 74. The outturn for Transport and Connectivity area is an overspend of £0.218m, this is a similar position reported at quarter 3 and 4.
- 75. This position includes making a provision of £0.720m in the Concessionary Fares budget to mitigate expected risks in this area in 2023/24. In October, we changed our payments to actual patronage levels rather than pre-pandemic. This was following Department for Transport (DfT) guidance, but future government directives could change again and the impact of the DfT toolkit remains unclear. It is also likely that any underspends due to this would need to be ring fenced to be used to support the bus network in future years.
- 76. In other budget areas within Transport, the effect of inflationary pressures of circa £600k (along with the rising fuel costs) has been felt. Terminated contracts that have had to be renewed at short notice are coming in at much higher costs which is contributing to the overall overspend position. These pressures will be monitored closely to understand the impact in future years.
- 77. The Sustainability and Waste area has finished the financial year with a saving of £0.228m. This includes the delivery of the £0.6m MTFS saving for Green Waste recycling credits.
- 78. There is a small overspend within the Woodfuels budget area. This business unit has been impacted by increased delivery costs due to the diesel price increase and an increase in raw material costs due to global availability of resources impacted by the raw in Ukraine.
- 79. The saving against the Waste budgets at the outturn is largely due to strong commercial management of available waste capacity and HWRC material off-takers. This is offset by a £1.025m provision for Hanford re-procurement costs expected in 2023/24 as well as a provision towards the required Waste to Resources (W2R) plant cost which is in response to changes in emissions legislations.

- 80. Skills £0.113m saving
- 81. The service has a saving of £0.113m which is similar to the position reported at quarter 4. The main reasons for this saving are staff costs being recovered from projects such as Multiply, Staffordshire Means Back to Business and SEND Internships
- 82. Culture, Rural & Safer Communities

£0.136m saving

- 83. The service has a saving of £0.136m which is a slightly improved position from that reported at quarter 4.
- 84. There is a saving of £78,000 for Culture & Communities due to savings in staffing structures and savings against the resources budget offset by the under-recovery of income post Covid. This position includes a £0.3m provision in the Libraries area for future refurbishment works and additional door counters that are required in 2023/24.
- 85. The Rural service has an overspend of £49,000 due to one-off tribunal and legal costs, post structure set up costs and an underachievement of income, offset slightly by staffing savings.
- 86. The Safer Communities service has a saving of £0.107m due to an agreed reduction in charges with Stoke-on-Trent City Council in the Coroners area.
- 87. EI&S Business Support

£0.1m overspend

88. The service has an overspend of £0.1m which is broadly in line with the position reported at quarter 4. This overspend is due to an increase in the bad debts provision.

#### 89. Corporate Services

£0.128m saving

- 90. The final outturn for the service is a small saving of £0.128m. This is similar to the quarter 4 forecast position of £0.117m.
- 91. There are a number of savings due to vacancies across Corporate Services along with additional income in Registrars due to the higher number of weddings that have been booked after all Covid restrictions were lifted. These have been offset by making provision for known commitments in 2023/24 around the Corporate File Plan and the Annual Leave Purchase Scheme. This also allows investment into the Business Support and wider Corporate Service areas.

92. The outturn position includes the delivery of the £0.460m Property Rationalisation MTFS saving and an increase of £0.3m to the bad debt provision.

93. Finance £38,000 saving

- 94. Finance has moved out of Corporate Services and is its own stand-alone directorate. This directorate includes Corporate Finance, Decision Making Support, Accounting Services, Treasury and Pensions, Audit, and Adults and Children's Financial Services.
- 95. Finance has finished the 2022/23 financial year with a small underspend of £38,000. This includes one-off additional income of £0.1m for staff recharges to capital projects as well as small savings on salary budgets due to in year vacancies. The outturn position includes a provision for known commitments on the Adults and Childrens Financial Services Transformation programme.

#### 96. Centrally Controlled Items

£0.210m saving

97. Capital Financing

£30,000 saving

- 98. As interest rates have risen during the year, this led to increased income from investments which were not included when the budget was set in February 2022. This additional income has been retained in reserves in order to fund investments in services in 2023/24 and future years.
- 99. Pooled Buildings and Insurances

£0.412m Overspend

- 100. The outturn for Pooled Buildings is £0.412m overspent. This overspend was forecast and is a result of the increasing gas and energy prices that have continued to rise as a result of global events. The position on gas is £0.240m overspent which is lower than forecast previously largely because of a change in usage over the winter months. There is also a £0.710m overspend on the electricity budget offset by using £0.450m of remaining contingency budget in 2022/23, as prices continue to rise in this area. Finance are working closely with the service to forecast what might happen with energy prices in 2023/24 and future years, as they continue to be volatile.
- 101. The outturn for Landlords Repairs and Maintenance is break-even. This includes a provision of £0.850m for scheduled work that has slipped into 2023/24 as schemes funded from remaining Covid grants were prioritised.

#### 102. Nexxus

103. Recruitment and retention problems have continued, affecting the ability to deliver the full volume contracted services which has impacted profitability, this has impacted particularly on delivery of reablement. This has also led to a reliance on agency staff which has increased the costs of the service. Steps are being taken to improve the profitability of Nexxus in 2023/24 including delivery of new extra care and learning disability services.

# 104. Capital Outturn

- 105. Appendix 6 compares the final outturn for capital expenditure (£91.2m) to the forecast position at quarter 4 (£112.2m). In addition, the appendix also details how the Capital Programme has been financed. This includes the use of £18.4m of borrowing for 2022/23.
- 106. The key reasons for the change in the Capital Programme are set out in the following paragraphs:

#### 107. Health & Care

Spend £42,000

108. The final position is spend of £42,000, a reduction of £0.345m. This is mainly due to the Hawthorn House scheme being amended and reprofiled to minimise disruption to residents.

#### 109. Families & Communities

Spend £22.107m

110. Vulnerable Children

Spend £0.803m

- 111. There has been an increase of £27,000 since the previous report. This is due to a slight increase in costs of In-House Residential Pilot scheme and In House Children's Home.
- 112. Maintained Schools

Spend £21.263m

113. There has been a decrease of £9.2m for Schools Build and Expansion works mainly due to the rephasing of £5m unallocated basic needs funding into 2023/24 and beyond. There has also been slippage on a number of those approved programmes, most significantly – St. Leonards Primary School of £1m, Dean Slade of £0.6m, Henhurst Ridge of £0.5m, Scienta Reach 2 of £0.3m and Netherstowe High of £0.2m.

114. There has been a decrease of £3.9m on Schools Maintenance and Conditions and special programmes, mainly due to rephasing £2.9m of unallocated funding into 2023/24. There has also been slippage across a number of projects including £0.1m for each of Five Ways Primary, Tillington Manor Primary, Tower View Primary, Blythe Bridge Primary and West Hill Primary.

#### 115. Economy, Infrastructure & Skills

Spend £64.098m

116. Highways Schemes

Spend £59.643m

- 117. There has been a reduction of £4.382m since the quarter 4 report. This reduction is due to rephasing the budget for SWAR into 2023/24 totalling £0.751m, slippage of £1.8m on Carriageways investments, and Minor Carriageways slippage of £2.7m. There have been other movements for Traffic Signals, Integrated Transport and movements in budget for inflationary pressures.
- 118. Economic Planning & Future Prosperity

Spend £3.208m

119. There has been a decrease of £0.751m since the previous report. This is due to rephasing and slippage on a number of projects including Kingswood Lakes Adoption, Forward Programme, Bericote, i54 Employment Site, i54 Western Extension, Chatterley Valley, Eastgate Regeneration and Newcastle Enterprise Centres. There has been a slight increase in costs on the A50 project, Tamworth Enterprise Quarter and Redhill.

#### 120. Corporate Services

**Spend £4.978m** 

121. Finance, Resources & ICT

Spend £0.542m

- 122. There has been an increase of £0.397m since the quarter 4 report. This is due to accelerated spend opportunities within Printer MFD and Data Centre Network refresh projects as well as PSN Core Switch replacement project, slightly offset by rephasing of Firewall appliances to 2023/24.
- 123. Property

Spend £3.784m

- 124. There has been a reduction of £2.928m since the quarter 4 report. This is due to slippage into 2023/24 for the work ongoing on the refurbishment of Tamworth Library and the Shire Hall and the demolition of the Kingston Centre and Seabridge.
- 125. There have been some small increase in costs for the Outwards new scheme and Greenwood House.

#### 126. Financial Health & Prudential Indicators

- 127. **Appendix 7** sets out the final position against each of the approved Financial Health Indicators whilst **Appendix 8** sets out the final statutory Prudential Indicators.
- 128. **Appendix 7** provides an outturn performance against the key Financial Health Indicators approved as part of the 2022/23 budget setting process.
- 129. The level of outstanding sundry debt over 6 months old at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 is £19.047m, this exceeds the target of £14.7m by £4.347m. This is a decrease of £0.368m since quarter 3. The debt recovery process involves chasing by a range of methods with the eventual escalation to the external collection agent or to Legal for the possibility of a court decision to recover the debt.
- 130. There are 12 organisations which each owe in excess of £0.1m that is over 6 months old, totalling £3.078m. The top ten largest debtors are five Local Authorities (£1.458m), three commercial organisations (£0.945m) a central government department (£0.224m) and an Academy School (£0.181m). In addition to these 12 bodies there are a further 53 who have outstanding balances over 6 months old between £50,000 and £0.1m totalling £3.532m. The Debt Recovery team are proactively chasing payment of these large debts.

Debtor Type	2022/23 Target	31/12/2022	31/03/2023	Increase / (Decrease)
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Health Bodies & CCGs	3.900	1.936	0.341	(1.595)
Other Govt. and Public Bodies	2.000	2.220	2.289	0.069
Other General Debtors (Individuals & Commercial)	4.700	4.687	5.018	0.331
Health & Care Client Debt	4.100	10.572	11.399	0.827
TOTAL	14.700	19.415	19.047	(0.368)

#### **Prudential Indicators**

- 131. Appendix 8 provides the outturn performance against the Prudential Indicators approved as part of the 2022/23 budget setting process.
- 132. The County Council operated within the limits and Prudential Indicators for Treasury Management as set out in the County Council's Treasury Management practices. Further detail will be included within the Treasury Management Outturn report and the Prudential Indicators for 2023/24 will be monitored and reported at each quarterly monitoring report.