

Directorates Variances Summary

Variances and movements greater than £50,000

Directorate

Finance & Resources

	Period 10 Variance £	Period 11 Variance £	Movement	Main Variances Explanation
Assets and Property	(774,154)	(774,155)	(0)	The favourable forecast position is mainly related to staff vacancies in the Corporate Property team in addition to increased income from favourable rent reviews in Industrial Estates. This has been partially offset by rental income budgets that have been overstated and units in Old Millmead are expected to remain vacant.
Commercial Services	(483,930)	(483,930)	0	The favourable forecast position is mainly related to a reduction in utility costs, a review of car parking income and a park and ride adjustment from 2023-24.
Finance	52,568	3,388	(49,180)	
	(1,205,517)	(1,254,697)	(49,180)	

Economy, Planning and Place

Communication & Customer Services	91,413	69,721	(21,691)	The adverse position relates to excess essential spend over agreed budget within ICT which has been partially offset by savings from vacant posts. This ICT budget issue is being reviewed urgently to minimise the impact next year.
Planning & Development	(30,517)	4,744	35,261	
Regeneration & Planning Policy	(135,835)	(123,556)	12,279	The forecasted favourable position mainly relates to vacant positions.
Regulatory Services	(33,468)	(164,430)	(130,962)	The favourable forecast is mainly due to unused casual staff against budget this year.
	(108,407)	(213,521)	(105,114)	

Housing, Communities & Environment

Community Services	(5,895)	(96,147)	(90,252)	The favourable forecast variance relates to staff savings on vacancies as well as additional income received from SCC for Home Improvement Agency in 2024/25.
Environmental Services	467,171	833,301	366,129	Freight hire and repairs due to aged fleet. The adverse movement is due to the increase of refuse trucks now off the road from 2 to 6. Additionally, crematorium income is now expected to be lower than budget following a review with the Service as well as a forecasted reduction Trade Waste income this year.
Housing Services	(287,556)	(263,898)	23,657	The favourable forecast is attributed to Housing repairs that are expected to be charged to the HRA as well as an allocation of a grant against existing costs.
	173,721	473,255	299,534	
	(72,998)	(71,418)	1,580	The favourable forecast is related to additional HRA recharges.

Legal & Democratic Services

Strategy & Corporate Services

	(132,290)	(327,614)	(195,324)	The favourable variance is due to a review of the expected spend against the Climate Change Action Plan consultancy budget as well as staffing savings and holding of vacant posts within Strategy and Performance. This is currently being assessed to ensure the maximum use of budget in 2025-26.
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Directorates Total

	(1,345,491)	(1,393,995)	(48,504)	
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Housing Revenue Account

	1,009,966	1,066,007	56,041	There has been a forecasted increase due to actuals and commitments for Asset Maintenance costs. Additionally there are increased Agency costs for the vacant posts. Recruitment of permanent staff is continuing to be a challenge. This adverse position has been partially offset by higher rental income across the Dwelling Rents, Garages and Equity Share Rents that were under budgeted at the start of the year.
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