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County Hall
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NP15 1GA

Wednesday, 21 July 2021

Notice of meeting

Strong Communities Select Committee

Thursday, 29th July, 2021 at 10.00 am,
County Hall, Usk – with Remote Attendance

Please note that a pre meeting will be held 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting for members of the committee.

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
PART A: SCRUTINY AND CRIME DISORDER MATTERS No matters to discuss.		
PART B STRONG COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE		
1.	**Apologies for absence**	
2.	**Declarations of Interest**	
3.	**Open Public Forum** **Select Committee Public Open Forum ~ Guidance** Our Select Committee meetings are live streamed and a link to the live stream will be available on the meeting page of the Monmouthshire County Council website If you would like to share your thoughts on any proposals being discussed by Select Committees, you can submit your representation via this form · Please share your views by uploading a video or audio file (maximum of 4 minutes) or; · Please submit a written representation (via Microsoft Word, maximum of 500 words) You will need to register for a My Monmouthshire Account in order to submit the representation or use your log in, if you have registered previously.	

	The deadline for submitting representations to the Council is 5pm three clear working days in advance of the meeting. If representations received exceed 30 minutes, a selection of these based on theme will be shared at the Select Committee meeting. All representations received will be made available to councillors prior to the meeting. If you would like to suggest future topics for scrutiny by one of our Select Committees, please do so by emailing Scrutiny@monmouthshire.gov.uk	
4.	**Performance Reporting** Report on the performance against the 5 goals	1 - 20
5.	**Budget Monitoring** Scrutiny of the Revenue and Capital Outturn reports for 2020-2021	21 - 88
6.	**To confirm minutes of the previous meeting**	89 - 98
7.	**Action list**	
8.	**Strong Communities forward work programme**	99 - 100
9.	**Cabinet & Council forward work programme**	101 - 118
10.	**Date and time of next meeting**	

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillor Peter Clarke	Llangybi Fawr;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Tony Easson	Dewstow;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Christopher Edwards	St. Kingsmark;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Linda Guppy	Rogiet;	Liberal Democrats
County Councillor Val Smith	Llanbadoc;	Independent Group
County Councillor Jamie Treharne	Overmonnow;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Ann Webb	St Arvans;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Sheila Woodhouse	Grofield;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Roger Harris	Croesonen;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru

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Watch this meeting online
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Welsh Language
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Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

Our purpose

Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Objectives we are working towards

- Giving people the best possible start in life
- A thriving and connected county
- Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment
- Lifelong well-being
- A future focused council

Our Values

Openness. We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we'll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we'll explain why; if we can't answer immediately we'll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.

Fairness. We provide fair chances, to help people and communities thrive. If something does not seem fair, we will listen and help explain why. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently. We cannot always make everyone happy, but will commit to listening and explaining why we did what we did.

Flexibility. We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

Teamwork. We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don't see ourselves as the 'fixers' or problem-solvers, but we will make the best of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

Monmouthshire Scrutiny Committee Guide

Role of the Pre-meeting

1. Why is the Committee scrutinising this? (background, key issues)

2. What is the Committee's role?

3. What outcome do Members want to achieve?

4. Is there sufficient information to achieve this? If not, who could provide this?

5. Discuss the committee's approach:

- Agree the order of questioning and which Members will lead

- Agree questions for officers and questions for the Cabinet Member

Questions for the Meeting

Scrutinising Performance

1. How does performance compare with previous years? Is it better/worse? Why?

2. How does performance compare with other councils/other service providers? Is it better/worse? Why?

3. How does performance compare with set targets? Is it better/worse? Why?

4. How were performance targets set? Are they challenging enough/realistic?

5. How do service users/the public/partners view the performance of the service?

6. Have there been any recent audit and inspections? What were the findings?

7. How does the service contribute to the achievement of corporate objectives?

8. Is improvement/decline in performance linked to an increase/reduction in resource? What capacity is there to improve?

Scrutinising Policy

1. Who does the policy affect ~ directly and indirectly? Who will benefit most/least?

2. What is the view of service users/stakeholders? Do they believe it will achieve the desired outcome?

3. What is the view of the community as a whole - the 'taxpayer' perspective?

4. What methods were used to consult with stakeholders? Did the process enable all those with a stake to have their say?

5. What practice and options have been considered in developing/reviewing this policy? What evidence is there to inform what works?

6. Have all relevant sustainable development, equalities and safeguarding implications been taken into consideration? For example, what are the procedures that need to be in place to protect children?

7. How much will this cost to implement and what funding source has been identified?

8. How will performance of the policy be measured and the impact evaluated.

Questions for the Committee to conclude…

Do we have the necessary information to form conclusions/make recommendations to the executive, council, other partners? If not, do we need to:

(i) Investigate the issue in more detail?

(ii) Obtain further information from other witnesses – Executive Member, independent expert, members of the local community, service users, regulatory bodies…

(iii) Agree further actions to be undertaken within a timescale/future monitoring report…

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SUBJECT:	**Performance Report 2020/21 – Corporate Plan Goals**
MEETING:	**Strong Communities Select Committee**
DATE:	**29th July 2021**
DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED:	**All**

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To present 2020/21 performance information under the remit of Strong Communities Select Committee (Corporate Plan Goal C and E); this includes:

- Progress made in 2020/21 to deliver the commitments set out in the Corporate Plan 2017 – 2022 (appendix 2)

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Members are invited to scrutinise how well the authority performed in 2020/21 against the goals set in the Corporate Plan.

3. KEY ISSUES

3.1 The Corporate Plan sets an ambitious five-year programme aligned to a clear purpose of building sustainable and resilient communities, and identifies five priority goals, which also serve as the council's well-being objectives. Each of the goals includes a number of commitments to action, 22 in total, which the organisation is committed to delivering between now and 2022.

3.2 Due to the impact of the pandemic, some of the aims within the plan have been paused or progressed at a slower pace than intended. This has enabled us to divert staff and resources into core services to focus on meeting the needs of the most vulnerable. To ensure accountability through this period, Cabinet developed a Coronavirus Strategy, also known as the *Plan on a Page*. This was approved in May 2020, and subsequently updated in July, December and more recently, in June, in response to the changing nature of the response. It contains a purpose, strategic aims and associated actions, and has been monitored by Cabinet throughout the pandemic.

3.3 The council has an established performance framework, which is the way in which we translate our vision of '*building sustainable and resilient communities'* into action, and ensures that everyone is pulling in the same direction to deliver real and tangible outcomes; this is shown at appendix 1. Further information on the council's performance framework is available on the intranet Hub.

3.4 Appendix 2 provides an update of progress in 2020/21 for the goals in the Corporate Plan that fall under the remit of the committee, Goal C: Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment, and Goal E: Future-focused Council. An evaluation of activity and progress made is provided, with a progress rating included for each commitment. The parameters for the ratings are below:

Progressing well:	most actions are underway and making good progress; improvements are becoming evident; most activity has been on schedule
Taking steps:	actions have been started and are making progress, whilst some are not progressing or are yet to begin; some improvement is evident; activity has been on schedule but some are behind schedule

Attention needed:	most actions are not making progress; few improvements are evident; most activity has been behind schedule.
No activity:	no actions, improvement or activities are evident

The progress on the goals have also been given an indicative overall score based on the council's self-evaluation framework, level 1 – unsatisfactory to level 6 – excellent. These ratings reflect progress against the long term strategic commitments in the Corporate Plan. However, they do not illustrate the significant activities undertaken during 2020/21 to support the pandemic response. The update also includes the performance measures that are being used to track progress, and the contribution of each goal to the national well-being goals and ways of working set out within the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

3.5 The performance indicators provide quantitative information to support the analysis of performance and consist of both local and national measures. The council usually undergoes a benchmarking exercise of the national indicators to provide an indication of performance against other local authorities in Wales, however due to the impact of the pandemic, this information is limited for 2020/21 so does not provide adequate detail to support the analysis of performance. Data has been gathered internally, where available, and is presented with additional information where figures do not align with previous performance to provide a wider context and explanation.

3.6 The Corporate Plan is an ambitious five year programme; some commitments focus on the longer-term future of the county and aim to address complex challenges, in line with the Future Generations Act. This will need to be considered when assessing progress made as the impact of some activity may not be clearly demonstrable over short timescales, and some activity will be in the early stages or not yet started.

3.7 The purpose of bringing the information together is to allow Select Committee to understand performance in the context of the commitments made in the Corporate Plan. Committee members are encouraged to utilise their time appropriately and consider the scrutiny already undertaken in service areas, and as prescribed on the committee's work programme. The report may identify further areas of scrutiny that committee may want to consider for inclusion on the forward work programme. As some of the activity detailed cross cuts select committee remits, it is suggested that members particularly focus their scrutiny on the activity relevant to the committee with consideration of its contribution to the objective as a whole.

3.8 The council's annual performance report will be presented to Council on 23 September 2021 and published by 31st October 2021, in line with the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure. As well as being presented to select committee, the goals detailed here will be included in this report, and will provide a detailed evaluation of performance in 2020/21 against the Corporate Plan and wider arrangements.

4. REASONS:

4.1 To ensure that members have an understanding of council performance in 2020/21 and can scrutinise how well the authority has performed.

5. AUTHOR:

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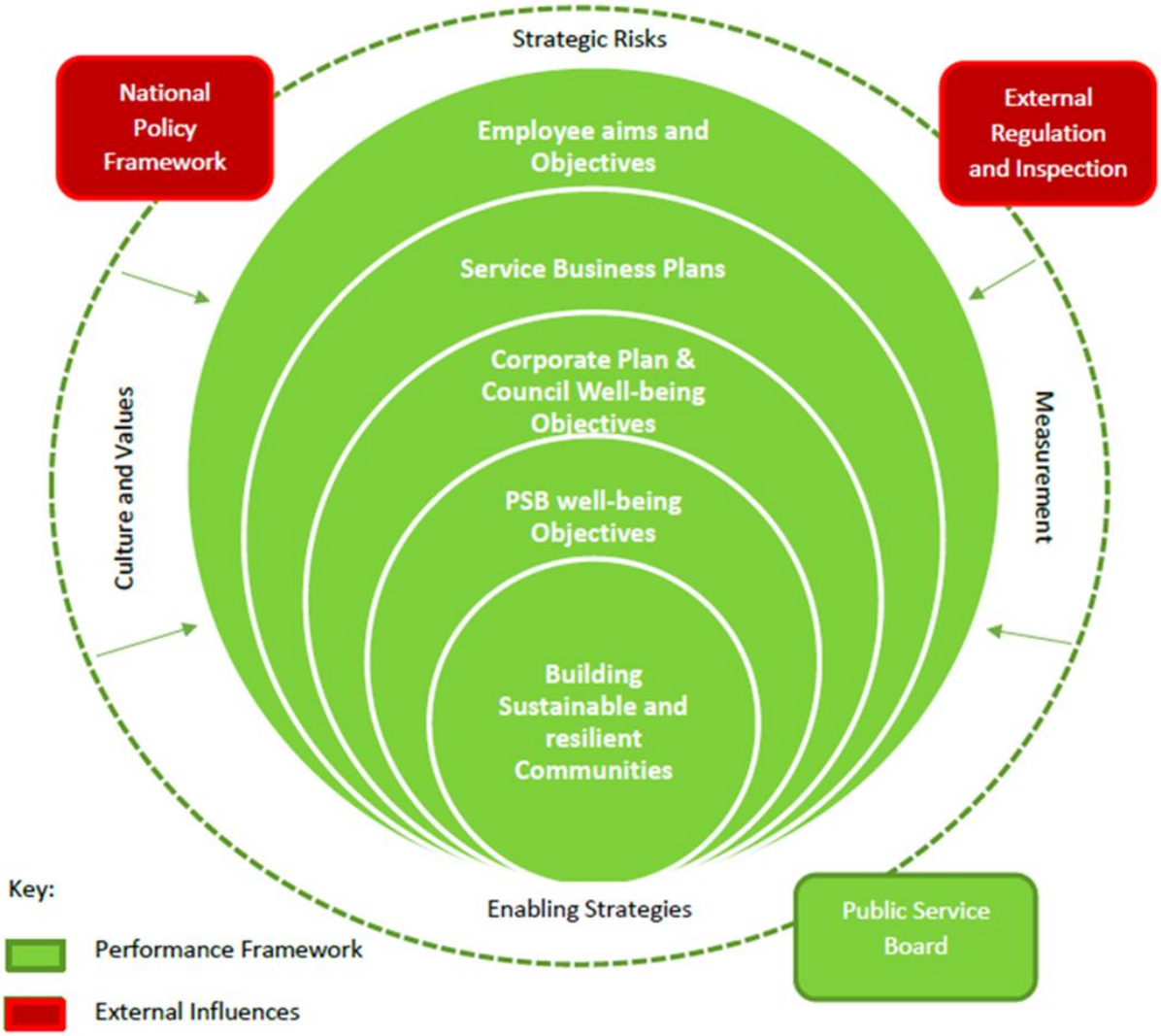
Appendix 1 – Monmouthshire County Council Performance Management Framework

Our performance management framework ensures everyone is pulling in the same direction to deliver real and tangible outcomes. Building sustainable and resilient communities is the unifying purpose of the diverse range of services for which we are responsible. We are a partner in the Public Service Board, which is responsible for setting well-being objectives for the county. The council's own well-being objectives are set by the Council based on the same well-being assessment as the PSB objectives and forms the backbone of our five organisational goals in the Corporate Plan. Each of our teams has a business plan that aligns to these objectives and we have a range of performance measures that are used to track progress. Our risk management policy enables us to manage strategic risks to delivery of our goals, and the employee aims and objectives show the contribution that individuals make to these objectives and to delivering our vision in accordance with our values.



Goal C: Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment

Monmouthshire County Council Goal: C. Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment	
Why we are focusing on this	Summary – Progress 2020/21
Monmouthshire has a spectacular natural environment, a unique heritage value and a culturally rich identity. We believe that necessary growth, development, and expansion of our place, need not compromise our distinctive offer – indeed it should complement and enhance it. As an agricultural and food producing county, we recognise the moral and economic impetus around reducing food waste and the impact on greenhouse gases. We support the principles of the 'circular economy' and the recycling & restoration of goods and want to work with businesses and organizations that subscribe to these too. We have declared a Climate Emergency and are committed to delivering the strategy and action plan to reduce the council's carbon emissions. We will maintain the internal corporate systems, policies and asset management plans that emphasis carbon reduction, energy resilience and a green council culture. Connected to this, we will safeguard the wider environmental interests of our rural communities through developing multi-agency approaches to road safety. We will continue to recognise the value of our culture and heritage in enhancing the livability of our county. We will work with partners and communities to enhance our high quality recreational and cultural facilities to provide opportunities for people to learn develop and enjoy themselves and help attract the talent so key to driving a strong economy.	Progress evaluation – 3: Adequate Household Waste Recycling Centres were closed at the start of the first lockdown to ensure resident safety, but waste and recycling collection services continued throughout. The recycling rate for 2020/21 was 68.88%, an increase from 65.57% in 2019/20. A new re-use shop has opened at Five Lanes Household Waste Recycling Centre, and four Benthyg Libraries of Things have been established in Abergavenny, Caldicot, Chepstow and Monmouth, with associated Repair Cafes and other repair and reuse projects. Considerable grant funding has been obtained for Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Active Travel improvements, and 24 sites of nature conservation importance were designated, contributing to a total of more than 700 sites. Numerous projects have been supported in Monmouth and Caldicot to improve the active travel offer, and a total investment of £1.4m has been achieved this financial year, the biggest investment into Active Travel in Monmouthshire. Progress against the Climate Emergency strategy and action plan has faced delays as a result of the pandemic, but good progress has been made against almost half of the actions in the plan. Electric vehicle charging points have been installed at two primary schools, and more are currently being installed for operational vehicles across the county. The Museum Service has successfully completed a feasibility study for the creation of a new cultural offer at Shire Hall, incorporating the current Monmouth museum, and a review of future museum storage requirements has also been completed.

Detailed Progress Update			
Commitment to action	Progress rating	What we said we would do	Progress in 2020/21
THE COUNCIL DEVELOPS & DELIVERS A SUSTAINABLE PLAN FOR ENHANCING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT	Taking steps	Work with community groups to reduce litter and fly tipping while using technology to improve our own processes.	Fly tipping can now be reported using the My Monmouthshire App, which has seen a significant improvement in accuracy following some technical issues last year. There has been an increase in the number of incidences this year but this is reflected nationally. The average clearance time of incidents of fly tipping for which the council is responsible was 5.55 days, and monitoring will continue based on the improved accuracy of recording.
		Ensure that we reduce the amount of waste, achieving recycling targets and not exceeding national limits for the amount we can send to landfill	Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) closed at the start of the first lockdown to ensure resident safety, and green waste collections were stopped for a period of time to divert resources to the pandemic response. However, the Waste and Recycling Team worked hard to maintain waste and recycling collection services and weekly/fortnightly routes continued throughout. The recycling rate for 2020/21 was 68.88%, an increase from 65.57% in 2019/20. Data is being analysed to determine if any learning can be taken from recent months to improve recycling figures going forward. There have been a number of changes to the HWRC services, aimed at continuing the upward trend in residents' recycling activity. These include the continuation of the booking system at all sites, first introduced to ensure social distancing, the closure of Usk HWRC, and revised opening hours at the remaining sites. In addition, the green waste collection service has been updated, including changes to the container for garden waste, the frequency of collection, and an increase in the annual charge for customers. Again, these changes are aimed at continuing the positive change in behaviour towards recycling activities.
		Work towards becoming a plastic free county, reducing single use and unnecessary plastics to an absolute minimum.	A successful Circular Economy bid for £626,000 was announced in January 2021. From this, a new re-use shop at Five Lanes has been opened, along with four Benthyg Libraries of Things in Abergavenny, Caldicot, Chepstow and Monmouth, with associated Repair Cafes and other repair and reuse projects.

			A period dignity grant has been used to purchase eco-friendly and reusable products, and work is underway with Sustainable You, Sustainable Me and the Working Families project to run workshops for residents, promoting sustainable period products. A trial of re-usable recycling bags began last year with around 3,500 properties, but further roll out was restricted at the start of the pandemic. The roll out of reusable bags will restart in the autumn, when provision of single use plastic bags will cease.
		Deliver Green Infrastructure Policy to ensure people have access to green spaces	£580,000 of grant funded projects were delivered across Monmouthshire during the year for Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity and Active Travel improvements and opportunities. A further £2,912,000 worth of funding was also secured to deliver biodiversity, G.I. and Active Travel projects for 2021 and beyond, with further funding bids for £445k in the pipeline. Biodiversity advice was provided for over 500 planning applications, and 24 sites of nature conservation importance were designated, contributing to a total of more than 700 sites for targeted conservation action, i.e. woodland, orchards, grasslands & brown-fields. Lockdown offered the opportunity to extend sustainable management practices and as a result, over three million square metres of grassland have seen a reduction in moving. Since then, reduced mowing to public open spaces has continued, and where it is taking place, engagement is underway with allotment associations to take cut grass for use as compost. Work is ongoing to understand the learning from the changes to grounds maintenance services to inform how biodiversity can be enhanced, whilst still maintaining the standards of green spaces expected by residents.
		Secure and deliver funds for projects including Living Levels, Agri-urban and Air Quality	Partnerships, projects and community grants schemes have maintained protected landscapes, Wye Valley AONB and Blaenavon Industrial World Heritage Site during 2020/21. The Living Levels Partnership projects have been delivered, including six new information hubs promoting the area, and the installation of 21 new route signs improving access across the Levels. Other programmes include a sustainable communities project, community nature spaces and educational delivery, and a

			further £88k has been secured for 2021/22 from the Local Places for Nature fund to continue this activity.
		Install real time air quality monitoring equipment in four schools	Air quality monitoring sensors have been installed in St Mary's Primary School, Usk Primary School, and Monmouth and Chepstow Comprehensive Schools. They were also incorporated as part of the Church Road scheme, funded through the Transforming Towns and Active Travel Welsh Government Grants.
		Deliver more opportunities for active travel and improved connectivity *(New)*	Lockdown saw a considerable reduction in driving and increased walking within areas local to home. Numerous projects have been supported in Monmouth and Caldicot to improve the active travel offer in the county. Two of these have moved to construction, with significant development work undertaken on the others. A total investment of £1.4m has been achieved this financial year, the biggest investment into Active Travel in Monmouthshire. In addition to this, increased cycling capacity has been provided in town centres for 163 bikes, 12 public bike pumps have been installed, e-bikes are being piloted with community groups, and a contraflow cycle lane was introduced in Abergavenny through COVID-19 response funding. A clear strategic focus is now set, primary routes identified and a vision established to develop future routes in order to encourage modal shift. Over 2,700 responses were received to the Active Travel Network Map engagement phase in the summer of 2020, and the consultation has been praised for the level of detail and reach, with some of the subsequent work being used on a national level in the new Active Travel Guidance. The consultation is ongoing, with clear input from children, young people and adults across Monmouthshire.
		Maintain the diversity of plants and wildlife in the county while taking measures to make them more resilient to external threats like flooding and rising temperatures. *(New)*	A tree planting programme has begun throughout the county, and despite the pandemic, 7790 trees have been planted this year. Schools have been provided with raised beds to plant seeds, which will then be regrown on sites when more mature. The GI action plans, funded via Natural Resources Wales PSB grant, are also identifying tree planting opportunities in settlements as part of the identification of GI corridors. Other projects include the WG funded 'Neglected Grassland' and 'Resilient Grassland' projects, whereby overgrown and unsuitable areas are cleared

			to encourage more indigenous species to develop, and to become more sustainable and resilient areas. A Behaviour Change for Wellbeing Officer has been appointed through the Resilient Greater Gwent project to engage with communities and schools. They have been delivering social media features and videos, building bug hotels, installing wildlife cameras, and have delivered 150 pollinator packs to schools for wildflower planting. As Joint Coordinator for the Monmouthshire and Newport Local Nature Partnership, considerable work has been undertaken to develop and grow the partnership. It has carried out 12 nature learning events and activities, and via grants to community groups, five nature projects have been delivered, including barn owl nest boxes, help for hedgehogs, bat activity monitoring and orchard biodiversity enhancement. 'Nature Isn't Neat' workshops across the county have supported habitat restoration programmes and positive management for pollinators, and guidance has been provided on the management of grasslands, verges and public open spaces.
THE COUNCIL WILL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT CLEAR PLANS TO REDUCE ITS CARBON EMISSIONS TO NET ZERO BY 2030 AND WORK WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS TO REDUCE EMISSIONS ACROSS THE COUNTY AS A WHOLE	Taking steps	Develop and enable more local renewable energy schemes	A climate emergency was declared by Council in May 2019, followed by a strategy and action plan in October 2019, and a member-led Climate Emergency working group has been established to take responsibility for ensuring the action plan continues to progress. Of the 66 actions in the plan, there is good progress being made on almost half of them, but delays have occurred as a result of the pandemic, caused by competing pressures, closure of venues or services, postponed consultation or engagement, or delayed external funding. Although good progress is being made, not enough detailed information is available on the council's baseline carbon emissions. A proposal has been made to source additional expertise and capacity to help establish emissions data, and gain a better understanding of the carbon savings included in the plan. This will assist in identifying the most effective use of resources to generate the maximum carbon savings.
		Develop an investment programme to help our services transition to a low carbon future	Work to reduce carbon emissions at a regional level continues through the work of Climate Ready Gwent, on areas such as electric vehicle charging, hydrogen feasibility and training. A successful bid to Natural Resources Wales funded the delivery of

			Carbon Literacy training during February and March 2021 to 56 officers and members, in addition to 57 members of public and third sector colleagues, including South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Gwent Police and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board. This work will be strengthened through the proposed development of a Gwent PSB, a Wellbeing Assessment and Wellbeing Plan. Further regional collaboration on decarbonisation is also taking place with Cardiff Capital Region partners.
		Trial and test hydrogen vehicles through partnerships with organisations such as River Simple	With the support of the council, Riversimple are preparing to run a 12 month trial of 20 Riversimple Rasa hydrogen fuel cell cars in Monmouthshire, initially with the Registrars Team. The aim is to then trial the vehicle in other sections of the organisation.
		Install battery charge points for electric vehicles in all towns using funding opportunities such as grants from the Office for Low Emission Vehicles	Electric vehicle charging points are currently being installed for operational vehicles in the One Planet Centre Llanfoist, Troy Depot, Caldicot Waste Depot and Raglan Depot. They have already been installed in Kymin View and Deri View School for the two new school catering vehicles, but they are also available for use by anyone visiting the school. Grant funding has been awarded to develop an EV charging strategy, and work started on this in April 2021. Seven fully electric vehicles have been delivered and three more are on order. Six Hybrid cars are also in operation, currently being used by Social services, Planning and Property Services. Work is underway with the Regional Transport Authority on charging points for taxis and, utilising Cardiff Capital Region funding, two electric taxis will be piloted, with a charging point being installed at Abergavenny Bus Station. Conversion of the council's bus fleet is not currently feasible due to the lack of energy capacity at the depots, but a project has begun to identify alternative premises in the south of the county, which would enable the installation of charging points. A fully electric 17 seater, low floor wheelchair accessible minibus has been ordered, which will be used on the Grass Routes Service, but will also be trialled on several school runs, which will help to understand the vehicle's range and inform decision making in the future.
THE COUNCIL KEEPS ROADS AND AREAS SAFE	Taking steps	Work with town and community councils and	20mph schemes have been implemented in Raglan, Caldicot, and Tintern as part of the COVID-19 response to make town centres safer; it is anticipated that these will

		local people to identify where speed reduction measures are needed including 20 mph zones where appropriate Support for Community Speed Watch and community-led speed safety initiatives	be maintained on a permanent basis, and further 20mph zones will be implemented during 2021/22. Monmouthshire has been selected to pilot Welsh Government's settlement-wide 20mph zones during 2021/22, which will help inform WG's proposals to make the urban speed limit 20mph in 2023. These 20mph zones will significantly improve community safety, as well as support active travel. Other road safety initiatives include pilot school street closures, during drop off and pick up times, and the Green Cone Scheme, which is a Welsh Government initiative to help keep school children safe as they arrive and leave the school grounds at the beginning and end of each school day. A range of educational programmes are being offered, built around safer routes to school and active travel, and where possible, these have been delivered virtually during the pandemic.
THE COUNCIL ENHANCES LOCAL HERITAGE AND DEVELOPMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURAL SERVICES	Taking steps	Support a resilient and sustainable cross-county museum offer whilst identifying opportunities for arts and cultural development-*(New)* Protect and enhance our built heritage including the submission of bids to the National Lottery Heritage Fund, where appropriate Pursue opportunities to improve the facilities at the Borough Theatre *(New)*	A feasibility study for the creation of a new cultural offer at Shire Hall, incorporating the current Monmouth museum, and a review of future museum storage requirements has been completed. The collection review process, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, has continued throughout the year. The MonLife Heritage Strategy, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, is progressing well, with baseline assessments of sites carried out and consultation completed with staff, stakeholders and customers. Following the analysis stage, action plans will be developed and shared with members this autumn. Alongside this, the council has engaged an experienced trainer to work with staff to develop a Monmouthshire Storybook, which will be a resource that staff can use to tell the key Monmouthshire Heritage stories. Detailed and comprehensive plans have been developed for the refurbishment of the Borough Theatre, and a principal contractor has been identified. The improvements will make the theatre fit for purpose, more accessible, and will allow a more robust and sustainable programme. In the meantime, the theatre is acting as a driver and promoter for performing arts activities including developing events in spaces beyond the theatre, a drama project for young people with experience of the care system, and development of a 'folk arts' festival in Abergavenny.

Well-being of Future Generations Act impact

Contribution of Council goal to Future Generations Act Well-being Goals

Prosperous Wales	Resilient Wales	Healthier Wales	More equal Wales	Wales of cohesive communities	Vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language	Globally responsible Wales
✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓

Monmouthshire is a beautiful place, with a stunning natural and built environment. We have a collective responsibility to ensure this is available for future generations to enjoy so our plans must be focused on the **long-term** and look to **prevent** problems from occurring in years to come. **Involvement** is required with partners and communities to maximise the potential of the environment within the county. Working in **collaboration** with organisations who can enhance our environment will provide expertise in all aspects of our work, for example this will allow us to trial the latest technologies in renewable energies and hydrogen. Creating a prosperous, healthy and resilient area for people to enjoy demands the **integration** of this objective as the environment within Monmouthshire forms such an important part of achieving a range of goals.

Measures of progress

Measure	Previous	Current	Target	Comment
Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted	65.57%	68.88%	64.0%	
Average number of days taken to clear fly-tipping incidents	Not available	5.55	<5	Accuracy cannot be guaranteed for 2019/20 data
Percentage of streets that are clean	98.2%	Not available	97.5%	No surveys competed due to COVID-19 restrictions and capacity. No data has been provided by Keep Wales Tidy for the year.
Percentage reduction of council carbon dioxide emissions	Not available	Not available	3%	
Capacity of renewable energy in the county driven by the council	Not available	Not available	Increase	
Levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) pollution in the air (µg/m3)[i]	8	8	Decrease	Current is data from 2018

Number of trees planted	356	7790	10,000 (by 2022)	
Number of new active travel routes	0	13	New:2 Improved:4	
Number of rural communities in which speed safety initiatives are supported	4	6	Increase	
Percentage of roads in poor condition: A roads B roads C roads	 3.3% 5.1% 7.6%	 2.7% 5.2% 7.7%	 <3% <5% <8%	
Total amount of Rural Development Plan funds committed to projects in Monmouthshire	£197,170	£98,256	£1,674,000 (Dec 2021)	

Goal E: Future-focused Council

Monmouthshire County Council Goal: E. Future-focused Council	
Why we are focusing on this	Summary – Progress 2020/21
Our operating environment is a changing and challenging one. Demographic shifts, increasing demand, our exit from the EU and fiscal uncertainty – all require an understanding that 'business as usual' is no more. We will continue to rapidly adapt, develop foresight capability and enable the service changes and countywide transformations that best meet the aspirations of our communities. This outward facing approach will mean reducing the reliance on traditional public services and having more genuinely collaborative local relationships. Digital will feature strongly in this, allowing 'fit for future' service models and enabling the sharing of approaches and resources to addressing crosscutting problems. Our goal is to continue to build an engaged, responsive and adaptive council, able to provide effective leadership, in collaboration with other local partners. We will develop and sustain a dynamic, healthy and rewarding work environment that attracts and retains top talent and enables them to perform at their best. Good governance will be at the heart of what we do and we will ensure the right information gets to the right people to inform decision-making. We will integrate a service focus into all dealings with customers and ensure they are well informed and engaged in decision-making. We understand the best public servants see themselves as not working for the council – but for the county.	Progress evaluation – 3: Adequate The customer service offer has been enhanced this year through the refurbishment of Abergavenny Town Hall, which has increased accessibility for members of the public. The digital offer has also been developed, through rapid improvements in digital capabilities, both internally and externally. Business events have been hosted online, and social media presence has proven successful in promoting campaigns and sharing up-to-date information with the public. The council's decision-making processes were disrupted for a short time at the start of the first lockdown, but were quickly reinstated through digital meetings. These have proven successful, and the technology is being explored to develop the changes that have worked particularly well. The council achieved a balanced net revenue budget position at outturn for 2020/21, primarily as a result of Welsh Government COVID-19 hardship funding. There have also been significant underspends across many service areas as a result of the pandemic, where services have been reduced or stopped, travel requirements have reduced, office and buildings have remained closed and substantial staff vacancies have remained unfilled. The council's medium term financial planning has been severely disrupted by the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on the Council's finances. The Authority presented a balanced budget for 2021/22 but the medium term prognosis is still of concern. Staff have adopted new ways of working to keep themselves, colleagues and residents safe and have been provided with a range of support to ensure their wellbeing is maintained during a difficult time. Despite early concerns around supply availability, approximately 5.3 million items of PPE have been distributed for the safe provision of social care in the county.

Detailed Progress Update			
Commitment to action	Progress rating	What we said we would do	Progress in 2020/21
COUNCIL ENABLES AND PROVIDES GOOD SUSTAINABLE LOCAL SERVICES WHILST DELIVERING AN EXCELLENT CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE ACROSS ALL CHANNELS	Taking steps	Develop new business model for Community Hubs and Customer Care to increase access and provide a greater choice of channels for customers to engage with us (online, via the My Monmouthshire app, over the phone or face-to-face)	The refurbishment of Abergavenny Town Hall was completed in September 2020, and now houses the One Stop Shop and library together in a Hub. The Hub has a new lift installed, so is accessible from all floors, and has an accessible toilet and baby changing facility. The library area offers more space, making it an easy access space, and Shopmobility have provided a mobility aid for any member of the public who requires it. The Hub is being used for a variety of community-focused provisions, such as literacy courses and a weekly job club that supports people back into work. Hubs and libraries were required to close during lockdown so a Request and Collect service was introduced to allow members of the public to loan books. Almost 1200 appointments have been booked for people to access reading materials. Ways of communicating with the public have been adjusted to ensure people are informed of changes to services and of the help available to them. Monty the ChatBot and the My Monmouthshire app have been updated to reflect these changes, and public Teams livestreams have engaged with local people in a socially distanced world, including online events that attracted 176 local businesses. Targeted Facebook and Instagram campaigns proved effective in delivering key messages throughout the year, such as Fostering and Home Care recruitment campaigns. The council's Twitter followers increased from 17,000 in March 2020 to 18,300 by July 2021, and Facebook followers have increased by 30% over the same period. Cabinet recently announced investment into a new data capacity and capability roadmap to strengthen how the council uses data to guide its activity. This includes further developing the open data offer to build on existing information that is already published on the council website, such as spend data and existing data dashboards. Work is underway to sign up to the digital standard, and a new Digital Design and Innovation team has been established to review the five principles of the Local Digital Declaration. This will ensure that when Monmouthshire does sign up, it is with a true
		Increase the publication and use of open data to increase accountability and enable others to develop apps that have a civic benefit	
		Introduce Digital Service Standard	

			commitment, and evidences the projects being undertaken to align council ambitions with the standard.
COUNCIL OPENS UP DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT & COLLECTIVE DECISION-MAKING	Taking steps	Re-shape our governance arrangements including more detailed options appraisals	Lockdown had a considerable impact on the workings of the council and as such, democratic and decision making arrangements were quickly adapted. All decision-making and committee meetings are being held remotely via the Microsoft Teams app, which is proving successful. A self-evaluation of the scrutiny function was undertaken during 2019, which highlighted areas for improvement and suggested a review of select committees' working arrangements be undertaken. Duties to increase public participation in local democracy need to be accommodated within any arrangements proposed and a new Policy and Scrutiny Officer was appointed to assist in creating capacity to implement new working arrangements. These are currently being consulted upon and will be implemented in the new administration.
		Identify ways to get more people involved in local democracy and scrutiny to enhance local decision-making	Considerable engagement has been carried out over the past twelve months to seek the views of local people. Subjects such as town centre reopening, financial arrangements and active travel routes have been subject to engagement and consultation, and work will continue to increase the interactions and decision making input from local residents and businesses. A new Public Open Forum process has been established, to enable more effective public engagement in the scrutiny of decisions and the formulation of policy, via video, audio or written submissions in advance of meetings. It is intended to embed this process within new scrutiny working arrangements to improve accessibility for the public.
		Develop remote access and attendance at meetings to maximize participation	In order to ensure timely decision making during the pandemic, arrangements were adapted to allow all council meetings to operate remotely, and support has been provided to members to assist in utilising digital meeting technology. The system is proving successful and work continues to review the learning from the new arrangements; some changes will remain or be built on where they are working well. Work is currently underway to develop the technical ability to deliver hybrid meetings from September 2021, which will accommodate both remote and physical attendance at meetings, in line with any ongoing restrictions. The potential financial cost of changes to the council chamber to reflect the

			impact of boundary changes and updates to equipment to sustain live streaming have been recognised in the capital budget.
		Revise all enabling strategies and plans – People, Digital and Customers, Assets and Economy and Enterprise *(Completed)*	The council's key delivery strategies to enable the delivery of the Corporate Plan have been revised. The revised strategies continue to be implemented and activity has been embedded in the relevant service business plans. Some activity will be impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and strategies will need to be reconsidered in light of the pandemic response.
		Review and consolidate working groups and arrangements	A review of working groups and their arrangements have been undertaken and these have been consolidated.
		Revise performance and improvement plans and replace with 'real-time' data dashboards	To provide clarity and ensure accountability during the Coronavirus pandemic, a set of strategic aims were set by Cabinet in May 2020, and were updated throughout the year in line with the changing situation. The focus was lessened on some of the priorities in the Corporate Plan to re-direct capacity towards dealing with the pandemic response. The council's service business plans have adopted a 'plan on a page' approach to provide clarity, to develop greater self-assessment, and to allow more regular updates to service planning. There has been an increased focus in 2020/21 on the council's use of data in its response to the Coronavirus pandemic, which has included the production of Monmouthshire-specific COVID-19 case maps, and regular Coronavirus data analysis using a range of data sources relevant to Monmouthshire.
THE COUNCIL DELIVERS A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT ORGANISATION AND RELEVANT, VIABLE AND VALUED PUBLIC SERVICES	Taking steps	Explore and embed new ways of working – Artificial Intelligence, automation and collaborative technology	Monty the Chatbot has been developed to use data analytics within leisure services to improve the automation of customer access. Work is progressing to understand how to analyse customer responses and prioritise work to improve the customer experience. Work is also underway to explore the use of automation technology to replace manual processes, making systems more efficient and providing the customer with a faster service.
		Develop a commercial strategy and approach	As part of the delivery of the Corporate Plan, a Commercial Strategy has been developed, which seeks to enhance income generation, develop an approach to commercialising assets and create a commercial culture and ethos. The strategy has a short-, medium- and long-

			term view and aims to provide a framework, with defined objectives, for new commercial projects and for the delivery of future commercial activity. In 2020/21, the investment properties at Newport Leisure Park and Castlegate Business Park generated a combined profit of £159,018, which has been transferred to reserves, as detailed in the Council's Investment Strategy. In common with the leisure and retail sector, commercial investments have been badly affected by the impacts of COVID-19 but continue to be supported by the Welsh Government's COVID Hardship fund. Whilst the position may improve in light of changes to the legal requirements on social distancing, this is as yet unproven as it will depend on consumers' behaviour and their appetite to return to leisure venues without restrictions in place. As with all investments, this is being actively monitored with discussions are ongoing with tenants. The council has continually assessed its commercial risk appetite and exposure, and the updates are issued to the Investment Committee on investment performance and mitigating action being taken. The commercial risk appetite has been adjusted in light of the current pandemic and uncertainties in the investment and property markets at this time.
		Establish and deliver a sustainable and viable Medium Term Financial Plan to meet the significant financial challenges faced by the council.	The council achieved a balanced net revenue budget position at outturn for 2020/21, after accounting for transfers to earmarked reserves, which represented a significant improvement of £5.15m from the overall deficit reported at month 9. This was primarily as a result of £5.29m of Welsh Government COVID-19 Hardship Funding since month 9 to support the increased costs of service delivery and loss of income as a direct result of the pandemic. There have also been significant underspends across many service areas, where services have been reduced or stopped, travel requirements have reduced, office and buildings have remained closed and substantial staff vacancies have remained unfilled. The council's medium term financial planning has been severely disrupted by the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on council finances. The authority presented a balanced budget for 2021/22 to Cabinet and Council in March 2021, which incorporated service pressures of some £10.3m alongside savings proposals of £4.73m. Welsh Government has provided a

			significant level of funding through its COVID-19 Hardship Fund to meet additional costs and income losses as a result of the pandemic. The medium term prognosis is still of concern; there are no indicative settlement figures published, which significantly impedes and impacts on forward planning of budgets over the medium term. At this stage, and with uncertainties remaining as to future levels of local government funding, the MTFP for 2022/23 onwards factors in no cash increase in funding (0.0%), so that planning can be undertaken on a prudent basis. There is still a need to think differently about the even greater challenges of the medium term, and this work and engagement will continue in the coming months, particularly with other local authorities, Welsh Government and the Welsh Local Government Association, where funding distribution and projections are concerned. Internally, closer alignment between services' business planning arrangements and financial planning arrangements continues to be developed to improve the quality of service planning and financial planning, which also aligns to the delivery of the Corporate Plan to ensure its aspirations are sustainable. An updated Capital Budget strategy was approved by Council, alongside the treasury strategy, in March 2021. The Capital MTFP and Capital Strategy seek to work towards a financially sustainable core capital programme, whilst balancing the need to deliver capital investment plans in line with policy commitment and need.
THE COUNCIL PUTS PEOPLE AT HEART OF ALL IT DOES AND INSPIRES EXCELLENCE IN WORKPLACE AND EMPLOYEES	Taking steps	Strengthen decision making and accountability through revisions to the constitution	A thorough review of the constitution has been undertaken to ensure it reflects the latest legislation and council's governance structures. This was presented to Council in March 2021 for debate, and received full Council approval. The changes to select committee working arrangements will be taken through the decision-making process and embedded within the constitution prior to the new administration.
		Prioritise Health, Safety and workplace Well-being	Staff have embraced new ways of working to keep themselves, colleagues and residents safe while delivering the many services our communities rely on. Staff have had a range of support on wellbeing, can receive a test if they display symptoms and have access to the right Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Approximately 5.3 million items of PPE have been distributed for the provision of social care in the county. The number of days per full-

			time equivalent employee lost due to sickness during the year averaged 11.0, which is lower than the figure seen last year. The Health and Wellbeing Group was established to address issues across the workforce, and a weekly online 'CWTCH' meeting was set up to allow all colleagues to ask questions and receive updates from senior managers. The SUPPORTALL Hub portal was launched, which allows colleagues and schools to access information from any device, including mobiles, on a range of subjects, such as health and wellbeing tips, testing, and support whilst remote working.
		Promote diversity and inclusion including a focus on socio-economic factors	A Recruitment and Selection policy has been developed, which prompts managers to think about apprenticeships, forward thinking and future planning, three to five years ahead. The People Service HUB holds workforce planning guidance, and workforce planning support, and challenge is provided at Directorate Management Teams (DMT). The Leaders Induction includes information for managers on knowing their people, understanding performance and identifying future plans.
		Engage employees through personal development training and learning	The Check In-Check Out process has been in place for a number of years, and it is clear that the process does not apply to all teams and structures. The focus has therefore moved away from ensuring all staff adhere to one process, to adopting a mechanism for recording professional discussions between managers and their staff. This will be reviewed in line with the review of the business planning process for 2021/22.

Well-being of Future Generations Act impact

Contribution of Council goal to Future Generations Act Well-being Goals						
Prosperous Wales	**Resilient Wales**	**Healthier Wales**	**More equal Wales**	**Wales of cohesive communities**	**Vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language**	**Globally responsible Wales**
✓	✓			✓		✓

The **long-term** nature of our goal is evident – shaping our services to meet the needs of our communities now, and into the future, is essential if we are to remain relevant and viable. Utilising data more effectively to plan **preventative** approaches and enhancing our digital capabilities are just some of the ways we intend to do this. **Involving** people in decision-making and scrutiny will ensure our direction of travel is **collaborative** and fit for the generations to come. **Integrating** our approach will make sure that our resources are used in the places they are needed the most, and as efficiently as possible. Making our reducing financial resources stretch as far as possible is vital for future sustainability.

Measures of progress

Measure	Previous	Latest	Target	Comment
Over/underspend of council revenue budget (£)	£1.8 million under-spend	£0	£0	A sizeable underspend at outturn against services as a result of late and significant WG grants were utilised to replenish earmarked reserves.
Percentage of targeted budget reductions achieved	84%	85%	95%	2020/21 outturn data on mandated saving performance. This increases to 93% when taking into account savings attributable to increasing financing streams.
Income generation from commercial investments (£)	£620,184	£159,018	£609,355	
Percentage of people who feel able to influence decisions affecting their local area[ii]	Not available	Not available	Increase	National Survey for Wales and National well-being indicator under the well-being of Future generations Act. Latest data not published.
Number of open data sets published	9	9	10	
Number of apprentices on formal recognised apprenticeship schemes per 1,000 employees	Baseline to be established	Not available	Baseline	
Average days lost to sickness absence per FTE employee	12.2	11.0	10.5	
Percentage of staff turnover	9.43%	10.02	Track	Any significant variation in turnover will indicate a need to further review potential reasons

[i] Stats Wales, Air quality https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Environment-and-Countryside/Air-Quality
[ii] Stats Wales, National Survey for Wales, https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales

monmouthshire
sir fynwy

SUBJECT:	**2020/21 REVENUE & CAPITAL OUTTURN STATEMENT**
MEETING:	**Strong Communities Select Committee**
DATE:	**29th July 2021**
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL	

1. PURPOSE:

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Select Committee Members with information on the revenue and capital outturn position of the Authority based on capital slippage and reserve usage & deferment.

1.2 The financial information appropriate to this Select Committee is outlined in ***Appendix 6***, with the remainder of this report following the format presented to Cabinet on the 9th June 2021.

1.3 This report is to be considered by Select Committees as part of their responsibility to,

- assess whether effective budget monitoring is taking place,
- monitor the extent to which budgets are spent in accordance with agreed budget and policy framework,
- challenge the reasonableness of projected over or underspends, and
- monitor the achievement of predicted efficiency gains or progress in relation to savings proposals.

1.4 To provide an update on the financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Council.

2. CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That Cabinet recognises a balanced net revenue budget position at outturn after accounting for transfers to earmarked reserves that represents a significant improvement of £5.15m from the overall deficit reported at month 9, primarily as a result of:

- Receipt of £5.29m of Welsh Government Covid-19 hardship funding since month 9 to compensate the Council to support its enhanced costs of service delivery and loss of income as a direct result of Covid-19 impact;
- Receipt of significant unbudgeted Welsh Government grants that were communicated to and received by the Authority late in the financial year and that have offset core budget funding;
- Underspends across many service areas as a result of the pandemic and where services have been reduced or stopped, travel requirements have reduced, office and buildings have remained closed and substantial staff vacancies have remained unfilled.

2.2 That Members acknowledge the extent that the Welsh Government Covid-19 Hardship Fund has covered all Covid-19 related additional costs directly incurred during the financial year of £11.25m together with compensation for loss of income of £8.38m.

2.3 That Members note the 85% delivery of the service specific budgeted mandated savings as detailed in ***Appendix 2*** and as agreed by full Council previously and the implicit remedial action/savings included in the financial outturn to compensate for circa 15% savings (£734k) reported as delayed or unachievable by service managers.

2.4 That Members endorse the strategy applied to replenish earmarked reserves as noted within the report to support future financial challenges and ensure financial resilience during a period of significant uncertainty as we continue to recover from the pandemic and as the delivery of our services change in light of a severely altered socio–economic landscape, and as wider policy commitments, both locally and nationally begin to take shape.

2.5 In taking the approach set out above, Cabinet recognises the extraordinary nature of the 2020/21 financial year and accepts that there remains significant recurring service pressures and risks in 2021/22 and over the medium term.

2.6 Cabinet notes the unprecedented improvement in Schools reserve balances of £3.85m as contained in ***Appendix 1*** that has resulted in 15 of the 17 schools entering the year in deficit returning to a surplus balance. This reflects the significant levels of grant support from Welsh Government that was notified late in the financial year primarily relating to Schools Revenue Maintenance Grant and Recruit, Recover and Raise Standards.

2.7 That Cabinet endorses the requirement for schools carrying significant surplus balances that are above levels guided by Welsh Government to provide investment plans setting out how they intend to spend their significant surplus balances, whilst also appreciating that the inherent structural budget deficits that have led to 17 schools being in deficit at the start of the year remain and require resolution irrespective of additional funding received.

2.8 That Members consider the capital outturn spend of £19.0m, introducing an underspend of £3.18m primarily due to underspending of the capitalisation directive budget and specific grant related schemes and that this subsequently releases £1.08m of capital receipts back to reserve for future capital investment.

2.9 That Members note the slippage requests of £49.92m as listed in ***Appendix 5*** along with the related presumptions made around financing consequences as detailed in ***Appendix 1,*** and accept that officers will make a further assessment of the justification for scheme slippage and make recommendations back to Cabinet for final approval as part of the month 2 financial monitoring for 2021/22.

3. KEY ISSUES:

3.1 Since entering 2020 the Council had faced significant and unprecedented challenges, notably the flood response and recovery resulting from Storms Ciara and Dennis in February 2020 and the subsequent Covid-19 pandemic and the impact of the lockdown restrictions that were put into effect on 23rd March 2020.

3.2 In parallel to this the Council had faced a hugely challenging budget round which saw a significant set of service pressures needing to be considered and accommodated within the budget, notably:

- Pressures within Children's Services relating to a continued increase in the number of looked after children (LAC) cases carrying over from 2019/20 and after the budget was approved.
- The 2.75% pay award being much higher than the original 1% budget assumption built into the budget and where it had been expected that Welsh Government funding would be forthcoming.
- Pressures remaining within the Passenger Transport Unit (PTU) and that continue to be worked on as part of the PTU review and where implementation has been impacted by the pandemic.
- Pressures in waste & recycling as a result of delays in the rollout of waste reconfiguration and changes.
- Income pressures relating to Civil parking enforcement where savings targets cannot be met.
- A shortfall against additional commercial income targets as a consequence of the impact of Covid-19 and the current level of market and economic uncertainty.
- As result of the late receipt of the final settlement from Welsh Government and the disappointment of there being no funding floor introduced, the remaining efficiency savings that were left to be identified during the financial year.

3.3 All of the above pressures continue to draw significantly on the Council's resources, both in terms of capacity and finances and continues to place an unprecedented strain on the Council. That all said, by month 9, the previously reported non-Covid-19 related over spend had moved into a forecast £142k saving. This largely resulted from the action taken during the financial year in curtailing non-essential expenditure, through cost reductions recognising the significant and continued financial pressure on the Authority as a result of the pandemic and through Covid-19 enforced reductions in normal service delivery.

3.4 **Outturn position**

Table 1: Overall Revenue outturn position

	Overall Outturn	Overall Variance to Month 9	Variance due Hardship funding	Variance due to other factors
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Social Care, Health & Safeguarding	**811**	(497)	0	(497)
Children & Young People	**75**	(11)	(7)	(4)
Enterprise & Monlife	**(498)**	(4,328)	(3,610)	(718)
Chief Executives Unit	**(141)**	(137)	(20)	(117)
Resources	**(847)**	(1,234)	(1,492)	258
Corporate Costs & Levies	**(2,569)**	(2,581)	0	(2,581)
Appropriations	**3,574**	3,838	0	3,838
Financing	**(405)**	(196)	(159)	(37)

Total	**0**	**(5,146)**	**(5,288)**	**142**

3.5 Since the month 9 forecast the Council has benefited from a further £5.29m of Welsh Government Covid-19 hardship funding to compensate the Council to support its enhanced costs of service delivery and loss of income as a direct result of Covid-19 impact.

3.6 Further to this a number of Welsh Government funding announcements were made late in the financial year that have resulted in additional specific revenue grant awards related to the continuing Covid-19 impact and also awards specific to service area pressures. These grant awards have had a direct impact in improving the revenue outturn position by offsetting core funding requirements.

3.7 During the financial year the continued impact of the pandemic has significantly altered the Authorities normal course of service delivery and additional savings have been realised where services have been reduced or stopped, travel requirements have reduced, office and buildings have remained closed and substantial staff vacancies have remained unfilled.

3.8 The analysis outlined in ***Table 2*** below reconciles the movement in the outturn position since the month 9 forecast was reported to Cabinet.

Table 2: Reconciliation of Revenue outturn from month 9

	£'000
Month 9 non-Covid-19 surplus	**(142)**
Unbudgeted grant support since Month 9 - Covid-19 specific	(3,070)
Unbudgeted grant support since Month 9 - Service specific	(803)
Reduction in budgeted use of capitalisation directive	1,080
Refinement of service outturn positions	(1,184)
Year-end surplus prior to earmarked reserve replenishment	**(4,119)**
Replenishment of earmarked reserves	4,119
Revised Council Fund Surplus	**0**

3.9 **Mandated savings and budget mitigations**

Table 3: Progress against mandated savings

Directorate	**2020/21 Budgeted Savings £000**	**Saving achieved £000**	**Delayed Savings £000**	**Savings Unachie -vable £000**	**Of which due to Covid-19**	**Of which not Covid-19 Related**	**% Achieved**

Children & Young People	(648)	(648)	0	0	0	0	100%
Social Care & Health	(1,058)	(792)	0	(266)	166	100	75%
Enterprise	(569)	(392)	(20)	(158)	178	0	69%
Resources	(418)	(198)	(220)	0	220	0	47%
Chief Executives Unit	(163)	(93)	(10)	(60)	70	0	57%
Corporate Costs & Levies	(1,479)	(1,479)	0	0	0	0	100%
Appropriations	(605)	(605)	0	0	0	0	100%
Sub-total - Services	**(4,940)**	**(4,207)**	**(250)**	**(484)**	**634**	**100**	85%
Financing	(5,397)	(5,397)	0	0	0	0	100%
Overall Total	**(10,336)**	**(9,604)**	**(250)**	**(484)**	**634**	**100**	93%

3.10 The 2020/21 budget was set based on the requirement for £10.3m of mandated savings to be achieved, with some £4.9m of these to be made directly by service areas. Given the challenging operating environment that services have performed under during 2020/21 it is pleasing to note their performance in achieving 85% of budgeted savings. This increases to 93% when taking into account savings attributable to increasing financing streams.

3.11 There has been a delay in the implementation of £250k of budget savings proposals as a direct result of staff resources being diverted to respond to the pandemic. A further £484k of savings are now deemed unachievable with £384k of these as a direct result of the pandemic.

3.12 A full list of the progress against savings mandates can be found at ***Appendix 2*** to this report.

3.13 The 2020/21 budget included the use of a Capitalisation direction of £2.09m where one-off costs are eligible to be capitalised under the guidance issued by the Welsh Government in respect of the flexible use of capital receipts. Given the reduced service activity during the year only £1.01m of the budgeted use was utilised resulting in £1.08m remaining in the capital receipts reserve for future use.

Those costs capitalised are listed and ***Appendix 4*** to this report and in summary relate to:

- Sharing back-office and administrative services with one or more other council or public sector body;
- Funding the cost of service reconfiguration, restructuring or rationalisation (staff or non-staff), where this leads to ongoing efficiency savings or service transformation;
- Driving a digital approach to the delivery of more efficient public services and how the public interacts with constituent authorities where possible;
- Integrating public facing services across two or more public sector bodies to generate savings or to transform service delivery.

3.14 **Covid-19 Impact**

3.15 The financial challenges facing the Council and resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic were hugely significant during 2020/21 and will continue to be over the medium term as the economy recovers and demands on local services transform in line with the social changes that the pandemic has brought about.

3.16 The Council continues to incur significant costs in its response effort and this will continue as it transitions towards recovery. Furthermore and resulting from the restrictions that UK Government and Welsh Government have had to put in place to contain the spread of the virus we are suffering significant shortfalls in our income levels. Some of these will return more quickly than others as services are able to be safely turned back on.

3.17 We are grateful to Welsh Government for the emergency hardship funding that has been provided to Welsh Councils to cover the costs and income losses to date and alongside this, the Covid-19 specific grant funding notified in the latter stages of the financial year. The extent of this support is outlined in ***Table 4*** below.

Table 4: Direct Grant funding received to aid in Covid-19 pressures

	£000s
Welsh Government Covid19 Hardship Fund - Additional costs incurred	11,254
Welsh Government Covid19 Hardship Fund - Compensation for loss of service income	8,382
Council Tax Income Collection shortfalls	1,059
Council Tax Reduction Scheme - to assist with increased demand	348
Digital Transformation funding	658
Savings unachieved funding	658
Business Grants - administration costs	347
Total	**22,706**

3.18 As the financial year progressed the Council was given clearer commitments of the proposed Welsh Government support and significantly the announcement made of further funding for local authorities in August 2020 to supplement funding that had already been provided to assist with meeting income losses and additional costs brought about by the pandemic. A further announcement of funding to cover the first six months of the 2021/22 financial year is welcomed and continues to recognise the unprecedented impact on the Council in managing the response to the pandemic.

3.19 In working with all parts of the Welsh Public Sector the Welsh Government provided significant one-off support to all areas through numerous funds which have been administered by the Council during the year. This has ranged from support to local businesses via Business Support Grants, payments made to care workers and specific Freelancer and Start up grants. The extent of the support administered during the financial year is detailed in ***Table 5*** below:

Table 5: Welsh Government support funds administered in year

Support fund	£000s
Business Support Grants	39,468
Care Workers £500 Payments	1,367
Covid-19 Freelancer Grant	440
Covid-19 Start Up Grant	143
Total	**41,418**

3.20 It is inevitable that the Council will face significant financial challenges as we move into the recovery phase of the pandemic as demands on services change in light of a severely altered socio-economic landscape. Alongside this there will continue to be risks associated with Welsh Government support funding being reduced or stopped. It is therefore important that the Council looks to replenish earmarked reserves to strengthen ongoing financial resilience.

3.21 **Recommended use of 2020/21 Revenue surplus**

3.22 Irrespective of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic the Authority is already dealing with underlying service pressures which have resulted in £10.3m of pressures being accommodated within the 2021/22 budget, primarily consisting of:

- Pay and pension-related spending pressures in our schooling system;
- The increasing demand placed on children's social care services, adult social care and our children with additional learning needs budgets;
- Significant service pressures within the passenger transport unit and within recycling and waste and that look to ensure that the Council supports and sustains key service delivery;
- Investment that ensures that homeless people are provided adequate support, advice and accommodation in their time of need;
- An ongoing commitment to recognise and value the contribution made by the workforce and ensuring that local government staff are paid no less than the minimum wage set by the Living Wage Foundation, extending to the apprenticeship roles within the Council.

3.23 The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic presents its own additional financial challenges and uncertainty both in terms of additional cost and significant loss of income across services. Some of these impacts are difficult to model and will potentially only manifest themselves once a degree of normality returns to service delivery as enforced restrictions diminish.

3.24 It is inevitable that service delivery and operating models will look significantly different as we move out of the emergency phase of the pandemic, for example:

- New services have been created, some services have been stopped, staff redeployed and new working practices are in place, many of these changes may need to continue beyond this phase of the crisis;

- The pandemic has brought about Welsh Government policy change, significantly in the area of Homelessness;
- Supply chains continue to be radically altered;
- The impact of continuing social distancing on service operations;
- The financial impact on the most vulnerable members of the County and the ongoing and additional support this may require;
- There has been an increased focus on digital solutions to the issues faced, some of these may replace traditional methods of service delivery;
- The prominence of agile working and the shift in culture and its impact on future office space requirements

3.25 There remains uncertainty around the continued Welsh Government emergency hardship funding to Local authorities as a result of the Covid-19 impact, in terms of the full consequential funding continuing to be passed through and whether there will be further funding announced by UK Government which will allow Welsh Government to make further commitments beyond 30th September 2021.

3.26 It is also important to recognise that the economy will likely be in recession and UK and global economies have been hit hard by the pandemic which will considerably impact future public spending and Local Government settlements.

3.27 Given all of these uncertainties it remains difficult to identify the timing and quantum of investment required into the Council's key corporate priorities moving forward and also in responding to the wider national policy agenda commitments, notably but not exclusively:

- The Climate emergency declaration and commitment to deliver a low carbon economy
- Support for mental health provision
- Homeless support and provision
- Food policy agenda

3.28 In considering all of the above and in apportioning the outturn position the future financial stability of the Council was considered, alongside the potential additional unknown costs that could occur in dealing with post Covid-19 recovery, whilst also giving financial resilience to service areas to deal with service pressures and the wider policy commitments that will shape future service delivery. In this regard the revenue surplus is proposed to be allocated to the following reserves:

Table 6: Reserves balances and proposed replenishment

Reserve	31st March 2020 £000	31st March 2021 Draft £000	Proposed replenish-ment £000	31st March 2021 Final £000
Council Fund (Authority)	(8,907)	(8,907)		(8,907)
Council Fund (School	435	(3,418)		(3,418)

Balances)				
Sub Total Council Fund	**(8,472)**	**(12,325)**	**0**	**(12,325)**
Earmarked Reserves:				
Invest to Redesign	(1,128)	(1,156)	(200)	(1,356)
IT Transformation	(254)	(254)	(600)	(854)
Insurance and Risk Management	(935)	(935)		(935)
Capital Receipt Generation	(181)	(116)	(300)	(416)
Treasury Equalisation	(990)	(590)		(590)
Redundancy and Pensions	(245)	(157)	(700)	(857)
Capital Investment	(627)	(627)		(627)
Priority Investment	(405)	(405)	(1,500)	(1,905)
Covid19 Hardship Fund Equalisation Reserve	0	0	(819)	(819)
Other Earmarked Reserves	(1,618)	(2,312)		(2,312)
Total Earmarked Reserves	**(6,383)**	**(6,552)**	**(4,119)**	**(10,671)**
Total useable revenue reserves	**(14,855)**	**(18,877)**	**(4,119)**	**(22,996)**

4 SCHOOLS BALANCES

4.1 In a similar manner to the general revenue activities of the Council, Schools have also benefitted from Welsh Government hardship funding to compensate for additional general Covid costs incurred (e.g. PPE, staff cover due to self-isolation, enhanced cleaning) and income lost totalling circa £1.24m and this is included within the figures outlined in ***Table 4*** above.

4.2 In terms of the overall movement in school balances, 2020/21 has been an unprecedented year. Schools have received several specific Welsh Government grants totalling £1.77m to further support them and their pupils and these have predominately displaced core budgets in 2020/21 or been committed for use in 2021/22 in line with the grant terms. Furthermore, due largely to the sustained periods of enforced closure during the financial year spending on budgets areas such as staff cover, premises, supplies & services and examination fees, were significantly curtailed and produced savings totalling £2.08m.

4.3 These factors mean that the overall level of the school reserves has increased by £3.85m as at the 31st March 2021, taking schools collectively out of a net deficit of £435k to an overall surplus of £3.42m. The movements in individual school balances are outlined in ***Appendix 4*** to this report. As a result of this 15 of the 17 schools entering the year in deficit have returned to a surplus balance.

4.4 The Authority requires schools carrying significant surplus balances that are above levels guided by Welsh Government (£50k for a Primary, £100k for a Secondary) to provide investment plans setting out how they intend to spend the significant surplus balances being held. It is also clear that the inherent structural budget deficits that have led to a

situation of 17 schools being in deficit at the start of the year remain and require resolution irrespective of additional funding received.

4.5 In particular and in specific relation to Chepstow Comprehensive, when the windfall Welsh Government grants are disregarded, it masks a significant in-year budget deficit that has been brought about significantly due to the curtailing of any staff redundancies during the pandemic and that were pivotal to their recovery plans. This leaves the school in a comparably weaker position than they would have been in if they had executed their recovery plans as intended, and where they do not now have the level of surplus balances that the other three comprehensive schools now have to strategically invest over the medium term.

5 CAPITAL OUTTURN

5.1 The capital expenditure outturn detailed in ***Appendix 1*** shows a net underspend of £3.18m against budget which can largely be attributed to specific grant funded schemes which have not progressed during the year (£1.92m) due to a combination of late notification of the grant awards, a lack of resources available to complete eligible works and a shortage of appropriate schemes that fit within the grant criteria stipulated. This under spend does not release any capital financing for future use as the grant actually paid matches the overall expenditure.

5.2 Alongside this there has been reduced usage of the Capitalisation Directive budget by £1.08m following clarification of the revenue outturn position. This subsequently releases capital receipts back to the capital receipts reserve to utilise for future capital investment.

5.3 Capital financing variances primarily follow the reasons for the above expenditure variances with grants showing a variance of £1.7m and capital receipts £1.08m, as the related expenditure was not incurred. There is a variance within unsupported borrowing and leasing where it was more cost-effective to the Authority to finance vehicle purchases from borrowing instead of leasing as initially budgeted.

5.4 Capital slippage totals £49.92m and is shown in detail in ***Appendix 5*** to this report. The vast majority of the slippage requested is due to the delays encountered relating to the impact of Covid-19 and was very much outside of the control of the Authority with two schemes (Asset Investment Fund and Abergavenny 3-19 School) accounting for two thirds of the total slippage.

5.5 Members are asked to note the slippage requests of £49.92m as listed in ***Appendix 5*** along with the related presumptions made around financing consequences as detailed in ***Appendix 1.*** A further assessment of the justification for scheme slippage will be undertaken and recommendations made back to Cabinet for final approval as part of the month 2 financial monitoring for 2021/22.

5.6 **Useable Capital Receipts Available**

5.7 In the table below, the effect of the changes to the forecast capital receipts on the useable capital receipts balances available to meet future capital commitments is shown. This is also compared to the balances forecast within the 2020/24 MTFP capital budget proposals.

Table 7: Useable Capital receipts forecast

	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000
Balance as at 1st April	3,040	9,210	14,136	12,544	11,452
Capital receipts used for financing	(31)	(3,341)	(684)	(684)	(684)
Capital receipts used to support capitalisation direction	(1,011)	(2,208)	(2,208)	(508)	(508)
Capital receipts Received or Forecast	7,212	10,475	1,300	100	100
Forecast Balance as at 31st March	**9,210**	**14,136**	**12,544**	**11,452**	**10,360**
Forecast Balance 2020/24 MTFP	9,904	10,245	10,791	10,136	10,136
Variance compared to 2020/24 MTFP	**(694)**	**3,891**	**1,753**	**1,316**	**224**

5.8 Capital receipts used to support the capitalisation direction were £1.08m less than budgeted for 2020/21, however this was offset by an overall delay in generating some receipts into 2021/22 and beyond and therefore results in a slightly reduced balance of receipts compared to the original budget.

5.9 Forecast receipts to be generated in future years have increased since the 2020/21 budget was set and this is demonstrated in the expected overall increase in receipt balances after affording additional capitalisation direction approved as part of 2021/22 budget setting.

6 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

6.1 This report provides an update on the current financial situation and the challenges facing the Council now and over the medium term. It has been prepared at a time of great uncertainty as the Council still transitions from the emergency response phase of the Covid-19 pandemic towards a period of recovery.

6.2 The outturn that has been prepared for consideration is predicated on assumptions that have been independently assessed by budget holders and subsequently reviewed as part of the budget monitoring process. These assumptions don't look to represent a policy position that Cabinet is looking to take on when services are re-opening. Rather they represent a reasoned assessment of the impact on services in year based on known information, anticipated future changes and estimates.

6.3 By far the greatest uncertainty that existed during the year was the level of Welsh Government hardship funding to be received to offset additional costs incurred in responding to the Covid-19 emergency response and the significant income losses that have resulted where services have ceased as a result of the enforced lockdown

restrictions in place. This risk diminished during the year as a result of Welsh Government announcements of significant funding to support Councils in Wales and this support currently extends to the 30th September 2021.

7 EVALUATION CRITERIA

7.1 The uncertainty around Welsh Government funding of additional costs and losses of income brought about by the response to and the impact of the pandemic has diminished during the year. However, this continues to represent a risk moving into 2021/22 that will only be mitigated by monthly and quarterly submissions to Welsh Government being agreed. And furthermore and beyond those impacts resulting from Covid-19 there exists a number of significant cost pressures that need to be managed regardless.

7.2 The Council has traditionally maintained formal reporting to Cabinet at month 2 (period 1), month 7 (period 2) and outturn, with more frequent budget monitoring information being undertaken at a departmental level and reported to management and the Strategic Leadership Team. Only where circumstances necessitate it is more frequent formal reporting to Cabinet required.

7.3 As a result of the significant financial challenges facing the Council there has been a more frequent reporting of the in-year revenue and capital outturn forecast. Formal reporting has taken place at months 2, 5, 7, 9 and outturn.

7.4 The update of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and the development of the budget proposals for 2021/22 and the medium term were challenging. Circa £10.3m of pressures were accommodated in the budget and provides a huge challenge to services to bear down on cost to mitigate these.

7.5 There is also further uncertainty given that the UK Government has only undertaken a one-year Comprehensive Spending Review which consequently does not enable Welsh Government to provide any additional certainty around indicative budget settlements for Welsh local authorities in future years.

8 REASONS:

8.1 To ensure that the gravity of the financial challenges facing the Council are understood and that reasonable actions are being taken to safeguard the ongoing financial sustainability of the Council.

8.2 To provide a timely update on the current financial circumstances and challenges resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic and that will in turn lead to the Council needing to plan and plot a revised course to ensure it remains financially sustainable into the future.

9 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

9.1 The resource implications of the revenue and capital outturn are contained in this report and the attached appendices. The overall surplus on the revenue budget has enabled a

strategy of reserve replenishment which ensures a degree on financial resilience as we move into a further period of significant financial and economic uncertainty.

9.2 The financial challenges facing the Council and resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic will be significant over the next 4 years of the MTFP. Not just for this Council but all councils across Wales and the UK. The Council is having to incur significant costs in its response effort and this will continue as it transitions towards recovery. Furthermore and resulting from the restrictions that UK Government and Welsh Government have had to put in place to contain the spread of the virus we are suffering significant shortfalls in our income levels. Some of these will return more quickly than others as services are able to be safely turned back on and this clearly represents a funding risk in the medium term.

9.3 The more immediate steps during the year were to curtail non-essential expenditure. Going forward more targeted and planned cost reductions will be challenging and the Council will as always look to minimise impact on service delivery. Though this cannot be guaranteed and is expected if Welsh Government funding falls short of expectations.

9.4 The Council continues to work on the basis that it will be fully funded by Welsh Government. However, there is clearly a risk that this will not happen and beyond this there are significant non-Covid-19 pressures being managed. Options to mitigate these risks are limited with recourse to draw on the Council Fund, specific earmarked reserves and useable capital receipts. Replenishment of these reserves as part of the outturn is therefore critical to the ongoing financial sustainability of the Council.

10 EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

10.1 This report provides Members with information on the revenue and capital outturn position of the Authority and carries no decisions. There are therefore no equality of future generations' implications directly arising from this report.

10.2 Any such impacts will be fully considered subsequently when Council receives the budget recovery plan and revised budget proposals.

CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team
Cabinet

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Appendix 1 – Revenue and capital outturn report including school balances
Appendix 2 – Progress made against mandated savings
Appendix 3 – Capitalisation directive schedule 2020/21
Appendix 4 – Movement in individual school balances
Appendix 5 – Capital slippage schedule

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Overall Revenue Position

Table 1: Council Fund 2020/21 Outturn Summary Statement

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21	Budget Adjustm-ents 2020/21	Revised Annual Budget	Actual Outturn	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9	Variance from M9 to Outturn
	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's
Social Care, Health & Safeguarding	50,685	(170)	**50,515**	**51,327**	**811**	**1,308**	(497)
Children & Young People	55,539	480	**56,019**	**56,093**	**75**	**86**	(12)
Enterprise & Monlife	24,133	(1,946)	**22,187**	**21,688**	**(499)**	**3,829**	(4,328)
Chief Executives Unit	4,745	(81)	**4,664**	**4,524**	**(140)**	**(4)**	(136)
Resources	7,746	(445)	**7,301**	**6,454**	**(847)**	**387**	(1,234)
Corporate Costs & Levies	22,743	229	**22,972**	**20,403**	**(2,569)**	**13**	(2,582)
Net Cost of Services	**165,591**	**(1,934)**	**163,658**	**160,488**	**(3,170)**	**5,619**	**(8,789)**
Appropriations	4,856	2,192	**7,049**	**10,623**	**3,574**	**(264)**	3,838
Expenditure to be Financed	**170,447**	**259**	**170,706**	**171,111**	**405**	**5,355**	**(4,950)**
Financing	(170,447)	(259)	**(170,706)**	**(171,111)**	**(405)**	**(208)**	(197)
Net General Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	**0**	**(0)**	**0**	**0**	**(0)**	**5,147**	**(5,147)**

Table 2: Council Fund 2020/21 Outturn Detailed Statement

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21 '000's	Budget Adjustm -ents 2020/21 '000's	Revised Annual Budget '000's	Actual Outturn '000's	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn '000's	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9 '000's	Variance from M9 to Outturn '000's
Adult Services	7,877	(55)	7,822	7,732	(90)	(62)	(28)
Children Services	14,428	(63)	14,365	15,718	1,353	1,433	(80)
Community Care	24,434	30	24,464	24,239	(225)	59	(284)
Commissioning	1,483	(65)	1,418	1,249	(169)	(106)	(63)
Partnerships	436	0	436	436	0	0	0
Public Protection	1,481	(14)	1,467	1,400	(67)	(17)	(50)
Resources & Performance	546	(3)	543	553	10	1	9
Social Care, Health & Safeguarding	50,685	(170)	50,515	51,326	811	1,308	(497)
Individual Schools Budget	47,420	(356)	47,064	46,766	(298)	(434)	136
Resources	1,234	(44)	1,190	1,176	(14)	3	(17)
Standards	6,885	880	7,765	8,151	386	518	(132)
Children & Young People	55,539	480	56,019	56,093	74	87	(13)
Business Growth and Enterprise	2,468	(260)	2,208	2,242	34	(62)	96
Facilities & Fleet Management	5,665	(1,266)	4,399	4,528	129	922	(793)
Neighbourhood Services	10,483	(259)	10,224	10,275	51	500	(449)
Planning & Housing	1,951	(130)	1,821	1,314	(507)	1,245	(1,752)
Countryside & Culture (MonLife)	1,348	(8)	1,340	1,345	5	121	(116)
Finance & Business Development (MonLife)	1,507	116	1,623	1,484	(139)	(43)	(96)
Leisure, Youth & Outdoor Adventure (MonLife)	710	(139)	571	499	(72)	1,146	(1,218)

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21	Budget Adjustm -ents 2020/21	Revised Annual Budget	Actual Outturn	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9	Variance from M9 to Outturn
Enterprise & Monlife	24,132	(1,946)	22,186	21,687	(499)	3,829	(4,328)
Legal & Land Charges	839	(6)	833	724	(109)	(27)	(82)
Governance, Democracy & Support	3,906	(75)	3,831	3,799	(32)	23	(55)
Chief Executives Unit	4,745	(81)	4,664	4,523	(141)	(4)	(137)
Finance	2,597	(80)	2,517	1,762	(755)	39	(794)
Information, Communication Technology	2,803	57	2,860	2,784	(76)	(431)	355
People	1,725	94	1,819	1,766	(53)	(112)	59
Future Monmouthshire	(46)	(25)	(71)	12	83	83	0
Commercial & Corporate Landlord	667	(492)	175	131	(44)	808	(852)
Resources	7,746	(446)	7,300	6,455	(845)	387	(1,232)
Precepts & Levies	20,379	1	20,380	20,382	2	2	0
Coroner's	117	0	117	152	35	35	0
Archives	182	0	182	182	0	0	0
Corporate Management	293	0	293	(26)	(319)	(231)	(88)
Non Distributed Costs (NDC)	492	0	492	684	192	215	(23)
Strategic Initiatives	(167)	228	61	(2,375)	(2,436)	(61)	(2,375)
Insurance	1,447	0	1,447	1,404	(43)	52	(95)
Corporate Costs & Levies	22,743	229	22,972	20,403	(2,569)	12	(2,581)
Net Cost of Services	165,590	(1,934)	163,656	160,487	(3,169)	5,619	(8,788)
Fixed Asset Disposal Costs	20	45	65	68	3	6	(3)
Interest & Investment Income	(252)	0	(252)	(206)	46	162	(116)
Interest Payable & Similar Charges	4,020	27	4,047	3,709	(338)	(331)	(7)

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21	Budget Adjustm -ents 2020/21	Revised Annual Budget	Actual Outturn	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9	Variance from M9 to Outturn
Charges Required under Regulation	6,251	(108)	6,143	6,075	(68)	(81)	13
Other Investment Income	(1,153)	1,153	0	(25)	(25)	(14)	(11)
Borrowing Cost Recoupment	(3,425)	50	(3,375)	(3,538)	(163)	(6)	(157)
Contributions to Reserves	143	688	831	4,950	4,119	0	4,119
Contributions from reserves	(747)	86	(661)	(661)	0	0	0
Capital expenditure financed from revenue	0	252	252	252	0	0	0
Appropriations	4,857	2,193	7,050	10,624	3,574	(264)	3,838
Expenditure to be Financed	170,447	259	170,706	171,111	405	5,355	(4,950)
General Government Grants	(64,824)	(2,899)	(67,723)	(67,723)	0	0	0
Non Domestic Rates	(32,936)	2,899	(30,037)	(30,037)	0	0	0
Council tax	(79,572)	(259)	(79,831)	(80,238)	(407)	(367)	(40)
Council Tax Benefit Support	6,885	0	6,885	6,887	2	159	(157)
Financing	(170,447)	(259)	(170,706)	(171,111)	(405)	(208)	(197)
Net General Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	0	0	0	0	0	5,147	(5,147)

DIRECTORATE – DIVISION VARIANCE COMMENTS

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & SAFEGUARDING	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,630	1,448	1,707	1,308	**811**

SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & SAFEGUARDING DIRECTOR'S COMMENTARY:

The directorate outturn for 2020/21 was an overspend of £811K, a £497K decrease since month 9, as a result of late Discharge to Reassess funding from Health of £553K. Of the over spend, £346K is as a result of the pressure from the additional 1.75% unfunded staff pay award and £242K unachievable 2% staff efficiency saving. The directorate budget was also assisted by the Social Care Workforce and Sustainability Grant from Welsh Government of £984K.

The Adult Services division finished the financial year with an underspend of £474K, an increase in underspend since M9 of £365K, largely due to funding received from Health via the Discharge to Reassess scheme. This area of the directorate has also benefitted in year from the Social Care Workforce and Sustainability (SCWS) grant of circa £1M and Intermediate Care Funding (ICF), with ICF having a planned termination date of 31st March 2022.

Children's Services has a predicted overspend of £1.353M, a £81K reduction since the reported M9 forecast. This element of the directorate received a significant injection as part of the 2020/21 budget allocation, however, this was based on CLA numbers at that time being 197. Since the budget for 2020/21 was set, the service had a further influx of children to 219 at the end of 2019/20, and at the close of the financial year CLA numbers stood at 213.

Public Protection continues to strive to remain within its budget, turning out an underspend of £67K, an increase in underspend since M9 of £50K, due to some reduced activity as a result of COVID 19.

ADULT SERVICES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	24	156	180	(62)	(90)

Net effect of additional pay award, not achieving the 2% staff efficiency saving and additional spend in the care at home service, less reduced premise expenditure with day service closures as a result of COVID 19 plus Winter Pressures funding from Health.

CHILDREN SERVICES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,575	1,459	1,460	1,433	1,353

£1M overspend in providing care and placements for our Looked After Children which closed at 213 at year end, £260K overspend in legal costs and the remaining overspend as a result of continued use of agency staffing which currently stands at 9 being employed plus the increased staff pay award.

COMMUNITY CARE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(63)	(209)	(4)	60	(225)

This division is being held up by a circa £1M SCWS grant plus Winter Pressures funding from Health.

COMMISSIONING					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'s	(118)	(63)	(103)	(106)	(169)
Ongoing vacant Commissioning Officer post and realignment of Service Level Agreements, netting the costs of increased staff pay award.					
PARTNERSHIPS					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	0	0	0	0
No variances					
PUBLIC PROTECTION					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'s	211	109	177	(17)	(67)
Underspend is as a result of reduced activity, mainly within commercial and environmental health, as a result of COVID 19.					
RESOURCES & PERFORMANCE					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1	(5)	(4)	0	10
As a result of the increased staff pay award.					

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	84	19	125	87	**75**
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTARY: The Directorate's Outturn position is an over spend of £75k, which can be attributed to ALN. However, this has been partially offset by the surplus balance following the closure of Mounton House, which has been transferred to the central CYP budgets to support the wider education budgets.					
INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS BUDGET					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	(264)	(316)	(434)	(298)
The decrease in underspend of £136k since month 9 is due to an increase in Monmouth Comp Rates for 2020-21 and a provision for possible discrepancies regarding back pay for a school.					
RESOURCES					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	37	22	14	3	(14)
The underspend is due to vacancy savings					

STANDARDS					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	47	261	426	518	386

- Recoupment increased by (income received from other LA's) (£151,000)
- Independent placement costs overspent by £127,000
- Other LA placement costs overspent by £186,000
- Additional support for pupils attending our schools overspent by £493,000
- Underspend on early years (rising 3's) due to school closure (£150,000)
- Overspend on breakfast clubs £45,000
- Underspend on ALN Transport due to school closure (£109,000)

Within the overspend of £493,000 relating to the additional support for pupils attending our own schools, £200,000 relates to additional funding for the additional learning needs units in Overmonnow (£100k) and Monmouth Comprehensive (£100k). Both these units are able to accommodate more MCC pupils, resulting in less pupils needing to be educated either in independent or other LA schools. While this has resulted in an over spend, the fees paid for the other schools would have resulted in the over spend being higher.

Included in the independent placement costs is £107,000 relating to the three remaining pupils at Mounton House, this cost has been transferred from Mounton House to support this.

Breakfast clubs have seen a reduction in numbers since re-opening following the Summer and Spring Term lockdowns, which has led to a reduction in income.

ENTERPRISE	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	5,950	5,113	4,617	3,829	**(499)**

ENTERPRISE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTARY:

The Enterprise and MonLife Directorate is forecasting an outturn position of £499k surplus at year end. This is an improved position since Month 9 and the details of these changes are provided within the next sections of this report.

The impact of COVID-19 has been significant across all of the services with both a loss of income and additional costs incurred to operate critical front line services during the pandemic. In addition to the direct impacts of the pandemic service areas identified pressures where budget savings have not been implemented or ongoing pressures continued to affect services.

Across all Services, all eligible additional costs and income losses have been claimed against any Welsh Government funding that has been made available. In addition, service areas have been successful in securing grant funding which has enabled us to passport core costs to grant funding activity. Since month 9 a number of service areas have been able to report a significantly improved position as WG has confirmed that costs or income losses can be covered by the support grants available due to COVID.

BUSINESS GROWTH & ENTERPRISE					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**

Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	46	29	(50)	(62)	34

Business Growth & Enterprise has underspent by £34k, this can be split down to the following :-

- Abergavenny Borough Theatre – Break-even.
- RDP & Youth Enterprise - £3k underspent due to offsetting core staff costs with grant funding.
- Communications - £10k underspent due to improved income.
- Community & Pship Development - £44k underspent, mainly due to staff savings as we have been able to passport core costs to grant funding.
- Enterprise Mgt & Strategic Projects - £90k overspent mainly due to unfunded pay award and over-accrual of public transport subsidy grant.

FACILITIES & FLEET MANAGEMENT

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,339	1,097	1,222	923	129

Facilities & Fleet Management has overspent by £129k.

- **Catering** - £103k underspent. The service was adversely affected by the pandemic but WG Covid income support has enabled the unit to recover lost meal income based on 19-20 performance, as a result 20-21 outturn has mirrored the 19-20 outturn producing an underspend against budget.

- **Building Cleaning** - £36k underspent. This is mainly due to an increase in internal income as the unit has picked up a number of contracts that have been brought back in-house.

- **Passenger Transport** - £24k overspend, due in the main :-

  Private Hire & Service 65 - £5k overspent due to vehicle maintenance costs, receipt of Covid income support to cover lost hire income has improved the outturn from M9.

  School Transport Operations - £96k overspent – due to a combination of historic staff pressure c/fwd from 19-20 and additional hours required to cover new Covid transport arrangements and additional staffing required to cover recent contract hand backs. The reduction from M9 relates to a number of factors; overtime payments were not as high as anticipated, agency staff were not required, furlough income included for February and March all of this is due to schools not going back until later than predicted.

  Commissioning - £87k underspent due to staff vacancies, and a reduction in contract costs due to the school closures.

- **Fleet Maintenance** - £248k overspent, due to:-

  - Vehicle maintenance costs have increased over and above available budget, an element of this could be attributed to the requirement for additional vehicles due to Covid requirements.
  - Increased maintenance of our depots in Raglan and Caldicot.
  - A reduction in members of the Green Car scheme has hit savings (£6k).

The £793k positive swing from Month 9 can be mainly attributed to WG income support payments driving down service overspends in Passenger Transport and Catering.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn

Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,456	1,153	783	500	51

Neighbourhood services has overspent by £51k.

- **Highways & Street Lighting** - £63k underspent. Street Lighting has underspent by £103k, LED lamp replacement has generated savings from reduced output, in addition KWH rates were lower than budgeted, this has resulted in an underspend against our electricity budget. This has been offset by a net £40k overspend in Highways Operations as plant purchases that were to be reserve funded are to remain within the service.

- **Waste & Street Scene** - £114k overspent – This can be broken down into 2 main areas:-

  - Waste Services - £57k overspent – Main issues :-
    - Impact of Covid – Even though all the additional expenditure and the loss of external income has been covered off by the WG support grant covid still has impacted on the service in 20-21, this is because most of the planned interventions to help improve the budget deficit were stopped or delayed due to the pandemic.
    - Non-Covid related pressures – the volatility in the global recycling market continues to impact negatively on treatment and disposal costs for recycling and waste materials. In addition the abeyance of Usk CA site closure delayed service savings (£30k), there was also pressure caused by no budget increase for contracts and fuel inflation and the delayed roll out of polyprop bags. We have been fortunate that many of these pressures have been offset by the receipt of a number of WG Circular Economy grants and it has allowed us to passport core costs such as officer time against grant reducing service spend, this is the main reason for the improvement from Month 9.

  - Grounds Maintenance – £57k overspent – mainly due to additional expenditure incurred in meeting contractual obligations later in the year as a result of Grounds supporting waste collections during April and May.

PLANNING, HOUSING and Highways Dev & Flooding

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,011	1,067	993	1,245	(507)

Planning, Housing and Highways Dev & Flooding has underspent by £507k.

- **Planning & Building Control** - £102k underspent – this is due to a staff vacancy and savings against professional fees. The income shortfall has been covered off by the WG Covid support grant and is the reason for the improvement in outturn from Month 9.
- **Planning Policy** - £137k underspent - this is due to savings in professional and specialist fees costs due to delays in the LDP.

- **Housing** - £165k underspent - The majority of the underspend is found in our Shared Housing and Private Leasing schemes where net rental received from tenants has exceeded budgeted expectations, the final position on rent accounts cannot be calculated until financial year end so the extent of underspend was not known during the year and is the reason for the positive swing between reporting periods. In addition we have also been able to fund some staffing from grant funding. The increased expenditure relating to Welsh Government Covid related requirements to support homeless households and implement new Welsh Government homeless policy, has been funded by the WG Covid support grant so has not affected outturn position.

- **Car Parking, Highways Development & Flooding** - £103k underspent. Main areas:-

- Car Parks - £108k overspent – this is due to increased costs in car park rates, transport and supplies and services. All of the income shortfall reported at M9 has been covered off by the WG support grant and is the reason for the improvement between reporting periods.
- Highways Development & flooding - £211k underspent – mainly as a result of staff vacancies across the department where the decision was made to freeze vacant posts to help with recovery of car park overspend.

There has been a very large positive swing between outturn and Month 9, this is mainly due to the receipt of WG income support grant in Housing, Car Parks and Planning that has reduced service overspends.

(MONLIFE) Countryside & Culture

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	42	40	81	121	5

Countryside & Culture - £5k overspent- The service has been heavily impacted by Covid and flooding in 20-21. All income lost due to event cancellation has been covered by the WG Covid support grant, the small overspend relates to additional costs as a result of the flooding that could not be covered by grant.

(MONLIFE) Finance & Business Development

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit /(Surplus) £'000s	(118)	(150)	(106)	(43)	(139)

Finance & Business development- £139k underspent – Mainly due to staff savings from vacant posts throughout the service. All income losses have been covered by WG support grant and is the reason for the positive swing from Month 9.

(MONLIFE) Leisure, Youth & Outdoor Adventure

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit /(Surplus) £'000s	2,173	1,877	1,694	1,146	(72)

Leisure, Youth & Outdoor Adventure - £72k underspent.

The closure of our Leisure centres and Outdoor Adventure sites due to Covid has had an adverse impact on income generation in 20-21. Without the WG income support grant we would have been reporting a sizable overspend but the grant has allowed us to cover off any shortfall so our revenue outturn position is not affected. The £72k underspend is mainly due to staff vacancies across the department.

CHIEF EXECUTIVES UNIT	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit /(Surplus) £'000s	187	144	63	(4)	**(140)**
LEGAL & LAND CHARGES					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**

Deficit /(Surplus) £'000s	78	92	40	(27)	(109)

Legal - £93k underspend - this is mainly as a result of staff savings due to the employment lawyer post not being filled in 20-21 and a reduction in supplies and services.

Land charges – £16k underspend – this is mainly due to the small 'boom' in the house market as CV restrictions eased resulting in a considerable improvement in search income over the last 2 quarters, augmented by WG covid support that covered the initial period of the housing market being shut down.

The £82k improvement from M9 is due to the extent of staff and supplies savings in legal not being fully known at M9 and the pick up in search income in the last quarter in land charges.

GOVERNANCE, DEMOCRACY & SUPPORT

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit /(Surplus) £'000s	109	52	23	23	(32)

The **Community Hubs** sections is forecasting to overspend by £8k - this is due to over spends in Usk Post Office as this budget area is not being completely funded and therefore running at a loss and insufficient budget for Gilwern Library. This is offset in part by savings across some of the other hubs due to a decrease in spend on supplies and services.

The **Contact Centre** is reporting a £15k overspend, this is due to a proposed budget saving that can no longer be delivered and is now reflected as a pressure in the 21-22 budget model.

The **Corporate Section** is forecasting to overspend by £11k, this is due to an overspend relating to supplies and services and a copyright licencing fee.

The **Democratic Services Section** is forecasting to underspend by £86,000, this is due to savings in Elections where we have had savings from not having to undertake the annual canvass, grant windfalls relating to voting for 16/17 year olds and underspends in supplies and services mainly due to Members working from home. The extent of grant windfalls were not known at M9 and is the main reason for the improvement.

Policy and Partnerships is forecasting to overspend by £25k, this is mainly due to an increase in Welsh Language Translation costs.

RESOURCES	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit /(Surplus) £'000s	782	694	192	387	(867)

RESOURCES DIRECTOR'S COMMENTARY:

Whilst the COVID-19 pandemic has adversely impacted front line services the directorate has equally suffered significantly but in different ways. The outturn position has moved significantly and positively from that reported at month 9. This is principally as a consequence of the shortfalls in income as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic being fully covered from Welsh Government's COVID Hardship Fund. A significant pressure resulting from B&B claims for homeless people, and which didn't attract full subsidy from DWP, has also been funded by Welsh Government's COVID-19 Hardship Fund.

The outturn position has also benefitted from vacancy savings and notably where senior finance posts and property posts are not being filled. This is not a sustainable position and will not be a permanent

feature and is currently being addressed.

FINANCE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	137	189	173	39	(755)

Finance - £237k underspent – This is due to staff savings from senior finance staff vacancies.

Audit - £52k underspent due to staff savings as we have funded collaboration costs through capital as part of capitalisation directive (£36k) and savings due to maternity leave (£14.5k).

Revenues - £374k underspend. This can be attributed to :-

•**Benefits** - £63k overspent. This reflects the net position against the Housing Benefit budget once all subsidies and grants have been taken into account. Certain projects, especially for drug and alcohol support, are not eligible for full subsidy and fall to the council to finance any shortfall.
• **Council Tax** - £59k overspend. This is mainly due to an over spend against salary costs as budget has been moved as part of the Resources restructure, this has been offset by underspends in finance above.

• **Charity Relief** - £477k underspend. This is due to 2 main reasons 1) We haven't used any funding set aside in 20-21 for Business Rate support (this is separate to the covid support grants) 2) We also received £347,000 funding from Welsh Government for the administration of the Business Support Grant process. The income is to cover additional staff and admin costs incurred but these are held within the relevant services department.

• **Debtors** - £19k underspend – this is due to a staff vacancy saving, due to the financial impact of covid19 the decision was made not to fill this post until April 2021.

Systems & Cashiers - £95k underspend – main reasons relate to software and system development savings and security carrier costs as activity is down due to Covid shutdown.

There is a large positive swing from month 9 of £796k – this is due to the receipt of Covid support payments driving down the over spend in housing benefits. In addition the extent of funding available from the Business Support grant was not known at M9.

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	40	(128)	(431)	(431)	(76)

The ICT section has underspent by £76k. This is due to savings within SRS that meant our annual cost was £55k below budgeted contribution and underspends in the Digital Programme Team of £17k.

The £355k negative swing from Month 9 is due to 1) we had anticipated moving staff costs from the DPO to capital as part of the capitalisation directive, due to the overall positive position of the authority this adjustment was not undertaken. 2) we had reported at M9 that we would be drawing back from SRS some MCC specific reserves – this has now not happened as we are anticipating these reserves will be needed in 21-22 to finance specific projects.

PEOPLE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(2)	6	(68)	(112)	(53)

• **People Services** - £32k overspend - this is due to system development costs of the new payroll system offset by staff savings as a result of posts only been filled part way through the year. It was reported at M9 that the system development costs would be moved to capital but it has been decided to leave these within the service and is the reason for the reduction in underspend between the reporting periods.

• **Organisational Development** - £63k underspend, this is mainly due to staff savings as we have transferred staff costs involved with service transformation to capital as part of the capitalisation directive.

• **Customer Relations** - £23k underspend due to a reduction in professional fees and staff secondment savings.

FUTURE MONMOUTHSHIRE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	112	112	82	82	83

Future Monmouthshire - £83k overspend. £112k of Corporate Agency and travel savings have been built into the budget for 20-21 – currently these are deemed unachievable or are being achieved within directorate budgets and are thus contained in their respective forecasts. This has been offset by staff savings of £30k as we are covering secondment costs of a member of staff from WG.

COMMERCIAL & CORPORATE LANDLORD

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	495	515	437	808	(44)

Commercial & Corporate Landlord is forecasting a £44k underspend:-

• **Investment Properties** has underspent by £200k, this can be split into 3 areas:-

- **Investment Assets other** - £200k overspent, our MTFP for 20-21 included a £200k saving to reflect additional income from the purchase of more investment properties. No additional purchases were made in 20-21 (due to Covid) so the saving could not be achieved.

- **Newport Leisure Park** – On Budget. The pandemic has affected the leisure and retail sector greatly in 20-21, this has impacted on rental receipts at our Newport site as most of the units have been closed for the majority of the year. Officers have worked with tenants to recover owed rent where applicable, any rental shortfall due to lockdown restrictions has been fully funded by the WG Covid 19 Hardship fund, and this additional support has enabled us to report a break-even budget for 20-21.

- **Castlegate** – On Budget. Castlegate has seen in year savings of £165k relating to windfall loan repayments and reductions in consultant and insurance costs – this saving has been moved to reserves, this reserve is set up to provide a sinking fund to support the investment and protect MCC position against any negative impacts as set out in the investment plan. This movement to reserves brings the budget back to a break-even position.

• **Estates** - £22k underspent – this is mainly due to a shortfall in income of £100k as the creation of a development company has been delayed, offset by staff savings (£120k) as a result of vacant posts not being filled during the year.

• **Solar Farm & Sustainability**- £97k underspent – despite a drop in ROC unit prices due to a drop off in demand because of lockdown our renewables are still returning a surplus and we have generated enough income to exceed budget, in addition we have seen a small underspend in rates, maintenance and professional fees.

• A combined net underspend in **County Farms, Cemeteries, Markets & Industrial units** of £27k **–** this is mainly due to staff savings in Markets being offset by a reduction in rental income in County Farms due to the change in farm portfolio.

• **Property Services & Facilities Mgt** has underspent by £109k, made up as follows:-

- Property & Office Services underspent by £28k, this is mainly due to staff savings as vacant posts were not filled during the year, this has been offset by a reduction in capital income as we were unable to charge fees on projects delayed due to Covid.
- Corporate Building Maintenance has underspent by £52k, we were able to move elements of school maintenance costs to a WG grant – this has created an under spend that was not known at M9.
- Property Accommodation has underspent by £70k due to savings in maintenance and utilities costs as offices have been closed or in limited operation due to Covid19.
- Telephony underspent by £15k as contracted call charges came in below budget.

There has been a large positive swing of £852k from what was reported at Month 9, this can mainly be attributed to the receipt of WG Covid support grant driving down overspends in Investments and Estates.

CORPORATE COSTS & LEVIES	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,480	66	43	12	**(2,569)**
PRECEPTS & LEVIES					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	2	2	2	2	2
Small overspend on National parks levy of £2k due to notification of levy late in the budget process.					
CORONERS SERVICES					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	23	23	23	35	35
An increase in workload and staffing requirements along with DDA compliance works will lead to a forecast £35k overspend against budget.					
CORPORATE MANAGEMENT					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	(114)	(191)	(231)	(319)
Primarily due to the forecast receipt receivable on the final dissolution of Capita Gwent Consultancy (£109k), rate refunds on Authority owned premise's which were not known about until mid-way through the year (£120k), and additional unbudgeted dividend from the Greater Gwent Crematorium (£73k)					
NON DISTRIBUTED COSTS					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	108	108	215	215	192

Additional pension strain costs relating to redundancies. Strain costs relate to staff who retire before their normal pension age and where the employer is required to top up the pension fund to cover the shortfall in contributions. The majority of these costs would not have been known about at budget setting stage due to the uncertainty over the timing, value and individual pension implications of redundancies.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,300	0	(61)	(61)	(2,436)

The budgets held for incremental pay pressure (£420k pressure) and cross directorate efficiency savings (£359k saving) are to remain centrally and not be distributed to service budgets.

Alongside this and notified since month 9, receipt of significant specific Covid-19 grants from Welsh Government totalling £2.38m that have been taken corporately and to assist in future financial resilience.

INSURANCE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	47	46	56	53	(43)

A slight over spend against the premium budget of £27k based on the results of the Insurance renewal and the increase in costs for the period Oct 2020 to April 2021 due to the worsening of claims experience. The flooding events led to a significant property claim at Monmouth LC and Covid19 has led to significant travel claims relating to cancelled school trips.

This is more than offset by savings in self-insured costs and professional fees based on claims activity during the year of £70k.

APPROPRIATIONS	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(77)	(83)	(163)	(263)	3,574

FIXED ASSET DISPOSAL COSTS

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	25	6	6	3

Costs forecast over and above the current budget due to unforeseen surveys and studies relating to disposal sites.

INTEREST & INVESTMENT INCOME

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	163	181	162	162	46

The forecast rate of return achievable following the Covid1-9 pandemic has reduced significantly from budgeted levels as the UK Government refines its economic response. To a lesser extent this has also impacted forecast returns on Property and combined funds which are propping up the current returns. The improvement since month 9 reflects the finalisation of returns in year on these combined funds which are often hard to estimate during the year given fair value market adjustments.

Government deposits have largely returned 0% and have at times given a negative rate of return on deposits, especially when taking into account transaction fees.

INTEREST PAYABLE & SIMILAR CHARGES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(126)	(164)	(230)	(330)	(338)

In October 2019 the PWLB took the unprecedented step of increasing its borrowing margin across the board by 1% in reaction to increased levels of borrowing by Local Authorities to fund commercial investments. This resulted in PWLB borrowing being uneconomic when compared to short term borrowing sourced from other public bodies and consequently the Authority's approach has been modified resulting in lower borrowing costs in the short term. PWLB has since reversed this decision but longer term rates continue to remain unattractive in the near term until capital spending plans are firmed up. Rates remain low on inter local authority borrowing further reducing costs.

CHARGES REQUIRED UNDER REGULATION

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(113)	(113)	(82)	(82)	(68)

A high level of slippage in the capital programme has resulted in some assets not being operational by 31/03/2020 and consequently the MRP charge for those assets being deferred by at least one year.

OTHER INVESTMENT INCOME

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(1)	(12)	(14)	(14)	(25)

Unexpected recoupment following the final winding up of Heritable bank which had previously defaulted, alongside small wayleaves and easement receipts.

TRANSFERS TO/FROM EARMARKED RESERVES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	0	0	0	4,119

As outlined in the covering report

BORROWING COST RECOUPMENT

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	0	(5)	(6)	(163)

The variance reflects the late addition of recoupment of unbudgeted borrowing costs in relation to energy efficient street lighting capital schemes. The scheme arrangements were clarified well into the financial year and as a result the borrowing cost recoupment was not forecast during the year.

FINANCING	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	336	20	(156)	(209)	**(405)**

COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT SUPPORT					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	336	324	229	159	2

This budget has been under particular pressure, as a direct result of Covid 19. Since the beginning of the year caseload has increased rising from 5,721 at the start of April 2020 to 6,168 by the end of March 2021. This increase in cases resulted in a £350,000 overspend by year end. However the Welsh Government released specific funding to Local Authorities to help manage this pressure. Monmouthshire received £348,000 such funding, resulting in a small over spend at year end.

COUNCIL TAX					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	(305)	(385)	(368)	(407)

A council tax surplus has been anticipated throughout the year. Whilst the in year collection rate is down by 1.1% compared to the same time last year, the council tax base remained healthy. By the end of the year an additional 400 properties had been added to the tax base resulting in the surplus reported above.

2. SCHOOL BALANCES

2.1. A Board of Governors who are responsible for managing the school's finances directly governs each of the Authority's Schools. However, the Authority also holds a key responsibility for monitoring the overall financial performance of schools. Below is a table showing the outturn forecast Schools' balances position based on month 9 projections for each Educational Cluster.

2.2. The monitoring earlier in the year at month 2 included a surplus balance of £206,518 for Mounton House. As the school has now closed this balance has been transferred into central education budgets, of which, £107,000 has been used to support the placement costs for the 3 remaining MCC pupils and the remaining £100,000 has been used to offset the overspend in CYP.

Council Fund Outturn 2020/21 – School Balances Summary outturn position	Reserves (Surplus) / Deficit 01/04/2020	Movement from / (to) School Balances	Reserves (Surplus) / Deficit 31/03/2021	Number Schools in deficit 01/04/2020 Primary/ Secondary	Number Schools in deficit 01/04/2020 Primary/ Secondary
	£000's	£'000	£'000		
Cluster					
Abergavenny	(118)	(1,040)	**(1,158)**	**2 1**	**0 0**
Caldicot	160	(1,250)	**(1,091)**	**4 1**	**0 0**
Chepstow	24	(373)	**(349)**	**2 1**	**0 1**
Monmouth	518	(1,313)	**(794)**	**4 1**	**1 0**
Special	(149)	123	**(26)**	**1 0**	**0 0**
Total	**435**	**(3,853)**	**(3,418)**	**13 4**	**1 1**

2.3. In terms of the overall movement in school balances, 2020/21 has been an unprecedented year. Schools have received several specific Welsh Government grants totalling £1.77m to further support them and their pupils and these have predominately displaced core budgets in 2020/21 or been committed for use in 2021/22 in line with the grant terms. Furthermore, due largely to the sustained periods of enforced closure during the financial year spending on budgets areas such as staff cover, premises, supplies & services and examination fees, were significantly curtailed and produced savings totalling £2.08m.

2.4. These factors mean that the overall level of the school reserves has increased by £3.85m as at the 31st March 2021, taking schools collectively out of a net deficit of £435k to an overall surplus of £3.42m. As a result of this 15 of the 17 schools entering the year in deficit have returned to a surplus balance.

2.5. The two main grants received from Welsh Government relate to a Schools Revenue Maintenance Grant and Recruit, Recover and Raise Standards. Schools carrying significant surplus balances that are above levels guided by Welsh Government (£50k for a Primary, £100k for a Secondary) will be asked to provide investment plans setting out how they intend to spend the significant surplus balances being held. It is also clear that the inherent structural budget deficits that have led to a situation of 17 schools being in deficit at the start of the year remain and require resolution irrespective of additional funding received.

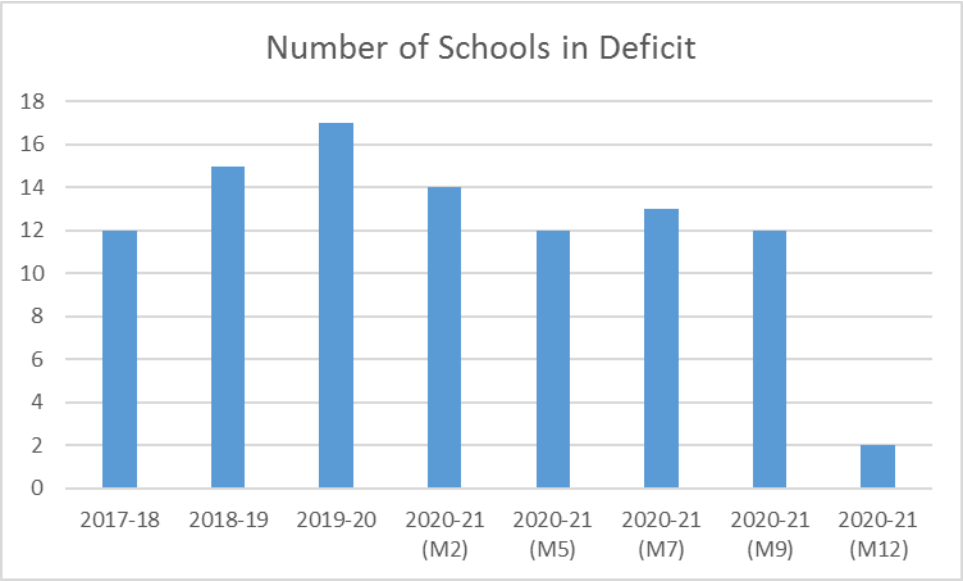
2.6. In particular and in specific relation to Chepstow Comprehensive, when the windfall Welsh Government grants are disregarded, it masks a significant in-year budget deficit that has been brought about significantly due to the curtailing of any staff redundancies during the pandemic and

that were pivotal to their recovery plans. This leaves the school in a comparably weaker position than they would have been in if they had executed their recovery plans as intended, and where they do not now have the level of surplus balances that the other three comprehensive schools now have to strategically invest over the medium term.

2.7. The movement of individual schools forecast to be in deficit during the year and the final position is shown below:

Start of year	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	End of year
Total: 17	**Total: 14**	**Total: 12**	**Total: 13**	**Total: 12**	**Total: 2**
Caldicot Comprehensive	Caldicot Comprehensive	Caldicot Comprehensive	Caldicot Comprehensive	Caldicot Comprehensive	
Chepstow Comprehensive	Chepstow Comprehensive	Chepstow Comprehensive	Chepstow Comprehensive	Chepstow Comprehensive	Chepstow Comprehensive
King Henry VIII Comprehensive	King Henry VIII Comprehensive	**			
Monmouth Comprehensive	Monmouth Comprehensive	Monmouth Comprehensive	Monmouth Comprehensive	Monmouth Comprehensive	
Llandogo Primary	Llandogo Primary	Llandogo Primary	Llandogo Primary	Llandogo Primary	Llandogo Primary
Llantilio Pertholey CIW Primary					
Magor CIW Primary					
Osbaston CiW Primary	Osbaston CiW Primary	Osbaston CiW Primary	Osbaston CiW Primary	Osbaston CiW Primary	
Overmonnow Primary			Overmonnow Primary	Overmonnow Primary	
Pupil Referral Service	Pupil Referral Service	Pupil Referral Service	Pupil Referral Service	Pupil Referral Service	
Raglan CiW Primary	Raglan CiW Primary				
Rogiet Primary					
St Mary's RC Primary	St Mary's RC Primary	St Mary's RC Primary	St Mary's RC Primary	St Mary's RC Primary	
	The Dell Primary School	The Dell Primary School	The Dell Primary School	The Dell Primary School	
Thornwell Primary	Thornwell Primary	Thornwell Primary	Thornwell Primary		
Undy Primary	Undy Primary	Undy Primary	Undy Primary	Undy Primary	
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	

** King Henry VIII Comprehensive School forecast balance at month 5 onwards included a Local Authority loan of £250,000 which was estimated to result in a surplus year-end balance. Given the current year end surplus, the school will not be taking the loan at this time.



2.8. All schools in a deficit budget have, or are in the process of agreeing recovery plans. These recovery plans will be confirmed with both the Local Education Authority and each School's Governing Body. Once finalised the schools with significant deficits will be monitored by the Cabinet member for Children and Young People and Resources on a termly basis.

2.9. Total schools balances have been exhibiting a fluctuating trend with some schools showing a continuing reduction in schools balances, which is of concern, and others a more balanced trend. However, as previously mentioned, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, several grants were awarded to schools at year end, which has resulted in a large increase in school balances for 2020-21.

Financial Year	School Balances (Surplus)/Deficit £000	Year on Year Movement £000	Number of Schools in Deficit
2014-15	(1,140)		5
2015-16	(1,156)	(16)	6
2016-17	(269)	887	12
2017-18	(175)	94	12
2018-19	232	407	15
2019-20	435	203	17
2020-21	(3,418)	(3,853)	2

3 CAPITAL OUTTURN

3.1 The summary Capital outturn position is as follows:

Capital Outturn Position 2020/21

Select Portfolio	Slippage B/F	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Approved Slippage	Revised Budget 2020/21	Actual Outturn	Variance at Outturn	Variance at M9
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Expenditure								
Children & Young People	1,245	14,423	1,872	(15,381)	2,160	2,151	(9)	0
Economic & Development	17,496	3,068	30	(19,274)	1,320	1,320	0	0
Adult	300	5,678	0	(5,964)	14	14	0	0
Strong Communities	5,801	10,139	12,079	(9,301)	18,718	15,546	(3,171)	(157)
Total Expenditure	**24,842**	**33,308**	**13,981**	**(49,920)**	**22,211**	**19,031**	**(3,180)**	**(157)**
Financing								
Supported Borrowing	0	(2,417)	0	0	(2,417)	(2,417)	0	0
General Capital Grant	0	(2,423)	0	0	(2,423)	(2,423)	0	0
Grants and Contributions	(393)	(18,229)	(10,826)	19,095	(10,353)	(8,623)	(1,730)	157
S106 Contributions	(1,052)	0	(166)	711	(507)	(507)	0	0
Unsupported Borrowing	(22,546)	(5,275)	(2,032)	27,217	(2,637)	(3,442)	805	0
Reserve & Revenue Funding	(239)	(2)	(252)	241	(252)	(252)	0	0
Capital Receipts	(612)	(3,462)	(705)	2,656	(2,123)	(1,042)	(1,080)	0
Leasing	0	(1,500)	0	0	(1,500)	(325)	(1,175)	0
Total Financing	**(24,842)**	**(33,308)**	**(13,981)**	**49,920**	**(22,211)**	**(19,031)**	**(3,180)**	**157**

3.2 The capital expenditure outturn for 2020/21 shows a saving of £3.18m against budget, however it is important to note that this does not fully represent released capital financing available for future use. The variances can be explained as follows:

- Reduced usage of the Capitalisation Directive budget by £1.08m following clarification of the revenue outturn position. This subsequently releases capital receipts back to the capital receipts reserve to utilise for future capital investment.

- Specific grant funding budgets of £1.92m that have not been able to be spent within the financial year primarily due to a combination of late notification of the grant awards, a lack of resources available to complete eligible works and a shortage of appropriate schemes that fit within the grant criteria stipulated. This under spend does not release any capital financing for future use as the grant actually paid matches the overall expenditure.

- Vehicle replacement has under spent by £172k due to clarification of vehicles requirements during the year. These purchases were originally budgeted to be funded by leasing but following an options appraisal it was more cost-effective to finance the majority of vehicles via borrowing. The under spend does not release any capital financing for future use.

3.3 The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic has caused significant disruption to the progress of budgeted capital schemes with slippage at outturn totalling £49.92m (£40.45m at month 9). The Covid-19 impact is affecting both internally and externally managed projects, with disruption to external supply chains, increased contract risk and potential inflationary cost pressures sitting alongside internal resourcing pressures.

3.4 The slippage is broken down as follows:

Scheme	Forecast Slippage Month 2 (000's)	Forecast Slippage Month 5 (000's)	Forecast Slippage Month 7 (000's)	Forecast Slippage Month 9 (000's)	Actual Slippage At Outturn
Asset Investment fund		18,142	18,142	18,118	**18,067**
Tranche 'B' King Henry Future Schools			12,484	13,421	**14,092**
Crick Road Care Home	5,978	5,978	5,978	5,978	**5,964**
RE-FIT Programme					**2,031**
Flood Recovery Grant					**1,337**
City Deal					**830**
Highways Maintenance					**812**
Schools Maintenance					**749**
County Hall 'J' block		544	544	544	**774**
Section 106 schemes		131	78	148	**692**
Disabled Facilities Grants					**613**
21st Century Schools Team				525	**572**
School Refurbishment				300	**415**
Car Park Improvements					**328**
'IT' Schemes					**296**
WG 'Resilient Roads'					**292**
Bridges & Retaining Walls					**278**
Recycling Vehicles and Boxes					**261**
'Green Infrastructure'					**247**
Abergavenny Borough Theatre Works				236	**239**
Access for All				390	**238**
County Farms					**215**
Council Chamber refurbishment & IT upgrade		200	200	200	**200**
Sewage Treatment Works				200	**199**
Abergavenny Community Hub development				47	**73**
Property schemes		229	74	138	**0**
Other schemes				203	**106**
Total	**5,978**	**25,224**	**37,500**	**40,448**	**49,920**

3.5 **Useable Capital Receipts Available**

3.6 In the table below, the effect of the changes to the forecast capital receipts on the useable capital receipts balances available to meet future capital commitments are illustrated. There is also a comparison to the balances forecast within the 2020/24 MTFP capital budget proposals.

	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000
Balance as at 1st April	3,040	9,210	14,136	12,544	11,452
Capital receipts used for financing	(31)	(3,341)	(684)	(684)	(684)
Capital receipts used to support capitalisation direction	(1,011)	(2,208)	(2,208)	(508)	(508)
Capital receipts Received or Forecast	7,212	10,475	1,300	100	100
Forecast Balance as at 31st March	**9,210**	**14,136**	**12,544**	**11,452**	**10,360**
Forecast Balance 2020/24 MTFP	9,904	10,245	10,791	10,136	10,136
Variance compared to 2020/24 MTFP	**(694)**	**3,891**	**1,753**	**1,316**	**224**

3.7 Capital receipts used to support the capitalisation direction were £1.08m less than budgeted for 2020/21, however this was offset by an overall delay in generating some receipts into 2021/22 and beyond and therefore results in a slightly reduced balance of receipts compared to the original budget.

3.8 Forecast receipts to be generated in future years have increased since the 2020/21 budget was set and this is demonstrated in the expected overall increase in receipt balances after affording additional capitalisation direction approved as part of 2021/22 budget setting.

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Disinvestment by Directorate 2020-21 REVENUE MONITORING 2020-21	2020/21 Budgeted Savings £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2 £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5 £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7 £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9 £000	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn £000	Delayed Savings £000	Savings deemed Unachievable YTD £000	Covid related	Non Covid	% Achieved	
Children & Young People	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	0	0	0	0	100%	
Social Care & Health	(1,058)	0	(792)	(792)	(792)	(792)	0	(266)	166	100	75%	
Enterprise	(569)	0	(422)	(432)	(392)	(392)	(20)	(158)	178	0	69%	
Resources	(418)	0	(198)	(198)	(198)	(198)	(220)	0	220	0	47%	
Chief Executives Units	(163)	0	(98)	(98)	(93)	(93)	(10)	(60)	70	0	57%	
Corporate Costs & Levies	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	(1,479)	0	0	0	0	100%	
Appropriations	(605)	(605)	(605)	(605)	(605)	(605)	0	0	0	0	100%	
Sub total - Service Specific	(4,939)	(2,732)	(4,242)	(4,252)	(4,207)	(4,207)	(250)	(484)	634	100	85%	
Financing	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	(5,397)	0	0	0	0	100%	
DIRECTORATE Totals Disinvestments 2020-21	(10,336)	(8,129)	(9,639)	(9,649)	(9,604)	(9,604)	(250)	(484)	634	100	93%	

Children & Young People	2020/21 Budgeted Savings £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2 £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5 £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7 £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9 £000	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn £000	Delayed Savings £000	Savings deemed Unachievable £000				ASSESSMENT of Progress
CYP capitalise direction for Mounton House recoupment income loss and repayment of reserve funding for inclusion centres	(348)	(348)	(348)	(348)	(348)	(348)						
School based redundancies	(300)	(300)	(300)	(300)	(300)	(300)						
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	(648)	0	0	0			

Social Care & Health	2020/21 Budgeted Savings £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 2 £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 5 £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 7 £000	Value of Saving forecast at Month 9 £000	Value of Saving achieved at Outturn £000	Delayed Savings £000	Savings deemed Unachievable £000				ASSESSMENT of Progress
Renegotiate Severn View section 28A contract sum	(166)		0	0	0	0		(166)	166			No formal renegotiation of the section 28A agreement has taken place due to COVID 19 demands
Service Contract efficiency savings	(20)		(20)	(20)	(20)	(20)						
Practice change	(150)		(150)	(150)	(150)	(150)						
Fairer charging weekly threshold increases from £70 to £80 generating income following means test	(116)		(116)	(116)	(116)	(116)						
Disability Services - reduce budget in line with current year demand and forecast	(7)		(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)						
My Day My Life - Development of single Monmouth MDML Hub	(15)		(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)						
Fees and charges increases	(189)		(189)	(189)	(189)	(189)						

LAC savings - reduced legal costs	(100)		0	0	0	0		(100)		100		Based on the new Legal team structure allowing legal/court work to be done in house
SCH Safeguarding team recruitment & training (capitalisation directive)	(45)		(45)	(45)	(45)	(45)						
Myst project consequences	(250)		(250)	(250)	(250)	(250)						
SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	**(1,058)**	**0**	**(792)**	**(792)**	**(792)**	**(792)**	**0**	**(266)**	**166**	**100**		
Enterprise	**2020/21 Budgeted Savings £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 2 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 5 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 7 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 9 £000**	**Value of Saving achieved at Outturn £000**	**Delayed Savings £000**	**Savings deemed Unachievable £000**				**ASSESSMENT of Progress**
ENT - School Meals - School Meals Price increase from £2.45 to £2.50.	(20)		0	0	0	0		(20)	20			Income is down due to Covid.
ENT - Planning & Building Control - Planning Application fee increase - WG set to increase price by 20%	(60)		(40)	(40)	0	0		(60)	60			Income down overall due to covid
ENT - Planning & Building Control - Charging customers who wish to amend application during process.	(2)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)						Achieved
ENT - Planning & Building Control - Increasing Pre-app fees by 2.5%	(2)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)						Achieved
ENT - Planning & Building Control - New income from S106 monitoring fees	(20)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)		(18)	18			Income down due to covid
ENT - Planning & Building Control - Increase in L2 Pre-app income - fee increase	(2)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)						Achieved
ENT - Planning & Building Control - Staff restructure	(27)		(27)	(27)	(27)	(27)						Achieved
OPS - Waste - Issue "Tax Disc" style permits to all residents with council tax to reduce cross border traffic of waste (2019-20 Budget)	(50)		(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)						Achieved
First year implementation costs of car parking proposals (2019-20 Budget)	(106)		(106)	(106)	(106)	(106)	0					This is a reversal of a pressure provided in 19-20. Budget adjustment has been made.
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Charge For Access Markings	(2)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)						Achieved
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Charge for Events signing	(5)		(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)						Achieved
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Increase Road Closure Income Budget	(32)		(32)	(32)	(32)	(32)						Achieved
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Increase in Street Name & Numbering Charges (in particular developers)	(5)		(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)						Achieved
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Increase in S50 Licences for Utilities	(15)		(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)						Achieved
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Software savings from new asset management system.	(7)		(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)						Achieved
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Provide design service for drainage schemes	(5)		(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)						Achieved
ENT - Highways & Flooding - Utilising grant to cover staff costs	(10)		(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)						Achieved

ENT - Passenger Transport Unit - PTU - Route Optimisation and workforce planning	(60)	0	0	0	0	0		(60)	60			This saving is unlikely to be made in 20/21.
ENT - Waste transfer station contract review	(40)		(40)	(40)	(40)	(40)						Achieved
ENT - Waste - Waste - Close Usk Recycling - but is dependant on policy approval by cabinet. Open Troy another day.	(30)		0	(10)	(10)	(10)	(20)		20			Awaiting decision
ENT - Hwys Operations - Staff Savings - Efficiencies in workforce and reception @ Raglan depot.	(9)		(9)	(9)	(9)	(9)						Achieved
ENT - Hwys Operations - Winter Maintenance - Net saving from Route based forecasting software improving pre-salting accuracy.	(5)		(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)						Achieved
ENT - Hwys Operations - Reduction in Plant & Equipment Hire through investment	(3)		(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)						Achieved
ENT - Hwys Operations - Provision of recycled tarmac to other local authorities.	(5)		(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)						Achieved
Discretionary fees & charges	(48)		(48)	(48)	(48)	(48)						Achieved
ENTERPRISE Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	**(569)**	**0**	**(422)**	**(432)**	**(392)**	**(392)**	**(20)**	**(158)**	**178**	**0**		
Chief Executive's Unit	**2020/21 Budgeted Savings £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 2 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 5 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 7 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 9 £000**	**Value of Saving achieved at Outturn £000**	**Delayed Savings £000**	**Savings deemed Unachievable £000**				**ASSESSMENT of Progress**
GOVDEMSUP - Reduction in annual grant provided to Monmouth CAB (1k), releasing budget saving (3k)	(1)		(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)						Achieved
CEO - legal services to Fire and police	(10)		0	0	0	0	(10)		10			Covid has affected Fee earning capability
CEO - offsetting legal costs against capital projects and investment activity	(40)		(15)	(15)	(10)	(10)	0	(30)	30			Savings target too high, £20k is more achievable but this year has been affected by Covid.
CEO - Market and increase take-up of community education courses across all sites	(30)		0	0	0	0		(30)	30			Covid has prevented this happening so saving is unachievable now
CEO - staffing realignment across policy,and governance	(79)		(79)	(79)	(79)	(79)						Achieved
Discretionary fees & charges	(3)		(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)						Achieved
CHIEF EXECUTIVES' UNIT Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	**(163)**	**0**	**(98)**	**(98)**	**(93)**	**(93)**	**(10)**	**(60)**	**70**	**0**		
Resources	**2020/21 Budgeted Savings £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 2 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 5 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 7 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 9 £000**	**Value of Saving achieved at Outturn £000**	**Delayed Savings £000**	**Savings deemed Unachievable £000**				**ASSESSMENT of Progress**
CORPLLORD Estates RE-FIT Energy Savings (net after funding repayments)	**0**		0	0	0	0						
Commercial income	(200)			0	0	0	(200)		200			No further investments in commercial property has been undertaken this year due to Covid so this will not be achieved.
Senior officer reduction	(100)		(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)						Achieved

Exchequer savings	(20)		0	0	0	0	(20)		20			Due to a decision to halt the removal of cheques as a payment option in the light of Covid 19.
Discretionary fees & charges	(1)		(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)						Achieved
RES - Senior Officer reduction	(60)		(60)	(60)	(60)	(60)						Achieved
Disinvest from top-up on discretionary business rate relief scheme	(37)		(37)	(37)	(37)	(37)						Achieved
RESOURCES Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	**(418)**	**0**	**(198)**	**(198)**	**(198)**	**(198)**	**(220)**	**0**	**220**	**0**		
Corporate Costs & Levies	**2020/21 Budgeted Savings £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 2 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 5 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 7 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 9 £000**	**Value of Saving achieved at Outturn £000**	**Delayed Savings £000**	**Savings deemed Unachievable £000**				**ASSESSMENT of Progress**
Freeze pension contribution rate at 23.1% for next two years	(370)	(370)	(370)	(370)	(370)	(370)						Achieved
Review of the full-cost corporate costs and insurance budgets	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)	(50)						Achieved
Living Wage Budget Reduction	(42)	(42)	(42)	(42)	(42)	(42)						Achieved
Review of in year efficiency savings	(359)	(359)	(359)	(359)	(359)	(359)						Achieved
CORP - Redundancy budget review	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)						Achieved
Housing completions forecast	(258)	(258)	(258)	(258)	(258)	(258)						Achieved
CORPORATE COSTS Budgeted Savings Total 2019-20	**(1,479)**	**(1,479)**	**(1,479)**	**(1,479)**	**(1,479)**	**(1,479)**	**0**	**0**				
Appropriations	**2020/21 Budgeted Savings £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 2 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 5 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 7 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 9 £000**	**Value of Saving achieved at Outturn £000**	**Delayed Savings £000**	**Savings deemed Unachievable £000**				**ASSESSMENT of Progress**
Interest Receivable	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)						Achieved
Net Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) increase based on additional activity	(204)	(204)	(204)	(204)	(204)	(204)						Achieved
Earmarked treasury eq reserve review	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)	(400)						Achieved
APPROPRIATIONS Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	**(605)**	**(605)**	**(605)**	**(605)**	**(605)**	**(605)**	**0**	**0**				
Financing	**2020/21 Budgeted Savings £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 2 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 5 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 7 £000**	**Value of Saving forecast at Month 9 £000**	**Value of Saving achieved at Outturn £000**	**Delayed Savings £000**	**Savings deemed Unachievable £000**				**ASSESSMENT of Progress**
FIN - Council tax levels increased based on 2019-20 activity (RES DMT 11/10)	(322)	(322)	(322)	(322)	(322)	(322)						
AEF increase (+1% presumption)	(900)	(900)	(900)	(900)	(900)	(900)						
AEF increase - additional funding resulting from provisional settlement	(1,076)	(1,076)	(1,076)	(1,076)	(1,076)	(1,076)						
AEF transfers in - teachers pay, teacherspensions and NHS funded nursing	(1,375)	(1,375)	(1,375)	(1,375)	(1,375)	(1,375)						

AEF funding - assumed 100% WG funding of teachers pay increase - Apr to Aug '20	**(491)**	(491)	(491)	(491)	(491)	(491)						
AEF funding - assumed 100% WG funding of teachers pension increase	**(689)**	(689)	(689)	(689)	(689)	(689)						
Council tax increase to 4.95%	**(575)**	(575)	(575)	(575)	(575)	(575)						
CTRS 4.95% impact	**66**	66	66	66	66	66						
Council tax increase to 4.95%	**(35)**	(35)	(35)	(35)	(35)	(35)						
FINANCING Budgeted Savings Total 2020-21	**(5,397)**	**(5,397)**	**(5,397)**	**(5,397)**	**(5,397)**	**(5,397)**	**0**	**0**				

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Appendix 3 - Capitalisation directive 2020/21

Directorate	Expenditure	Justifacation to capitalise	Amount £000s
ENT	PTU Software - Route/pupil optimisation.	Driving a digital approach	45
RES	Capitalising work on Payroll and HR replacement system	Driving a digital approach	29
	Sub-Total Driving a digital approach		**74**
All	Capitalisation of redundancy costs - non-schools	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	30
CYP	Capitalisation of redundancy costs -schools	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	124
CYP	Accommodating income decline at Mounton Hse and Inclusion Centre implementation during service provision redesign	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	298
CYP	Inclusion centre costs	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	50
ENT	Waste Costs - Consultnant costs for new service delivery, bins related to new service.	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	95
RES	Innovation Team - Service Transformation/Systems Thinking	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	69
SCH	Safeguarding Team additional training & recruitment costs	Funding the cost of service reconfiguration	45
	Sub-Total Funding the cost of service reconfiguration		**711**
SCH	Joint Local authority working (GWICES, Sc. 33, Frailty, regional safeguarding board, Gwent foster fee harmonisation and care home pooling	Integrating public facing services across two or more public sector bodies	124
SCH	Deprivation of liberty safeguards	Integrating public facing services across two or more public sector bodies	66
	Sub-Total Integrating public facing services across two or more public sector bodies		**190**
RES	Audit - Sharing Audit manager with Newport CC	Sharing back-office and administrative services	37
	Sub-Total Sharing back-office and administrative services		**37**
	Total		**1,011**

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Appendix 4 - Movement in individual school balances

School	Balance 1st April 2020	Movement	Balance 31st March 2021
Caldicot School	179,693	(409,257)	(229,564)
Chepstow School	63,570	23,231	86,801
King Henry VIII Comprehensive	225,700	(423,196)	(197,496)
Monmouth Comprehensive	462,530	(676,722)	(214,192)
Mounton House Special School	(172,060)	172,060	0
Cross Ash Primary School	(64,157)	(18,313)	(82,470)
Durand Primary School	(12,691)	(65,193)	(77,884)
Gilwern Primary School	(64,549)	(102,302)	(166,851)
Goytre Fawr Primary School	(34,893)	(56,646)	(91,539)
Llandogo Primary School	176,535	(89,705)	86,830
Llantilio Pertholey CiW Primary School (VC)	21,016	(88,231)	(67,215)
Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School	(49,684)	(54,986)	(104,670)
Magor CiW Primary School (VA)	18,785	(135,987)	(117,202)
Overmonnow Primary School	33,928	(75,032)	(41,104)
Raglan CiW Primary School (VC)	33,112	(141,989)	(108,877)
Rogiet Primary School	4,404	(82,499)	(78,095)
Shirenewton Primary School	(128,890)	(47,356)	(176,246)
St Mary's RC Primary School (VA)	46,518	(67,378)	(20,860)
The Dell Primary School	(3,032)	(45,378)	(48,410)
Thornwell Primary School	47,150	(112,037)	(64,887)
Trellech Primary School	(50,948)	(64,743)	(115,691)
Undy Primary School	145,925	(152,295)	(6,370)
Usk CiW Primary School (VC)	(45,942)	(97,113)	(143,055)
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	4,408	(38,775)	(34,367)
Archbishop Rowan Williams CiW Primary School (VA)	(83,716)	(122,680)	(206,396)
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	45,883	(61,521)	(15,638)
Deri View Primary School	(73,956)	(74,153)	(148,109)
Cantref Primary School	(105,193)	(94,604)	(199,797)
Osbaston CiW Primary School (VC)	11,250	(51,859)	(40,609)
Dewstow Primary School	(136,455)	(101,356)	(237,811)
Our Lady & St Michael's (OLSM) RC Primary School (VA)	(15,859)	(38,534)	(54,393)
Pembroke Primary School	(1,205)	(124,302)	(125,507)
Kymin View Primary School	(37,955)	(97,350)	(135,305)
Llanfoist Fawr Primary School	(24,871)	(68,562)	(93,433)
Castle Park Primary School	(2,153)	(119,700)	(121,853)
Pupil Referral Unit	22,931	(48,943)	(26,012)
Total	**435,129**	**(3,853,406)**	**(3,418,277)**

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SELECT	CODE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJECT SCHEME CATEGORY	TOTAL APPROVED BUDGET	APPROVED SLIPPAGE	Reason Project has been delayed against original budgeted profile	Was delay Authority Controllable?
E&D	90325	Asset Investment Fund	Development Schemes Over £250k	19,222,294.00	18,067,403.48	Investments delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCH	90328	Crick Road Care Home	Development Schemes Over £250k	5,977,869.73	5,964,030.13	Delayed due to wider Covid 19 impacts	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90334	RE:FIT Programme	Development Schemes Over £250k	2,031,329.43	2,031,329.43	Delayed by Covid - will start in 21-22 once access to buildings is granted.	No - Covid Delays
E&D	90041	Capital Region City Deal	Development Schemes Over £250k	952,487.29	829,625.63	Funding not required in 20-21	No
SCOMM	90317	Usk County Hall J Block Major Refurb	Development Schemes Over £250k	794,471.26	773,617.26	Covid has halted the construction of new car park.	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90330	Abergavenny Borough Theatre Works	Development Schemes Over £250k	385,724.50	239,489.47	Covid has delayed the internal structural refurbishment until 21-22.	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	98852	Car Park Improvements/Refurb	Development Schemes Over £250k	149,772.00	149,772.00	Works delayed by Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90321	Abergavenny Community Hub Development	Development Schemes Over £250k	1,024,462.46	72,582.89	Covid has delayed the external painting until 21-22.	No - Covid Delays
E&D	90320	Caerwent House, Major Repairs	Development Schemes Over £250k	50,800.00	50,800.00	Funding not required in 20-21	No
CYP	98218	Schools Improvement Grant 1819	Development Schemes Over £250k	180,105.64	33,513.34	£89k to be used to offset 98901	No - Covid Delays
E&D	90333	Chepstow LC Feasibility Study	Development Schemes Over £250k	30,000.00	30,000.00	Project delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
CYP	98906	Caldicot Cluster Project	Development Schemes Over £250k	20,000.00	4,280.89	This is fully committed and will be used for projects in 2021-22	No - Covid Delays
CYP	98219	Upgrade School Kitchens	Development Schemes Under £250k - Essential Works	71,066.75	71,066.75	Delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	98060	Fixed Asset disposal costs	Development Schemes Under £250k - Essential Works	277,369.50	15,973.79	Not all funding required in 20-21.	No
SCOMM	91100	Access For All	Development Schemes Under £250k - Other Recommend	500,000.00	184,941.00	Access to buildings affected by Covid.	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	98826	Car Park Granville St & Wyebridge St	Development Schemes Under £250k - Other Recommend	184,254.02	177,989.02	Construction delayed by Covid and ecological and drainage surveys - works are now due to begin in June so budget needs to be slipped.	No
CYP	98845	King Henry VIII - Future Schools Tranche B	Education Strategic Review	14,333,333.00	14,092,048.56	This is fully committed and will be used for band B in 2021-22 onwards	No - Covid Delays
CYP	96632	21st Century Schools Team	Education Strategic Review	638,678.32	572,302.18	This is fully committed and will be used for projects in 2021-22	No - Covid Delays
CYP	98621	ESR: Access For All	Education Strategic Review	96,207.91	53,142.18	This is fully committed and will be used for projects in 2021-22	No - Covid Delays
CYP	98681	Monmouth Leisure Centre/Pool Redesign	Education Strategic Review	42,088.97	42,088.97	Fully Committed	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	97369	Highways OPS: Minor improvements	Infrastructure	812,000.00	812,000.00	Projects have been delayed by a mixture of Covid and weather. Resources have been redirected to deal with flooding matters that have been separately funded by WG grants - request to slip into 21-22 to help offset known pressures in the programme.	No - Covid & Weather Delays
SCOMM	97215	Reconstruction of Bridges & Retaining Walls	Infrastructure	399,041.00	278,209.34		
SCOMM	97302	Signing Upgrades And Disabled Facilities	Infrastructure	38,091.00	38,091.00		
SCOMM	97239	Safety Fence Upgrades	Infrastructure	66,181.00	26,196.00		
SCOMM	97306	Structural Repairs - PROW	Infrastructure	60,091.33	24,814.53		
SCOMM	97381	Mounton Road Footpath	Infrastructure	17,837.00	17,837.00		
SCOMM	97352	Road Safety & Trafficman Programme	Infrastructure	114,508.00	5,094.94		

SCOMM	99523	Recycling Vehicles and Boxes	Infrastructure	261,021.68	261,021.68	Part of green waste service reconfiguration, plant & equipment will be purchased in 21-22 so budget needs to be slipped.	No
SCOMM	90900	Council Chamber IT equipment replacement & building works	Infrastructure	200,000.00	200,000.00	Refurbishment delayed by Covid.	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	97379	New Street Lighting Enhancement Project	Infrastructure	542,742.76	133,372.74	Part of Salix Loan - unspent budget will be needed in 21-22 to complete LED installation programme	Yes - Replacement programme was always going to extend into 21-22
SCOMM	97389	Penyrhiw Sewage Treatment Works	Infrastructure	100,000.00	100,000.00	Delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	97388	Shirenewton Sewage Treatment	Infrastructure	100,000.00	99,385.00	Delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions	No - Covid Delays
E&D	96636	SRS administered network and infrastructure replacement	IT Schemes - Infrastructure/Hardware	170,000.00	170,000.00	Developments delayed by Covid	No - Covid Delays
E&D	96634	Windows 10 Laptops	IT Schemes - Infrastructure/Hardware	112,630.80	112,630.80	Supply affected by Covid - slippage requested into 21-22	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	96621	Provision of online facilities Revenue's section	IT Schemes - Infrastructure/Hardware	13,000.00	13,000.00	System development delayed.	No - Covid Delays
CYP	98226	School Refurbishment Grant	Maintenance Schemes - General	644,843.25	415,071.79	This is fully committed and will be used for projects in 2021-22	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	98059	County Farms Maintenance & Reinvestment	Maintenance Schemes - General	348,136.19	215,328.20	Delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions	No - Covid Delays
CYP	95860	Various Schools - Legionella remedial works	Mechanical Services	10,000.00	9,858.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	95227	Trellech Primary - Refurbish kitchen & upgrade equipment	Property - DECORATION	135,754.00	135,754.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95228	Usk Primary - Replacement of defective dining tables	Property - DECORATION	5,506.00	5,506.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	98860	Various properties: Rectification after Fixed Wire Testing	Property - Electrical Services	84,554.04	68,785.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95219	Shirenewton Primary - Replace End of life EMS Wireless Fire Alarm	Property - Electrical Services	36,700.00	36,700.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95220	Thornwell Primary - Provision of lighting to foot path main entrance including additional ductwork	Property - Electrical Services	33,276.00	33,276.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95218	Osbaston Primary - Replace End of life EMS Wireless Fire Alarm	Property - Electrical Services	31,700.00	31,700.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95217	Osbaston Primary - Provision of lighting to foot path between buildings including additional ductwork	Property - Electrical Services	23,240.00	23,240.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95215	Chepstow Comprehensive - Change Federal Electric Sub mains boards to MCCB Panel.	Property - Electrical Services	16,724.00	16,724.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95241	Ysgol Y-Fenni School Lighting Enhancement	Property - Electrical Services	10,625.00	10,389.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95174	Various properties - Works to ensure safe access to school properties	Property - External Areas	75,000.00	40,702.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95236	Monmouth Leisure Centre - Upgrade car park area	Property - External Areas	39,168.00	39,168.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95238	Undy Primary - Repairs to uneven pathways & yards	Property - External Areas	18,205.00	18,205.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95175	Various properties - Repair to boundary walls for health & safety reasons	Property - External Areas	15,000.00	14,703.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95237	Raglan Depot - Relay drainage to septic tank	Property - External Areas	3,000.00	3,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95188	Caldicot Castle - Commencement of Phase 2 works to deweed & conserve ancient walls	Property - External Walls, Doors & Windows	91,679.00	91,679.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A

SCOMM	95195	Various Properties - Continue works to safely remove asbestos materials in conjunction with surveys & site works	Property - External Walls, Doors & Windows	50,000.00	44,929.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95126	Abergavenny Castle - Rolling works to deweed & maintain ancient walls	Property - External Walls, Doors & Windows	14,728.00	12,728.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95187	St Marys Primary - Replacement of floor year 3/4	Property - Floors & Stairs	4,183.00	4,183.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95242	Usk J Block Wall & Floor Repair	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	87,271.00	81,877.24	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95197	Thornwell Primary - Refurbishment of toilet areas	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	48,530.00	48,530.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95198	Magor Primary - Refurbishment of toilet areas	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	48,503.00	48,503.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95196	Various Properties -Continue works to upgrade wall, doors & screens as recommended in fire risk assessment reports	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	40,000.00	40,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95011	Various properties - refurbish & upgrade fire doors & screens	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	23,384.00	25,013.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95839	Aber Market - Repair & Dec Corn Exh	Property - Internal Walls & Doors	17,217.00	2,902.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	98720	Various Sites - Replace out of date air conditioning	Property - Mechanical Services	40,000.00	29,326.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95096	Various properties : Legionella remedial works	Property - Mechanical Services	27,251.00	25,550.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95144	Caldicot Leisure Centre - Water mains replacement work	Property - Mechanical Services	24,446.00	24,446.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95212	Various properties - BMS upgrade - controls to new Trend System	Property - Mechanical Services	20,000.00	20,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95211	Shire Hall - Replacement of boiler(s)	Property - Mechanical Services	18,000.00	17,250.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95204	Chepstow Comprehensive - New water heaters	Property - Mechanical Services	15,000.00	15,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95203	Castle Park -Upgrade flow sensor to return pipe in Plaza	Property - Mechanical Services	6,099.00	2,074.28	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95205	Chepstow Comprehensive - Upgrade underfloor manifolds	Property - Mechanical Services	4,592.00	1,789.67	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95180	Chepstow Museum - Investigate & repair roof leaks to stack & flat roof	Property - Roofs	50,000.00	50,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95183	Usk Primary - Replace defective guttering & downpipes	Property - Roofs	17,861.00	17,861.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	94985	Innovation House Magor – Roofing	Property - SANITARY SERVICES	231,796.00	80,235.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95201	Caldicot Leisure Centre - Renew mains water supply pipe	Property - SANITARY SERVICES	50,000.00	50,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95200	County Hall - Refurbishment & form new shower facilities in the PTU building	Property - SANITARY SERVICES	34,085.00	33,735.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	95138	Osbaston Primary - Upgrade infants toilets	Property - SANITARY SERVICES	16,441.00	16,441.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	94984	Chepstow Comprehensive – Replacement of Water Heaters.	Property - SANITARY SERVICES	13,000.00	13,000.00	Slip - Expenditure reallocated via School Refurbishment Grant	N/A
SCOMM	99202	Disabled Facilities Grants (Private)	Renovation Grants	1,075,402.99	601,571.62	Covid delayed works due to access issues - slippage requested to help cope with backlog in 21-22.	No - Covid Delays

SCOMM	90904	S106 – Chippenham Mead Play Area	Section 106	111,421.00	111,421.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	90850	S106 – Lion Street Works	Section 106	168,304.84	96,966.65	Works have been delayed by design and SABS requirement from WG - slippage requested to help fund works in 21-22	No
CYP	90870	S106 – ALN Overmonnow Special Needs Resource Base	Section 106	201,000.00	87,263.00	This is fully committed and will be used for ALN projects in 2021-22	Yes
SCOMM	90905	S106 – Clydach Ironworks Enhancement Scheme	Section 106	53,000.00	53,000.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	90827	S106 Destination Play Area (Monmouth)	Section 106	49,741.26	49,741.26	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	90902	S106 – Linda Vista Gardens	Section 106	30,000.00	30,000.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	90890	S106 - Rockfield Central Open Space and Play Area (Wonastow Road)	Section 106	29,000.00	29,000.00	Awaiting Cabinet Report	No
SCOMM	90831	S106 Little Mill Trail (Little Mill)	Section 106	27,636.22	27,636.22	Awaiting planning permission. Project will continue in 2021/22	No
SCOMM	90882	S106 Children's Voices in Play Project (Forensic Science Lab)	Section 106	25,000.00	25,000.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	90889	S106 - Monmouth Allotments (Wonastow Road)	Section 106	25,000.00	25,000.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90903	S106 – Abergavenny Skate Park	Section 106	25,000.00	25,000.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	98881	Cae Meldon S106 Off Site Recreation	Section 106	23,020.00	23,020.00	Held up by A465 duelling works.	No
SCOMM	90844	S106 Llanelly Hill Welfare Car Park (Cae Meldon)	Section 106	22,441.00	22,441.00	Unspent - allocation to be reviewed in 2021/22	No
SCOMM	90891	S106 - Capel Ed Chapel Internal Alterations (School Lane Goytre)	Section 106	20,000.00	20,000.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90839	S106 Gilwern Towpath Upgrade (Cae Meldon)	Section 106	18,000.00	18,000.00	Unspent - allocation to be reviewed in 2021/22	No
SCOMM	90854	S106 Wyesham Highways Road Safety Improvements	Section 106	13,645.29	13,645.29	Scheme not started.	No
E&D	90885	Warrenslade Woodland Management	Section 106	9,569.20	9,119.20	Works delayed by Covid	No - Covid Delays
E&D	90883	Magor Walking Routes, Access & Promotion	Section 106	4,608.00	4,608.00	Works delayed by Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90842	S106 Gilwern OEC (Cae Meldon)	Section 106	4,190.46	4,190.46	Majority of works complete - slight delay due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90898	S106 - Mardy Growing Space Group (Croesonen Farm - Infants School)	Section 106	24,669.00	2,669.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90887	S106 -Monmouth Leisure Centre 3G MUGA resurfacing (Wonastow Road)	Section 106	21,528.00	2,255.00	Majority of works complete - slight delay due to Covid	No
SCOMM	90895	S106 - Goytre Scouts – Kayaking Resources (School Lane Goytre)	Section 106	20,658.00	2,066.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90894	S106 - Goytre Primary School Environmental Sustainability (School Lane Goytre)	Section 106	30,870.00	1,885.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90892	S106 - Goytre Community Garden (Pleasant R – School Lane Goytre)	Section 106	1,425.00	1,425.00	Works Delayed due to Covid	No - Covid Delays
SCOMM	90868	S106 – Pen Y Fal Footbridge Major Maintenance	Section 106	950.00	950.00	Scheme not started.	No
SCOMM	99229	WG – Flood Recovery Grant 2021	Specific Grant Funded	1,973,224.96	826,853.00	Repair work has been delayed due to Covid & weather, WG have given permission to use in 21-22 to clear backlog.	No - Covid & Weather Delays
SCOMM	99207	SLSP Programme - AONB Office	Specific Grant Funded	128,700.00	107,860.83	Delayed	No
SCOMM	97392	Monmouthshire Infrastructure & Place Regeneration	Specific Grant Funded	200,000.00	24,759.29	Not all allocation was required in 20-21, schemes to continue in 21-22 so slippage requested.	No

SCOMM	98861	WELTEG Chepstow Transport Study 2020-21	Specific Grant Funded	212,500.00	9,670.46	Scheme to extend into 21-22 - slippage required to help fund our match contribution.	Yes - Scheme was always going to extend into 21-22
		Total		**57,045,462.05**	**49,919,829.46**		

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SCOMM SELECT

Overall Revenue Position

Table 1: Council Fund 2020/21 Outturn Summary Statement

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21	Budget Adjustm-ents 2020/21	Revised Annual Budget	Actual Outturn	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9	Variance from M9 to Outturn
	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's	'000's
Social Care, Health & Safeguarding	50,685	(170)	50,515	51,327	811	1,308	(497)
Children & Young People	55,539	480	56,019	56,093	75	86	(12)
Enterprise & Monlife	24,133	(1,946)	22,187	21,688	(499)	3,829	(4,328)
Chief Executives Unit	4,745	(81)	4,664	4,524	(140)	(4)	(136)
Resources	7,746	(445)	7,301	6,454	(847)	387	(1,234)
Corporate Costs & Levies	22,743	229	22,972	20,403	(2,569)	13	(2,582)
Net Cost of Services	165,591	(1,934)	163,658	160,488	(3,170)	5,619	(8,789)
Appropriations	4,856	2,192	7,049	10,623	3,574	(264)	3,838
Expenditure to be Financed	170,447	259	170,706	171,111	405	5,355	(4,950)
Financing	(170,447)	(259)	(170,706)	(171,111)	(405)	(208)	(197)
Net General Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	5,147	(5,147)

Table 2: SCOMM Select 2020/21 Outturn Detailed Statement

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21 '000's	Budget Adjustm-ents 2020/21 '000's	Revised Annual Budget '000's	Actual Outturn '000's	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn '000's	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9 '000's	Variance from M9 to Outturn '000's
Facilities & Fleet Management	5,665	(1,266)	4,399	4,528	129	922	(793)
Neighbourhood Services	10,483	(259)	10,224	10,275	51	500	(449)
Planning & Housing	1,951	(130)	1,821	1,314	(507)	1,245	(1,752)
Enterprise	18,099	(1,655)	16,444	16,117	(327)	2,667	(2,994)
Legal & Land Charges	839	(6)	833	724	(109)	(27)	(82)
Governance, Democracy & Support	3,906	(75)	3,831	3,799	(32)	23	(55)
Chief Executives Unit	4,745	(81)	4,664	4,523	(141)	(4)	(137)
Finance	2,597	(80)	2,517	1,762	(755)	39	(794)
Information, Communication Technology	2,803	57	2,860	2,784	(76)	(431)	355
People	1,725	94	1,819	1,766	(53)	(112)	59
Resources	7,125	71	7,196	6,312	(884)	(504)	(380)
Precepts & Levies	20,379	1	20,380	20,382	2	2	0
Coroner's	117	0	117	152	35	35	0
Archives	182	0	182	182	0	0	0
Corporate Management	293	0	293	(26)	(319)	(231)	(88)
Non Distributed Costs (NDC)	492	0	492	684	192	215	(23)
Strategic Initiatives	(167)	228	61	(2,375)	(2,436)	(61)	(2,375)
Insurance	1,447	0	1,447	1,404	(43)	52	(95)

Service Area	Original Budget 2020/21	Budget Adjustm -ents 2020/21	Revised Annual Budget	Actual Outturn	Actual (Under) / Over Spend @ Outturn	Forecast (Under) / Over Spend @ M9	Variance from M9 to Outturn
Corporate Costs & Levies	22,743	229	22,972	20,403	(2,569)	12	(2,581)
SCOMM Select Net Cost of Services	52,712	(1,436)	51,276	47,355	(3,921)	2,171	(6,092)
Fixed Asset Disposal Costs	20	45	65	68	3	6	(3)
Interest & Investment Income	(252)	0	(252)	(206)	46	162	(116)
Interest Payable & Similar Charges	4,020	27	4,047	3,709	(338)	(331)	(7)
Charges Required under Regulation	6,251	(108)	6,143	6,075	(68)	(81)	13
Other Investment Income	(1,153)	1,153	0	(25)	(25)	(14)	(11)
Borrowing Cost Recoupment	(3,425)	50	(3,375)	(3,538)	(163)	(6)	(157)
Contributions to Reserves	143	688	831	4,950	4,119	0	4,119
Contributions from reserves	(747)	86	(661)	(661)	0	0	0
Capital expenditure financed from revenue	0	252	252	252	0	0	0
Appropriations	4,857	2,193	7,050	10,624	3,574	(264)	3,838
Expenditure to be Financed	57,569	757	58,326	57,979	(347)	1,907	(2,254)
General Government Grants	(64,824)	(2,899)	(67,723)	(67,723)	0	0	0
Non Domestic Rates	(32,936)	2,899	(30,037)	(30,037)	0	0	0
Council tax	(79,572)	(259)	(79,831)	(80,238)	(407)	(367)	(40)
Council Tax Benefit Support	6,885	0	6,885	6,887	2	159	(157)
Financing	(170,447)	(259)	(170,706)	(171,111)	(405)	(208)	(197)
SCOMM Select Net General Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	(112,878)	498	(112,380)	113,132	(752)	1,699	(2,451)

DIRECTORATE – DIVISION VARIANCE COMMENTS

ENTERPRISE	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	5,950	5,113	4,617	3,829	**(499)**

ENTERPRISE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTARY:

The Enterprise and MonLife Directorate is forecasting an outturn position of £500k surplus at year end. This is an improved position since Month 9 and the details of these changes are provided within the next sections of this report.

The impact of COVID-19 has been significant across all of the services with both a loss of income and additional costs incurred to operate critical front line services during the pandemic. In addition to the direct impacts of the pandemic service areas identified pressures where budget savings have not been implemented or ongoing pressures continued to affect services.

Across all Services, all eligible additional costs and income losses have been claimed against any Welsh Government funding that has been made available. In addition, service areas have been successful in securing grant funding which has enabled us to passport core costs to grant funding activity. Since month 9 a number of service areas have been able to report a significantly improved position as WG has confirmed that costs or income losses can be covered by the support grants available due to COVID.

FACILITIES & FLEET MANAGEMENT

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,339	1,097	1,222	923	129

Facilities & Fleet Management has overspent by £129k.

- **Catering** - £103k underspent. The service was adversely affected by the pandemic but WG Covid income support has enabled the unit to recover lost meal income based on 19-20 performance, as a result 20-21 outturn has mirrored the 19-20 outturn producing an underspend against budget.

- **Building Cleaning** - £36k underspent. This is mainly due to an increase in internal income as the unit has picked up a number of contracts that have been brought back in-house.

- **Passenger Transport** - £24k overspend, due in the main :-

  Private Hire & Service 65 - £5k overspent due to vehicle maintenance costs, receipt of Covid income support to cover lost hire income has improved the outturn from M9.

  School Transport Operations - £96k overspent – due to a combination of historic staff pressure c/fwd from 19-20 and additional hours required to cover new Covid transport arrangements and additional staffing required to cover recent contract hand backs. The reduction from M9 relates to a number of factors; overtime payments were not as high as anticipated, agency staff were not required, furlough income included for February and March all of this is due to schools not going back until later than predicted.

  Commissioning - £87k underspent due to staff vacancies, and a reduction in contract costs due to the school closures.

- **Fleet Maintenance** - £248k overspent, due to:-

  - Vehicle maintenance costs have increased over and above available budget, an element of this could be attributed to the requirement for additional vehicles due to Covid requirements.
  - Increased maintenance of our depots in Raglan and Caldicot.

- A reduction in members of the Green Car scheme has hit savings (£6k).

The £793k positive swing from Month 9 can be mainly attributed to WG income support payments driving down service overspends in Passenger Transport and Catering.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,456	1,153	783	500	51

Neighbourhood services has overspent by £51k.

- **Highways & Street Lighting** - £63k underspent. Street Lighting has underspent by £103k, LED lamp replacement has generated savings from reduced output, in addition KWH rates were lower than budgeted, this has resulted in an underspend against our electricity budget. This has been offset by a net £40k overspend in Highways Operations as plant purchases that were to be reserve funded are to remain within the service.

- **Waste & Street Scene** - £114k overspent – This can be broken down into 2 main areas:-

  - Waste Services - £57k overspent – Main issues :-
    - Impact of Covid – Even though all the additional expenditure and the loss of external income has been covered off by the WG support grant covid still has impacted on the service in 20-21, this is because most of the planned interventions to help improve the budget deficit were stopped or delayed due to the pandemic.
    - Non-Covid related pressures – the volatility in the global recycling market continues to impact negatively on treatment and disposal costs for recycling and waste materials. In addition the abeyance of Usk CA site closure delayed service savings (£30k), there was also pressure caused by no budget increase for contracts and fuel inflation and the delayed roll out of polyprop bags. We have been fortunate that many of these pressures have been offset by the receipt of a number of WG Circular Economy grants and it has allowed us to passport core costs such as officer time against grant reducing service spend, this is the main reason for the improvement from Month 9.

  - Grounds Maintenance – £57k overspent – mainly due to additional expenditure incurred in meeting contractual obligations later in the year as a result of Grounds supporting waste collections during April and May.

PLANNING, HOUSING and Highways Dev & Flooding

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,011	1,067	993	1,245	(507)

Planning, Housing and Highways Dev & Flooding has underspent by £507k.

- **Planning & Building Control** - £102k underspent – this is due to a staff vacancy and savings against professional fees. The income shortfall has been covered off by the WG Covid support grant and is the reason for the improvement in outturn from Month 9.
- **Planning Policy** - £137k underspent - this is due to savings in professional and specialist fees costs due to delays in the LDP.

- **Housing** - £165k underspent - The majority of the underspend is found in our Shared Housing and Private Leasing schemes where net rental received from tenants has exceeded budgeted expectations, the final position on rent accounts cannot be calculated until financial year end so

the extent of underspend was not known during the year and is the reason for the positive swing between reporting periods. In addition we have also been able to fund some staffing from grant funding. The increased expenditure relating to Welsh Government Covid related requirements to support homeless households and implement new Welsh Government homeless policy, has been funded by the WG Covid support grant so has not affected outturn position.

- **Car Parking, Highways Development & Flooding** - £103k underspent. Main areas:-

  - Car Parks - £108k overspent – this is due to increased costs in car park rates, transport and supplies and services. All of the income shortfall reported at M9 has been covered off by the WG support grant and is the reason for the improvement between reporting periods.
  - Highways Development & flooding - £211k underspent – mainly as a result of staff vacancies across the department where the decision was made to freeze vacant posts to help with recovery of car park overspend.

There has been a very large positive swing between outturn and Month 9, this is mainly due to the receipt of WG income support grant in Housing, Car Parks and Planning that has reduced service overspends.

CHIEF EXECUTIVES UNIT	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit /(Surplus) £'000s	187	144	63	(4)	**(140)**
LEGAL & LAND CHARGES					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit /(Surplus) £'000s	78	92	40	**(27)**	(109)

Legal - £93k underspend - this is mainly as a result of staff savings due to the employment lawyer post not being filled in 20-21 and a reduction in supplies and services.

Land charges – £16k underspend – this is mainly due to the small 'boom' in the house market as CV restrictions eased resulting in a considerable improvement in search income over the last 2 quarters, augmented by WG covid support that covered the initial period of the housing market being shut down.

The £82k improvement from M9 is due to the extent of staff and supplies savings in legal not being fully known at M9 and the pick up in search income in the last quarter in land charges.

GOVERNANCE, DEMOCRACY & SUPPORT					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit /(Surplus) £'000s	109	52	23	23	(32)

The **Community Hubs** sections is forecasting to overspend by £8k - this is due to over spends in Usk Post Office as this budget area is not being completely funded and therefore running at a loss and insufficient budget for Gilwern Library. This is offset in part by savings across some of the other hubs due to a decrease in spend on supplies and services.

The **Contact Centre** is reporting a £15k overspend, this is due to a proposed budget saving that can no longer be delivered and is now reflected as a pressure in the 21-22 budget model.

The **Corporate Section** is forecasting to overspend by £11k, this is due to an overspend relating to supplies and services and a copyright licencing fee.

The **Democratic Services Section** is forecasting to underspend by £86,000, this is due to savings in Elections where we have had savings from not having to undertake the annual canvass, grant windfalls relating to voting for 16/17 year olds and underspends in supplies and services mainly due to Members working from home. The extent of grant windfalls were not known at M9 and is the main reason for the improvement.

Policy and Partnerships is forecasting to overspend by £25k, this is mainly due to an increase in Welsh Language Translation costs.

RESOURCES	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit /(Surplus) £'000s	782	694	192	387	**(867)**

RESOURCES DIRECTOR'S COMMENTARY:

Whilst the COVID-19 pandemic has adversely impacted front line services the directorate has equally suffered significantly but in different ways. The outturn position has moved significantly and positively from that reported at month 9. This is principally as a consequence of the shortfalls in income as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic being fully covered from Welsh Government's COVID Hardship Fund. A significant pressure resulting from B&B claims for homeless people, and which didn't attract full subsidy from DWP, has also been funded by Welsh Government's COVID-19 Hardship Fund.

The outturn position has also benefitted from vacancy savings and notably where senior finance posts and property posts are not being filled. This is not a sustainable position and will not be a permanent feature and is currently being addressed.

FINANCE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	137	189	173	39	(755)

Finance - £237k underspent – This is due to staff savings from senior finance staff vacancies.

Audit - £52k underspent due to staff savings as we have funded collaboration costs through capital as part of capitalisation directive (£36k) and savings due to maternity leave (£14.5k).

Revenues - £374k underspend. This can be attributed to :-

- **Benefits** - £63k overspent. This reflects the net position against the Housing Benefit budget once all subsidies and grants have been taken into account. Certain projects, especially for drug and alcohol support, are not eligible for full subsidy and fall to the council to finance any shortfall.
- **Council Tax** - £59k overspend. This is mainly due to an over spend against salary costs as

budget has been moved as part of the Resources restructure, this has been offset by underspends in finance above.

• **Charity Relief** - £477k underspend. This is due to 2 main reasons 1) We haven't used any funding set aside in 20-21 for Business Rate support (this is separate to the covid support grants) 2) We also received £347,000 funding from Welsh Government for the administration of the Business Support Grant process. The income is to cover additional staff and admin costs incurred but these are held within the relevant services department.

• **Debtors** - £19k underspend – this is due to a staff vacancy saving, due to the financial impact of covid19 the decision was made not to fill this post until April 2021.

Systems & Cashiers - £95k underspend – main reasons relate to software and system development savings and security carrier costs as activity is down due to Covid shutdown.

There is a large positive swing from month 9 of £796k – this is due to the receipt of Covid support payments driving down the over spend in housing benefits. In addition the extent of funding available from the Business Support grant was not known at M9.

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	40	(128)	(431)	(431)	(76)

The ICT section has underspent by £76k. This is due to savings within SRS that meant our annual cost was £55k below budgeted contribution and underspends in the Digital Programme Team of £17k.

The £355k negative swing from Month 9 is due to 1) we had anticipated moving staff costs from the DPO to capital as part of the capitalisation directive, due to the overall positive position of the authority this adjustment was not undertaken. 2) we had reported at M9 that we would be drawing back from SRS some MCC specific reserves – this has now not happened as we are anticipating these reserves will be needed in 21-22 to finance specific projects.

PEOPLE

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(2)	6	(68)	(112)	(53)

• **People Services** - £32k overspend - this is due to system development costs of the new payroll system offset by staff savings as a result of posts only been filled part way through the year. It was reported at M9 that the system development costs would be moved to capital but it has been decided to leave these within the service and is the reason for the reduction in underspend between the reporting periods.
• **Organisational Development** - £63k underspend, this is mainly due to staff savings as we have transferred staff costs involved with service transformation to capital as part of the capitalisation directive.
• **Customer Relations** - £23k underspend due to a reduction in professional fees and staff secondment savings.

CORPORATE COSTS & LEVIES	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,480	66	43	12	**(2,569)**

PRECEPTS & LEVIES					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	2	2	2	2	2

Small overspend on National parks levy of £2k due to notification of levy late in the budget process.

CORONERS SERVICES					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	23	23	23	35	35

An increase in workload and staffing requirements along with DDA compliance works will lead to a forecast £35k overspend against budget.

CORPORATE MANAGEMENT					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	(114)	(191)	(231)	(319)

Primarily due to the forecast receipt receivable on the final dissolution of Capita Gwent Consultancy (£109k), rate refunds on Authority owned premise's which were not known about until mid-way through the year (£120k), and additional unbudgeted dividend from the Greater Gwent Crematorium (£73k)

NON DISTRIBUTED COSTS					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	108	108	215	215	192

Additional pension strain costs relating to redundancies. Strain costs relate to staff who retire before their normal pension age and where the employer is required to top up the pension fund to cover the shortfall in contributions. The majority of these costs would not have been known about at budget setting stage due to the uncertainty over the timing, value and individual pension implications of redundancies.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	1,300	0	(61)	(61)	(2,436)

The budgets held for incremental pay pressure (£420k pressure) and cross directorate efficiency savings (£359k saving) are to remain centrally and not be distributed to service budgets.

Alongside this and notified since month 9, receipt of significant specific Covid-19 grants from Welsh Government totalling £2.38m that have been taken corporately and to assist in future financial resilience.

INSURANCE					
Outturn Forecast	**Month 2**	**Month 5**	**Month 7**	**Month 9**	**Outturn**
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	47	46	56	53	(43)

A slight over spend against the premium budget of £27k based on the results of the Insurance renewal and the increase in costs for the period Oct 2020 to April 2021 due to the worsening of claims experience. The flooding events led to a significant property claim at Monmouth LC and Covid19 has led to significant travel claims relating to cancelled school trips.

This is more than offset by savings in self-insured costs and professional fees based on claims activity during the year of £70k.

APPROPRIATIONS	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(77)	(83)	(163)	(263)	3,574

FIXED ASSET DISPOSAL COSTS					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	25	6	6	3

Costs forecast over and above the current budget due to unforeseen surveys and studies relating to disposal sites.

INTEREST & INVESTMENT INCOME					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	163	181	162	162	46

The forecast rate of return achievable following the Covid1-9 pandemic has reduced significantly from budgeted levels as the UK Government refines its economic response. To a lesser extent this has also impacted forecast returns on Property and combined funds which are propping up the current returns. The improvement since month 9 reflects the finalisation of returns in year on these combined funds which are often hard to estimate during the year given complex market adjustments.

Government deposits have largely returned 0% and have at times given a negative rate of return on deposits, especially when taking into account transaction fees.

INTEREST PAYABLE & SIMILAR CHARGES					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(126)	(164)	(230)	(330)	(338)

In October 2019 the PWLB took the unprecedented step of increasing its borrowing margin across the board by 1% in reaction to increased levels of borrowing by Local Authorities to fund commercial investments. This resulted in PWLB borrowing being uneconomic when compared to short term borrowing sourced from other public bodies and consequently the Authority's approach has been modified resulting in lower borrowing costs in the short term. PWLB has since reversed this decision but longer term rates continue to remain unattractive in the near term until capital spending plans are firmed up. Rates remain low on inter local authority borrowing further reducing costs.

CHARGES REQUIRED UNDER REGULATION					
Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(113)	(113)	(82)	(82)	(68)

A high level of slippage in the capital programme has resulted in some assets not being operational by 31/03/2020 and consequently the MRP charge for those assets being deferred by at least one year.

OTHER INVESTMENT INCOME

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	(1)	(12)	(14)	(14)	(25)

Unexpected recoupment following the final winding up of Heritable bank which had previously defaulted, alongside small wayleaves and easement receipts.

TRANSFERS TO/FROM EARMARKED RESERVES

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	0	0	0	4,119

As outlined in the covering report

BORROWING COST RECOUPMENT

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	0	(5)	(6)	(163)

The variance reflects the late addition of recoupment of unbudgeted borrowing costs in relation to energy efficient street lighting capital schemes. The scheme arrangements were clarified well into the financial year and as a result the borrowing cost recoupment was not forecast during the year.

FINANCING	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	336	20	(156)	(209)	**(405)**

COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT SUPPORT

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	336	324	229	159	2

This budget has been under particular pressure, as a direct result of Covid 19. Since the beginning of the year caseload has increased rising from 5,721 at the start of April 2020 to 6,168 by the end of March 2021. This increase in cases resulted in a £350,000 overspend by year end. However the Welsh Government released specific funding to Local Authorities to help manage this pressure. Monmouthshire received £348,000 such funding, resulting in a small over spend at year end.

COUNCIL TAX

Outturn Forecast	Month 2	Month 5	Month 7	Month 9	Outturn
Deficit / (Surplus) £'000s	0	(305)	(385)	(368)	(407)

A council tax surplus has been anticipated throughout the year. Whilst the in year collection rate is down by 1.1% compared to the same time last year, the council tax base remained healthy. By the end of the year an additional 400 properties had been added to the tax base resulting in the surplus reported above

2 CAPITAL OUTTURN

2.1 The summary Capital outturn position is as follows:

Capital Outturn Position 2020/21

Select Portfolio	Slippage B/F	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Approved Slippage	Revised Budget 2020/21	Actual Outturn	Variance at Outturn	Variance at M9
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Expenditure								
Children & Young People	1,245	14,423	1,872	(15,381)	2,160	2,151	(9)	0
Economic & Development	17,496	3,068	30	(19,274)	1,320	1,320	0	0
Adult	300	5,678	0	(5,964)	14	14	0	0
Strong Communities	5,801	10,139	12,079	(9,301)	18,718	15,546	(3,171)	(157)
Total Expenditure	**24,842**	**33,308**	**13,981**	**(49,920)**	**22,211**	**19,031**	**(3,180)**	**(157)**
Financing								
Supported Borrowing	0	(2,417)	0	0	(2,417)	(2,417)	0	0
General Capital Grant	0	(2,423)	0	0	(2,423)	(2,423)	0	0
Grants and Contributions	(393)	(18,229)	(10,826)	19,095	(10,353)	(8,623)	(1,730)	157
S106 Contributions	(1,052)	0	(166)	711	(507)	(507)	0	0
Unsupported Borrowing	(22,546)	(5,275)	(2,032)	27,217	(2,637)	(3,442)	805	0
Reserve & Revenue Funding	(239)	(2)	(252)	241	(252)	(252)	0	0
Capital Receipts	(612)	(3,462)	(705)	2,656	(2,123)	(1,042)	(1,080)	0
Leasing	0	(1,500)	0	0	(1,500)	(325)	(1,175)	0
Total Financing	**(24,842)**	**(33,308)**	**(13,981)**	**49,920**	**(22,211)**	**(19,031)**	**(3,180)**	**157**

2.2 The capital expenditure outturn for 2020/21 shows a saving of £3.18m against budget, however it is important to note that this does not fully represent released capital financing available for future use. The variances can be explained as follows:

- Reduced usage of the Capitalisation Directive budget by £1.08m following clarification of the revenue outturn position. This subsequently releases capital receipts back to the capital receipts reserve to utilise for future capital investment.
- Specific grant funding budgets of £1.92m that have not been able to be spent within the financial year primarily due to a combination of late notification of the grant awards, a lack of resources available to complete eligible works and a shortage of appropriate schemes that fit within the grant criteria stipulated. This under spend does not release any capital financing for future use as the grant actually paid matches the overall expenditure.
- Vehicle replacement has under spent by £172k due to clarification of vehicles requirements during the year. These purchases were originally budgeted to be funded by leasing but following

an options appraisal it was more cost-effective to finance the majority of vehicles via borrowing. The under spend does not release any capital financing for future use.

2.3 The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic has caused significant disruption to the progress of budgeted capital schemes with slippage at outturn totalling £49.92m (£40.45m at month 9). The Covid-19 impact is affecting both internally and externally managed projects, with disruption to external supply chains, increased contract risk and potential inflationary cost pressures sitting alongside internal resourcing pressures.

2.4 The forecast slippage is broken down as follows:

Scheme	Forecast Slippage Month 2 (000's)	Forecast Slippage Month 5 (000's)	Forecast Slippage Month 7 (000's)	Forecast Slippage Month 9 (000's)	Actual Slippage At Outturn
Asset Investment fund		18,142	18,142	18,118	**18,067**
Tranche 'B' King Henry Future Schools			12,484	13,421	**14,092**
Crick Road Care Home	5,978	5,978	5,978	5,978	**5,964**
RE-FIT Programme					**2,031**
Flood Recovery Grant					**1,337**
City Deal					**830**
Highways Maintenance					**812**
Schools Maintenance					**749**
County Hall 'J' block		544	544	544	**774**
Section 106 schemes		131	78	148	**692**
Disabled Facilities Grants					**613**
21st Century Schools Team				525	**572**
School Refurbishment				300	**415**
Car Park Improvements					**328**
'IT' Schemes					**296**
WG 'Resilient Roads'					**292**
Bridges & Retaining Walls					**278**
Recycling Vehicles and Boxes					**261**
'Green Infrastructure'					**247**
Abergavenny Borough Theatre Works				236	**239**
Access for All				390	**238**
County Farms					**215**
Council Chamber refurbishment & IT upgrade		200	200	200	**200**
Sewage Treatment Works				200	**199**
Abergavenny Community Hub development				47	**73**
Property schemes		229	74	138	**0**
Other schemes				203	**106**
Total	**5,978**	**25,224**	**37,500**	**40,448**	**49,920**

2.5 **Useable Capital Receipts Available**

2.6 In the table below, the effect of the changes to the forecast capital receipts on the useable capital receipts balances available to meet future capital commitments are illustrated. There is also a comparison to the balances forecast within the 2020/24 MTFP capital budget proposals.

	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000
Balance as at 1st April	3,040	9,210	14,136	12,544	11,452
Capital receipts used for financing	(31)	(3,341)	(684)	(684)	(684)
Capital receipts used to support capitalisation direction	(1,011)	(2,208)	(2,208)	(508)	(508)
Capital receipts Received or Forecast	7,212	10,475	1,300	100	100
Forecast Balance as at 31st March	**9,210**	**14,136**	**12,544**	**11,452**	**10,360**
Forecast Balance 2020/24 MTFP	9,904	10,245	10,791	10,136	10,136
Variance compared to 2020/24 MTFP	**(694)**	**3,891**	**1,753**	**1,316**	**224**

2.7 Capital receipts used to support the capitalisation direction were £1.08m less than budgeted for 2020/21, however this was offset by an overall delay in generating some receipts into 2021/22 and beyond and therefore results in a slightly reduced balance of receipts compared to the original budget.

2.8 Forecast receipts to be generated in future years have increased since the 2020/21 budget was set and this is demonstrated in the expected overall increase in receipt balances after affording additional capitalisation direction approved as part of 2021/22 budget setting.

Monmouthshire Select Committee Minutes

Meeting of Strong Communities Select Committee held at on Thursday, 17th June, 2021 at 10.00 am

Councillors Present	Officers in Attendance
County Councillor S. Woodhouse (Chairman) County Councillor A. Webb (Vice Chairman) County Councillors: P. Clarke, A. Easson, C.Edwards, L. Guppy, V. Smith, J.Treharne Also in attendance County Councillor: J.Pratt, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Neighbourhood Services	Hazel Ilett, Scrutiny Manager Robert McGowan, Policy and Scrutiny Officer Alan Burkitt, Policy Officer Equalities and Welsh Language Hazel Clatworthy, Sustainability Policy Officer Matthew Gatehouse, Head of Policy and Governance

APOLOGIES: None

1. **To note the appointment of County Councillor S. Woodhouse as Chair**

2. **To appoint a Vice Chair**

   Councillor Treharne nominated Councillor Webb, seconded by Councillor Edwards.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

   There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Open Public Forum**

   No members of the public were present.

5. **Climate Change**

   Matthew Gatehouse and Hazel Clatworthy presented the report and answered the members' questions, along with Cabinet Member Jane Pratt.

   Challenge:

   The pie charts refer to progress on actions made in 2021. Is it correct that there are no projects yet to start?

   A few actions in June hadn't started. For example, a couple of schools-related projects that hadn't started, due to lockdown. One of the first actions in the plan is about ensuring that new builds are zero carbon; at that point, no new builds were happening, but discussions are now taking place about the new building at King Henry VIII school, so that has moved to 'green' – we are ensuring that sustainability and net zero are included in the specifications for that. Those are a couple of examples of projects that hadn't started but are now underway.

There is no progress on fitting bike carriers to buses – what is on the table to progress that and make the buses compatible?

Contractors operate many of the buses that run in the county, so we have less influence over what can be done with those. With the buses that we do run, where the bike racks would need to go is where the engine compartment is, so it's not feasible given the type of buses that we have. As and when we look at renewing buses, this matter will be picked up and explored then, to see if we can use buses for which bike racks are compatible.

Some residents are complaining about the mowing of green spaces – who decides that larger areas are to remain uncut?

It would be helpful to receive details by email of the particular areas of concern, so that they can be passed on to Nigel Leaworthy (Commercial and Operations Manager) and his team, who do the mowing. The council is mowing playing fields and pitches. In other areas they have let the wildflowers grow, but still mowing paths around or through those areas so that residents can walk unaffected by wet, cut grass etc. In some of the residential areas, sometimes it's not the council that is responsible i.e. it might be the responsibility of a housing association. Similarly, schools are in charge of their own grounds and how they are managed; sometimes, they might ask the council team to mow their area in a way that is not necessarily in accordance with the council's policy. Thus, it would be useful to know in which precise locations residents have concerns. It is tricky to get the balance right, as we have also had many compliments from residents about the wildflowers and the increase of bee numbers.

Regarding open spaces and mowing, is it worth putting out an update to residents about how effective the measures have been, and to reassure them that the situation is monitored?

Yes, we will speak to colleagues about this. Press releases went out earlier in the year, and we have done a lot in terms of signage explaining 'No Mow May' and the rationale behind it, but we will indeed follow this up.

Regarding the Action Plan, are there major areas of concern in any of the amber areas?

Not all of these matters have progressed as quickly as we would have liked, or as we might need in order to reach net zero by 2030. One example is the commitment to move the council's pension fund away from carbon-intensive industries, following a motion from Councillor Groucott. Since then, the fund has begun to divest significantly from fossil fuel companies and put a larger proportion of investments into a zero carbon tracker, so that we are investing more positively in companies that are proactively looking to reduce carbon from their activities e.g. green energy firms. A significant amount of progress has been taken, in the region of tens of millions of pounds of investments. This sort of action can't take place overnight, however.

Other activities have progressed more slowly than we'd hoped e.g. the installation of Photovoltaic canopies and EV charging at car parks such as County Hall. Pre-pandemic, we were looking to expand the car park at County Hall, as more staff had been consolidated at that site. As part of that proposal, there were plans to install PV canopies in the expanded area. Now, with more people working from home, work on that expansion has paused, as there might not be the need for the extra space in light of altered travel patterns resulting from the pandemic.

At the end of No Mow Way, where is the council in relation to catching up with grass cutting?

Mowing is resuming for those areas left uncut during May, prioritising the verges at junctions and sports pitches. There is a lot to catch up with, of course, so people might need to be

patient. Also, the new cut and collect machine that we are using is very valuable because it collects even the longer mowings. If cut grass is left, it makes the field more fertile, which is bad for the wildflowers as they thrive in soil that is more infertile. Picking up the cuttings is therefore very important, but this machine is slightly slower than the usual ones that leave the cuttings behind – so progress is a little slower, as a result.

Is the Council doing anything to mark Clean Air Day today?

One of the actions in the plan that we have been carrying out is an anti-idling campaign. We have worked with schools and had a competition for them to design posters that we can turn into metal signs that will go around the schools, encouraging parents to switch off their engines. As well as being bad for air quality and the environment, there are significant effects on people's health from idling, especially that of young children. This is another example of an amber action that was put on hold because we wanted publicity when the schools were open (as well as in other locations.) There is an air quality management zone in Chepstow and Usk. A group made up of officers from Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire, and some citizens, meets regularly in Chepstow to discuss proposals there. We work closely with the Transition town groups, working on ways to reduce air pollution. In hindsight, a strong publicity drive would have been a good idea, but various communications about it have gone out today on social media linking Clean Air Day with the anti-idling campaign.

No Mow May was fabulous. We only have grass in the verges in our country lanes and minor B-roads – can we include wildflowers? It would help the public to embrace the reduced cutting.

We don't own all of the land. There have been times, such as during the Eisteddfod, when we have encouraged people to buy and plant wildflower seeds. We do what we can on our own land, and we would certainly agree that more wildflowers in the county would be very welcome, especially given the environmental benefit they would bring.

A long time ago, Councillor Guppy requested a cycle path between Rogiet and Undy, as it is a dangerous road. But nothing has happened – it is long overdue.

We have invested a great deal in Active Travel routes over the last 12 months, overseen by officers Paul Sullivan and Susan Hume, both of whom attend the Climate working group, chaired by Councillor Pratt. We have had recent success in leveraging external funds for the development of cycle routes. We currently have a live Active Travel consultation, and would urge members and the public to look at the routes on the council's website, give feedback, and continue to engage with our officers about what works and what else is needed.

We are losing our investment in wind turbines, and losing out as an authority, therefore.

We aren't aware of the detail about this, at that time, so can't give a specific response. One of the objectives in the climate strategy and action plan relates to energy. We operate a solar farm that has significant benefits, commercially and in producing renewable energy. There are some challenges when it comes to expanding our renewables, linked to the capacity of the national grid. We are dependent on the power distribution company in our area, Western Power, to have the capacity to enable us to connect more renewable sources into the grid. At present, for example, there is insufficient capacity available to us to reconnect things like solar farms on to the grid. We would need to check the detail regarding wind turbines, but it is the sort of thing that colleagues like Debra Hill-Howells and Ian Hoccom are grappling with. National grid capacity issues are not unique to Monmouthshire. We will get a detailed response regarding wind turbines from colleagues, to present at this committee's next meeting.

Regarding Active Travel and the footpath between Rogiet and Undy, someone needs to get hold of it – words need to be turned into actions.

We applied for funding for this and were rejected by Welsh Government. It has been highlighted in the Burns Report, which the government is taking very seriously. We are lobbying at every avenue to get this done but we do need the finances to do it. We hope to be successful in doing that. We certainly agree that there is a dire need for this footpath.

Is there an update on hydrogen cars?

We've been talking for a long time about piloting the Riversimple hydrogen cars, with 20 due to be beta-tested around the county. The timescale has been a little frustrating, as we hoped to have had them by now. We will soon take delivery of the first though, which will be piloted by our Registrars' service. They are quite small vehicles so wouldn't be suitable for some council services. Riversimple want the cars to work perfectly for us, rather than give is cars with lots of problems. They have therefore made further refinements during lockdown. In terms of larger vehicles, some UK authorities like Aberdeen have been piloting hydrogen refuse trucks. Our officers are keeping up-do-date with the latest technologies and possibilities around that. Currently, the only refuelling station is in Abergavenny, but it is only suitable for Riversimple's Rasa cars, for which it was designed. We would therefore need different refuelling stations for larger vehicles. Therefore, at this time, we are keeping a watching brief on this. If, in the future, we were to have another solar farm, perhaps it could be used to create hydrogen. Big ideas like this are also being considered.

Has work actually started on the EV charging strategy? It was due to start in April.

The work was due to start. Funding is in place to bring in someone to work on the development of the strategy. As mentioned above, learning from other authorities is important. One of the connections that we've established is with Oxfordshire council, which is leading the way in this area. A big challenge that we have with EV charging is providing for people who don't have off-road parking. Oxfordshire has received funding from Innovate UK that has enabled them to set up an EV team. They have piloted different approaches for on street charging, such as pop-up chargers and gullies for people to run cables safely underneath the pavement from their house. Because they are ahead, conversations with Oxfordshire are giving our officers pause for thought about our first steps and what needs to happen on the strategy, but also taking us far ahead in our understanding of the issue. Another avenue we're exploring is the possibility of working across the Cardiff Capital Region on this matter. Across the CCR, there is a £10m Challenge Fund to help local authorities address challenges that we can't resolve with current technologies. One of the themes of the fund is accelerating decarbonisation. We are speaking with the fund manager there, who has also been connected into the conversations with Oxfordshire, on the sorts of things we can do and how we could potentially pitch some of these challenges to incentivise private sector companies to come up with some of the solutions that we need.

With Digital Solutions, there is a reference to car sharing schemes – are we considering other avenues?

This work started because of a challenge fund. It's been paused because of the pandemic: the firm that has developed a potential digital solution for improving access to rural transport (which, in turn, helps to remove carbon because people are travelling in different ways) has had to pause testing. The proposed solution is divided into three parts: a planner (to plan journeys

more effectively, taking into account mobility issues etc.), something that enables people to book and access a demand-responsive scheme (allowing people to book at shorter notice, and a more efficient scheme around grassroots), and 'tag along' – a secure lift-sharing scheme.

How often does the cross party working group meet and are minutes available?

Minutes are taken but are not routinely published. They can be made available to the committee though, of course. The group meets quarterly, and has done so since the first meeting in January 2020.

Community meals vehicles are electric but not mentioned in the report?

These have been electric since 2017, so they have been factored in but we probably haven't updated the committee. 4 or 5 of the Chefmobile vehicles are electric; not all are because of problems with range. As battery range improves, as with all of our fleet, we will look to move the vehicles over to electric.

Is there any suggestion of repeating member training?

Yes, we aim to repeat the carbon literacy training. The Carbon Literacy Project has accredited training, a day's worth, spread out across a week. It gives a background to the science behind climate change, and helps with understanding the effect that we have on climate change, as individuals and members through their work in the council. We are now a Bronze level carbon literate organisation. Becoming Silver accredited would involve 15% of the workforce doing the training. We are therefore looking to see if a handful of officers can receive the training and then roll it out through our in-house training provision, and roll it out to the wider community. The 4 community reps who attended the climate emergency working group were very positive about it.

Chair's Summary:

Cabinet Member Jane Pratt first gave the following summation:

Thank you to the chair and the committee for the invitation to attend, and the robust questions. The in-depth scrutiny of the paper is greatly appreciated. When I took over this portfolio two years ago, there wasn't really a budget. What Hazel Clatworthy, Matthew Gatehouse and other officers have achieved in two years is incredible, especially as Hazel works part-time. We've been successful in getting government money and bids for circular economy funding: £626k in January, with which we have made rapid progress. We will access every possible grant to forward this agenda. Every department in the council is committed to deliver our target of achieving net zero by 2030. We would like to have achieved more but in many cases are waiting for technology to catch up. A particular example is the lack of an electric waste truck that can properly service our rural county. I am encouraged that we now have a super ministry in welsh government, headed by Julie James. As indicated in this week's government publication, there will soon be a huge shift in waste and recycling. As a council, we are going to raise our ambition and keep pushing, but to do so we will probably need to take on some external help. Thanks are due to our working group and community champions.

We've had an interesting debate this morning and we thank officers for an informative discussion on what is a cross cutting issue. I'm going to summarise some of the points raised this morning as we draw this item to a conclusion.

- We understand there are a variety of reasons slowing the progress around electric vehicles.

- We are encouraged to hear about the library of things, which is a really useful community initiative.
- In terms of street lighting, we are pleased to hear that the rollout of LED's is almost complete.
- We've heard that remote working has reduced business mileage and has contributed to carbon reduction.
- The expansion of green spaces through wild flower planting is encouraging and has transformed some areas.
- The committee raised issues such as the need for bike racks on buses, acknowledging there are difficulties at the moment in accommodating them.
- Members also highlighted the need to maintain grass areas to ensure safety and access, whilst recognising the benefits brought about by initiatives such as 'No Mow May'. Officers informed that areas that weren't mowed in May will be scheduled as a priority, the teams focussing on verges at junctions and sports fields as the first priority. Members support the 'no mow May' initiative and asked officers to consider how to increase wildflowers along Monmouthshire's B roads, acknowledging that not all of the land is within our gift to change. Members asked officers to provide more information to the public on these initiatives.
- Members feel strongly that cycle paths need to be prioritised, noting the changes in travel patterns due to more homeworking and more people wanting to walk or cycle safely, the example given being between Rogiet and Undy. Officers advised that the Active Travel Consultation is currently underway and they encouraged elected members and the public to engage on this and provide feedback on the routes proposed. Members heard that the bid for funding to Welsh Government has been rejected, but that the Burns report has highlighted this and the Council is lobbying at every opportunity. **Action**: The Committee agreed a formal recommendation to the Cabinet Member to pursue this and to report back to the committee.
- We discussed renewable energy, a member highlighting that neighbouring authorities are harnessing the power of wind turbines. The officers explained that some of the challenge the council is facing is the ability to connect our solar farms and other renewable energy sources to the National Grid. **Action**: The officer agreed to provide a response to the committee outside of the meeting on the barriers to renewable energy.
- Members raised hydrogen fuels and the extent to which we are pursuing this and officers explained the difficulty is the fuelling infrastructure but reassured we are still exploring bigger opportunities around solar and hydrogen.
- We queried progress on the Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy and we were reassured that funding is in place to harness expertise from Oxfordshire County Council who are piloting different approaches for charging on street and are leading the way on this and that learning from them will help us progress our own strategy on this, which is an issue across the Cardiff Capital Region.
- In terms of our Digital Solutions to improve access to rural transport, we had paused this work during the pandemic but this is restarting.
- We also discussed the progress of electric vehicles for delivering school meals and community meals, officers advising us that they are working on expanding this as far as the technology allows.

- The Carbon Literacy training has been helpful for those who attended and we are now a 'bronze level' accredited council and we are looking to further roll out training to the wider workforce and the community.

So, in conclusion, we are looking to refresh our strategy but the action plan is constantly evolving to ensure we are exploring the latest initiatives. We have discussed this fully this morning and we are making a formal recommendation to the Cabinet Member Councillor Dymock in terms of Cycle initiatives. The actions highlighted will be addressed and followed up by our scrutiny team.

6. <u>Welsh Language</u>

Alan Burkitt presented the report and answered the members' questions.

Challenge:

For perspective, how many calls are made in other languages during the same period as the 74 Welsh calls?

About 75,000 English calls. On calling the council line there is the option to continue in English or Welsh. Expectation levels are likely low, so many Welsh speakers will probably choose the English line. Figures have slowly increased over the years, and that is likely to continue.

Are the stated Welsh language skills among the staff based on self-evaluation or someone else's determination?

I have spoken to all of the 'fluent' Welsh speakers, and I know the people in the 'higher' levels. I organise the classes for the 'lower' levels; the further someone goes through the course then they go up the levels. With self-assessment, people tend to under-assess their skills, so I try to chat with them and gauge their level. It's not an exact science, of course, especially as there are different levels of fluency.

Is there a particular service area that's of concern? CYP looks like a problem area, for example?

Yes, I would agree that there is a shortage of skills in CYP. Frontline is where we have the particular challenge. We have now appointed people in the contact centre who are Welsh speakers, which has worked really well. There has been something of a hiatus due to Covid, but once we are back working in offices as before, we don't have many staff who could speak to someone who comes through the door. This is a problem: if we were challenged, we would have difficulty in offsetting that challenge.

What support could the Welsh language group in Monmouthshire give to town and community councils, especially in providing translations?

I've had very fruitful conversations with town and community councils in Monmouth, Usk, Chepstow, Caldicot and Abergavenny. We are trying to be realistic in terms of resources. The website is probably the biggest public service that is provided. From a conversation with Councillor Tudor Thomas we started on the Abergavenny one, and from there, conversations have taken place with other town and community clerks. We have offered to do translations for their sites. They are still under the old Welsh language act, and aren't subject to the same requirements that we are, so don't need to translate as much.

It would be good to see more in the report, for example, by including the Welsh speaking teaching staff. Can we also highlight the changes in our schools i.e. the new schools, and things like the Welsh youth club in Caldicot?

Yes, these are interesting points. The 2011 census gave the Welsh-speaking population as 9.9%, approximately 8,500 people; that has no doubt increased in the most recent census. It is therefore a sizeable minority. Concerning data for schools, our focus for this particular report was our resource for providing council services – we therefore can't include schools staff as a resource.

Chair's Summary:

We'd like to thank Alan Burkitt for bringing us the report on our compliance on adhering to Welsh language legislation over the period 2020-2021.

The Officer highlighted several key issues, which are that:

- Training online has been successful and courses such as Say Something in Welsh have been useful
- Our Welsh speaker telephone line is working effectively and whilst we don't have a huge volume of calls, those who use the line are very pleased to have this service
- Recruiting Welsh speaker appointments is the key area where we are struggling. We advertise every role as 'Welsh speaker desirable' but we have only recruited 2 individuals and we are not currently recruiting Welsh Language as 'essential requirements'

A members asked for clarification on the number of Welsh calls (which are 74) in relation to the number of English speaking calls ~ which are 75 000.

Another member asked whether Town and Community Councils are supported to show commitment to Welsh Language. The officer advised that he has offered to assist through translation of their websites, but suggested they are not subject to the same requirements as a county council.

A member suggested there are more Welsh speakers in our staff than are reported due to staff within schools not having been counted. The officer explained that whilst we could count these staff in our report, but given that they are ring-fenced to their roles, they are not able to support our council services. The suggestion by the member was that we could better promote the Welsh language if we held events with all Welsh-speaking staff.

Action: That the officer takes a report to full council on promoting Welsh language across Monmouthshire.

Councillor Guppy suggested that a full report go to council celebrating our achievements and highlighting progress since Eisteddfod.

7. To confirm minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were confirmed and signed as an accurate record, proposed by Councillor Webb and seconded by Councillor Treharne.

8. Strong Communities forward work programme

Councillor Easson suggested, following Councillor Guppy, including B4245 (the road between Rogiet and Undy) and grass cutting. He noted that there hasn't been recent scrutiny of crime and disorder; previously there was extensive work on speed management as part of it. He also proposed looking at CCTV provision – it would be useful to understand whether sufficient time can be given to Monmouthshire's towns when the central hub is in Blaenavon, and an officer has to travel there to get any footage that is needed. The Chair agreed to invite the officer responsible, Andy Mason, to the committee.

Councillor Treharne proposed that the Police & Crime Commissioner attend to discuss the numbers of police officers in the community. The Chair suggested starting with CCTV, as it's not clear with which Select committee this matter lies.

Councillor Smith suggested a review of highways infrastructure – it is the highest profile issue but the budget has reduced each year. The Chair noted that a particular aspect would need to be considered. The Councillor has asked for a breakdown of the department i.e. a directory.

The Committee will put in a request for this as a Recommendation.

9. Cabinet & Council forward work programme

10. Date and time of next meeting: 29th July 2021

The meeting ended at **12.25 pm**

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Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2021

Strong Communities Select Committee				
Meeting Date	**Subject**	**Purpose of Scrutiny**	**Responsibility**	**Type of Scrutiny**
29th July 2021	**Performance Reporting**	Report on the performance against the 5 goals	Richard Jones Frances O'Brien	Performance Monitoring
	Budget Monitoring	Scrutiny of the Revenue and Capital Outturn reports for 2020-2021	Jon Davies	Budget Monitoring
30th September 2021				
	Burials and Cremations Member Report ~ To be confirmed	To consider a report produced by Councillor Val Smith in relation to burials and cremations.	Councillor Val Smith	Member Report
18th November 2021				
6th January 2022	**Welsh Language**	To discuss the new 5 year Welsh Language Strategy.	Alan Burkitt	Policy Development
10th February 2022				
24th March 2022				
19th May 2022				

Future Agreed Work Programme Items: Dates to be determined

- **Workshop on Highways Matters ~ date to be confirmed**
- **Annual monitoring of Public Protection in May, a half year exception report, highlighting any gaps in service delivery, to be scheduled in November of each year.**
- **Registrars Service ~ annual monitoring in May**
- **CCTV**

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2021

- **Digital Solutions to improve access to rural transport**
- **Air Pollution Monitoring Report**
- **Social Justice Policy**
- **Electric Vehicles and Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy ~ learning form Oxfordshire County Council**
- **Open Space Review**
- **Climate change and decarbonisation**
- **County Lines ~ Crime and Disorder Scrutiny**
- **Report on the activities of CCTV**

Cabinet, Council and Individual Cabinet Member Decisions (ICMD) Forward Plan

Monmouthshire County Council is required to publish a forward plan of all key decisions to be taken. Council and Cabinet items will only be considered for decision if they have been included on the planner no later than the month preceding the meeting, unless the item is considered urgent.

Committee / Decision Maker	Meeting date / Decision due	Subject	Purpose	Author	Date item added to the planner	Date item originally scheduled for decision
Council	04/11//2021	Final Statement of Accounts		Peter Davies	07/05/21	
Council	01/10/23	RLDP for Adoption		Mark Hand	23/01/20	
Council	01/02/23	LDP submission for examination		Mark Hand	23/01/20	
Council	01/07/22	RLDP Deposit Plan endorsement for consultation	Endorsement of Deposit Plan	Mark Hand	23/01/20	
Cabinet	06/04/22	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 9 held on 10th March 2022		Dave Jarrett	27/04/21	
Council	10/03/22	2022/23 Treasury Policy		Jon Davies	07/05/21	
Council	10/03/22	2022/23 Final Budget sign off including Council Tax Resolution		Peter Davies	07/05/21	
Cabinet	02/03/22	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 8 held on 27th January 2022		Dave Jarrett	27/04/21	

Cabinet	02/03/22	2022/23 WCF/Treasury Fund Investments		Dave Jarrett	27/04/21	
Cabinet	16/02/22	2022/23 Final Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals		Peter Davies	27/04/21	
Cabinet	16/02/22	2021/2 Revenue and Capital Monitoring report - month 9		Jon Davies	27/04/21	
Council	27/01/22	Council Tax Reduction Scheme		Ruth Donovan	07/05/21	
IMCD	12/01/22	2022/23 Community Council and Police Precepts - final		Jon Davies	07/05/21	
Cabinet	05/01/22	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 7 held on 16th December 2021		Dave Jarrett	27/04/21	
Cabinet	05/01/22	2021/2 Revenue and Capital Monitoring report - month 7		Peter Davies/Jon Davies	27/04/21	
IMCD	18/12/21	2022/23 Community Council and Police Precepts draft		Jon Davies	07/05/21	
Cabinet	15/12/21	2022/23 Draft Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals		Peter Davies	27/04/21	
IMCD	08/12/21	Council Tax Base and associated matters		Ruth Donovan	07/05/21	

Cabinet	01/12/21	Consultation on the proposals to establish an all-through school, Abergavenny.	Cabinet to receive objection report and decide whether to proceed with the proposal.	Debbie Graves	26/05/21	
Cabinet	01/12/21	Review of Monmouthshire's Destination Management Plan 2017-2020	Purpose: to approve the revised Destination Development Plan	Matthew Lewis	22/09/20	
Cabinet	01/12/21	Welsh Church Fund Working group - meeting 6 held on 4th November 2021		Dave Jarrett	27/04/21	
ICMD	24/11/21	SPG S106 Supplementary Planning Guidance	Adoption of SPG clarifying how S106 contributions are calculated following consultation	Mark Hand / Phillip Thomas	26/04/21	
Council	04/11/21	Climate and Decarbonisation Strategy	To endorse an updated climate strategy and action plan which will introduce new programmes of activity to achieve the council's clear policy commitment to reduce carbon emissions.	Matthew Gatehouse / Hazel Clatworthy	19/05/21	
Council	04/11/21	RLDP Preferred Strategy endorsement post consultation	Endorsement of preferred strategy to inform deposit plan	Mark Hand / Craig O'Connor	20/05/20	
Council	04/11/21	Corporate Parenting Strategy		Jane Rodgers	20/07/21	
Council	04/11/21	ISA260 - MCC Accounts				
Cabinet	03/11/21	2021/22 Revenue and Capital Monitoring report - month 5		Peter Davies/Jon Davies	27/04/21	
ICMD	27/10/21	Museum object disposal		Rachael Rogers	09/06/21	

ICMD	13/10/21	LDP Annual Monitoring Report and Development Management Annual Performance Report	Endorsements of reports for submission to WG	Mark Hand / Craig O'Connor	26/04/21	
Cabinet	06/10/21	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 5 held on 23rd September 2021		Dave Jarrett	27/04/21	
Cabinet	06/10/21	Revenue and Capital MTFP update and process		Peter Davies	27/04/21	
Cabinet	06/10/21	Active Travel Network Maps		Paul Sullivan	13/11/20	
Cabinet	06/10/21	Consultation on the proposals to establish an all-through school, Abergavenny.	Cabinet to receive the consultation report and consider recommendations on proposed way forward / whether to publish statutory notices.	Debbie Graves	26/05/21	
Council	23/09/21	Capital Strategy		Jon Davies	20/05/21	
Council	23/09/21	Review of Reserves and revised reserves & Capital receipts		Jon Davies	20/05/21	
Council	23/09/21	Audit Committee Annual Report		Phillip White	29/06/21	
Cabinet	01/09/21	Code of Corporate Governance		Andrew Wathan	20//07/2021	
Cabinet	01/09/21	Welsh Church Fund Working group - meeting 4 held on 22nd July 2021		Dave Jarrett	27/04/21	

Cabinet	01/09/21	LDP Preferred Strategy endorsement post consultation		Mark Hand	20/05/20	
Cabinet	01/09/21	Gilwern Site Developments		Marie Bartlett	23/05/21	
Cabinet	01/09/21	Placemaking Charter	Council signs up to the Placemaking Charter	Mark Hand / Craig O'Connor	28/04/21	
Cabinet	01/09/21	Abergavenny CRC (Racecourse Farm)	CM	Mike Moran	14/10/20	
ICMD	18/08/21	SPG S106 Supplementary Planning Guidance		Matk Hand / Phillip Thomas	01/05/21	23/06/21
Cabinet	28/07/21	Securing resources for ICT resilience	To provide appropriate investment for security resilience in ICT systems	Sian Hayward	30/06/21	
Cabinet	28/07/21	Regional Collaboration: Gwent Public Service Board		Richard Jones	14/07/21	
Cabinet	28/07/21	2021/22 Revenue and Capital Monitoring report		Peter Davies/Jon Davies	27/04/21	
Council	22/07/21	investments in Leisure Centres		Marie Bartlett / Ian Saunders		
ICMD	14/07/21	Museum object Disposal		Rachael Rogers/Lisa Dymock	19/05/21	

Cabinet	07/07/21	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 3 held on 24th June 2021		Dave Jarrett	27/04/21	
Cabinet	07/07/21	Capital Slippage		Jon Davies	11/06/22	
Cabinet	07/07/21	•Mutual Delegation of Strategic Procurement Services		Cath Fallon		
Council	24/06/21	Chief Officer's Report		Will Mclean	19/05/21	
Council	24/06/21	Shire Hall / Monmouth Museum		Matthew lewis	24/05/21	
Council	24/06/21	LDP Preferred Strategy endorsement for consultation		Mark Hand	21/09/20	
Cabinet	09/06/21	2020/21 Revenue and Capital Monitoring outturn	The purpose of this report is to provide Members with information on the forecast outturn position of the Authority at end of month reporting for 2020/21 financial year	Peter Davies/Jon Davies	27/04/21	
Cabinet	09/06/21	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 1 held on 15th April 2021 and meeting 2 held on 13th May 2021		Dave Jarrett	27/04/21	
Cabinet	09/06/21	Digital and Data	To seek approval for the creation of a new Digital Design and Innovation Team, to strengthen our information governance arrangements and to broaden the remit of the existing performance team to include data analytics'.	Emma Jackson	13/05/21	
Cabinet	09/06/21	Shire Hall / Monmouth Museum – to consider the outcome of the feasibility study		Matthew Lewis/Ian Saunders	05/02/21	

Council	13/05/21	Outside Bodies		John Pearson		
Council	13/05/21	Appointment to Committees		John Pearson		
Council	13/05/21	Political Balance		Matt Phillips		
Council	13/05/21	Freedom of the Borough		Joe Skidmore	22/04/21	
Council	13/05/21	Climate and Decarbonisation Strategy and Action Plan		Hazel Clatworthy	14/04/21	
ICMD	12/05/21	A Nation of Sancturary - Asylum Dispersal Scheme - Moved to Cabinet	To provide Council with an progress update on the Climate and Decarbonisation Strategy and Action Plan which was developed following the passing of a motion to declare a climate emergency.	Matt Gatehouse	19/04/21	
ICMD	12/05/21	Play Action Plan	Cabinet Member Richard John Report originally on Cabi	hew Lewis/Mike Moran/Ian Saun	16/03/21	
Cabinet	14/04/21	Leisure Centre Investments		Marie Bartlett	22/03/21	
Cabinet	14/04/21	Statutory Consultation to establish 4-19 school in Abergavenny		Cath Saunders	03/03/21	
Cabinet	14/04/21	Welsh Church Fund Working Group meeting	The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications 2020/21 - meeting 6 held on 11th March 2021	Dave Jarrett	02/04/20	

Cabinet	14/04/21	Whole Authority Strategic Risk Assessment		Richard Jones	02/03/21	
ICMD	07/04/21	Strategic Procurement		Cath Fallon/P Murphy	09/03/21	
ICMD	24/03/21	SPG S106 Supplementary Planning Guidance	To Clarify how S106 contributions are calculated/**deferred from 13/1/21 and 24/02/21 deferred UFN**	Phil Thomas/Mark Hand	01/05/19	
Council	11/03/21	Appointments to outside bodies	To appoint a representative to the Wye Navigation Advisory Committee	Matt Gatehouse	08/02/21	
Council	11/03/21	Council Tax Resolution Report		Ruth Donovan	02/04/20	
Council	11/03/21	Treasury Strategy report		Jon Davies	15/12/20	
Council	11/03/21	Constitution Review		Matt Phillips	14/08/19	
Council	11/03/21	The Annual Pay Policy		Sally Thomas	11/02/21	
ICMD	10/03/21	disposal of land for consideration	Awaiting notification re inclusion DEFERRED UFN	by Cllr Murphy/ Ben Thorpe	09/02/21	
ICMD	10/03/21	Wye Valley AONB Management Plan 2021-26		Matthew Lewis/Richard John	10/02/21	

Cabinet	03/03/21	•EAS Business Plan		Sharon Randall Smith	21/09/20	
Cabinet	03/03/21	Final revenue and capital budget proposals		Peter Davies	21/09/20	
Cabinet	03/03/21	Social Justice Strategy Update		Cath Fallon	17/09/20	
Cabinet	03/02/21	Welsh Church Fund Working Group meeting	The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications 2020/21 - meeting 5 held on 14th January 2021	Dave Jarrett	02/04/20	
Cabinet	03/02/21	Apprenticeship Pay Rates		Gareth James	08/01/21	
Cabinet	03/02/21	Outdoor Adventure Provision at Gilwern		Marie Bartlett	30/11/20	30/11/20
Cabinet	03/02/21	Proposed Disposal of MCC Cottages		Nicola Howells	15/12/20	
ICMD	27/01/21	Approval on Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 - The Local Authorities (Precepts) (Wales) Regulations 1995	Deferred from 13/1 to 27/1	Jon Davies		
Cabinet	20/01/21	•Draft revenue and capital budget proposals for consultation		Peter Davies	21/09/20	
Cabinet	20/01/21	Chippenham Mead Play Area, Monmouth		Mike Moran	15/12/20	

Cabinet	20/01/21	Play Area Assessments and Future Play Area Policy	to advise members of play area assessments carried out last year and suggest a rationalisation of provision	Matthew Lewis	22/09/20	
Cabinet	20/01/21	BUS EMERGENCY SCHEME (BES) – REQUEST TO ALL COUNCILS TO SIGN UP TO THE BES2 SCHEME		Roger Hoggins	24/12/20	
Council	14/01/21	Council Diary 2021/22		Nicola Perry		
Council	14/01/21	Council Tax Reduction Scheme		Ruth Donovan	07/04/20	
Council	14/01/21	Annual Safeguarding Report		Jane Rodgers	21/09/20	
ICMD	13/01/21	Minerals Regional Technical Statement Second Revision (RTS2		Rachel Lewis	17/12/20	
ICMD	13/01/21	Museum Service Collection Review	To propose the deaccessioning of and disposal actions for the proposed items in line with Section 4 of the Museums Association Disposal Toolkit	Matthew Lewis/Rachael Rogers	22/09/20	
ICMD	13/01/21	Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in the Private Rented Sector		Gareth Walters	15/12/21	
ICMD	13/01/21	Staffing Changes: Business Support	To seek approval for the voluntary redundancy of the Chief Executive's Personal Assistant, reducing the cost of administrative support arrangements for the senior management team and contribute to budget savings during the 2021-22 financial year./Paul Jordan	Matt Gatehouse	15/12/21	
Cabinet	06/01/21	Budget Monitoring Report - month 7 (period 2)	The purpose of this report is to provide Members with information on the forecast outturn position of the Authority at end of month reporting for 2020/21 financial year.	Peter Davies/Jon Davies	02/04/20	

Cabinet	06/01/21	RIPA Policy		Matt Phillips	21/10/20	
Cabinet	06/01/21	Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2020		Mark Hand	23/06/20	
ICMD	23/12/20	Wye Valley AONB Management Plan 2020-2025	To approve the review of the Wye Valley AONB Management Plan 2020-2025 **Deferred awaiting new date**	Matthew Lewis	22/09/2020/	
Cabinet	16/12/20	Welsh Church Fund Working Group meeting	The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications 2020/21 - meeting 7 held on 3rd December 2020	Dave Jarrett	02/04/20	
Cabinet	16/12/20	Proposal to pause work on a proposed Development Company		Deb Hill Howells	21/10/20	
Cabinet	16/12/20	Local Housing Market Assessment Update		Mark Hand	04/11/20	
Cabinet	16/12/20	Growth Options to Cabinet for endorsement for non-statutory consultation		Mark Hand	21/09/20	
Cabinet	16/12/20	Review of school places in Caldicot town		Matthew Jones	21/10/20	
ICMD	09/12/20	Shire Hall/Monmouth Museum	Paul Jordan	Matthew Lewis	deferred from 11/11	
IMCD	09/12/20	Consultation on Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 - The Local Authorities (Precepts) (Wales) Regulations 1995	To seek Member approval of the proposals for consultation purposes regarding payments to precepting authorities during the 2021/22 financial year as required by statute.	Jon Davies		

IMCD	09/12/20	Council Tax base and associated matters	To agree the Council Tax Base figure for submission to the Welsh Government, together with the collection rate to be applied for 2021/22 and to make other necessary related statutory decisions	Ruth Donovan	02/04/20	
Council	03/12/20	Corporate Joint Committee: Consultation Response'	To discuss and endorse a council response to consultation about draft regulations which will create four regional Corporate Joint Committees. These are a statutory mechanism for regional collaboration by local government.	Matt Gatehouse	16/10/20	
Council	03/12/20	Updated Asset Investment Policy		Peter Davies	21/09/20	
Council	03/12/20	Statutory Director of Social Services annual report		Julie Boothroyd	14/08/20	
Cabinet	02/12/20	InFuSe		Cath Fallon	10/11/20	
Cabinet	02/12/20	Clydach Ironworks Enhancement Scheme Revision/S106 Funding, Cae Meldon		Matthew Lewis	22/09/20	
ICMD	25/11/20	Homesearch Allocations Policy and Amendments	INCLUDED ON 11/11 AGENDA	Louise Corbett	22/10/20	
ICMD	11/11/20	WELSH LANGUAGE COMMISSIONER'S MONITORING WORK 2019-20		Matt Gatehouse		
ICMD	11/11/20	LDP Annual Monitoring Report/ and Annual Performance Report for Planning Service		Rachel Lewis/Phil Thomas	19/10/20	
ICMD	11/11/20	Housing Register Review		Mark Hand	23/06/20	

Cabinet	04/11/20	Outdoor Adventure Service		Marie Bartlett/Ian Saunders	13/10/20	
Cabinet	04/11/20	Public Service Ombudsman's annual letter	To provide Cabinet with a copy of the Public Service Ombudsman's annual letter to inform understanding of the council's performance in handling complaints	Matt Gatehouse	09/09/20	
Cabinet	04/11/20	Welsh Church Fund working group	The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications 2020/21 - meeting 4 held on 22nd October 2020	Dave Jarrett	02/04/20	
Cabinet	04/11/20	Three Fields Site Magor – Lease Arrangements		Mike Moran	14/10/20	
Cabinet	04/11/20	Coronavirus Strategic Aims: Progress and Next Steps	To provide an overview of progress against the strategic aims set by Cabinet in July, and communicate an updated version of the plan on a page	Matt Gatehouse	26/08/20	
Cabinet	04/11/20	Section 106 Funding – The Hill, Abergavenny		Mike Moran	20/02/19	
Council	22/10/20	Corporate Plan Annual Report 2019/20		Richard Jones	25/08/20	
Council	22/10/20	MCC Audited Accounts (formal approval)	To notify Council of completed Audit process and resultant accounts - To go to Audit Committee	Peter Davies/Jon Davies	02/04/20	
Council	22/10/20	ISA 260 report - MCC Accounts - attachment above	Deferred from september	Peter Davies/Jon Davies	02/04/20	
Council	22/10/20	Future Data Hall and Data Hosting Arrangements		Peter Davies	16/09/20	

Council	22/10/20	LDP revised Delivery Agreement including LDP timetable and community involvement strategy		Craig O'Connor	03/07/20	
Cabinet	21/10/20	Revenue and Capital Monitoring 2020/21 Forecast Outturn Statement – Month 5		Peter Davies	16/09/20	
Cabinet	21/10/20	MTFP and Budget Process 2021/22 to 2024/25		Peter Davies	16/09/20	
Cabinet	21/10/20	Review of Garden Waste Service		Laura Carter	23/07/20	
ICMD	14/10/20	PUBLIC TOILET PROVISION - GRANTS TO LOCAL COUNCILS AND FUTURE PROVISION IN ABERGAVENNY	DEFERRED	Roger Hoggins	25/09/20	
ICMD	14/10/20	Closure of Capita Gwent Consultancy and distribution of Reserves		Roger Hoggins	25/09/20	
ICMD	14/10/20	Extension of PSPO	To seek approval to extend three Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) in respect of Bailey Park,	Andrew Mason	23/09/20	
Cabinet	07/10/20	Future Data Hall and Data Hosting Arrangements		Peter Davies	16/09/20	
Cabinet	07/10/20	Welsh Church Fund Working Group	The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications 2020/21 - meeting 2 held on 28th July 2020 and meeting 3 held on 10th September 2020.	Dave Jarrett	02/04/20	
Cabinet	07/10/20	Future Provision of HWRCs including the closure of Usk recycling centre		Carl Touhig	14/09/20	

ICMD	23/09/20	SCM Collaboration with TCBC Heritage Services		Amy Longford	24/08/20	
ICMD	23/09/20	SCM Collaboration with TCBC Heritage Services		Amy Longford	24/08/20	
Council	10/09/20	Audit Committee Annual Report		Philip White	11/08/20	
Cabinet	29/07/20	Digital Infrastructure Action Plan		Cath Fallon	08/07/20	
Cabinet	29/07/20	'Revenue and Capital Monitoring 2020/21 Forecast Outturn Statement – Month 2		Jonathan S Davies	12/06/20	
Cabinet	29/07/20	Coronavirus Risk Management Update'		Peter Davies	10/07/20	
Cabinet	29/07/20	Welsh Church Fund Working Group meeting	The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications 2020/21 - meeting 1 held on 30th June 2020	Dave Jarrett	02/04/20	
Cabinet	29/07/20	Outdoor Education - Service Update		Marie Bartlett	09/07/20	
Cabinet	29/07/20	Public Toilets				
Cabinet	29/07/20	5G Rural test bed		Cath Fallon/Frances O'Brien		

Council	16/07/20	Climate Emergency Update		Hazel Clatworthy	10/06/20	
Council	16/07/20	CEx Report		Matt Phillips	18/06/20	
Council	16/07/20	Cabinet decision re Gilwern		Matt Phillips	27/05/20	
ICMD	08/07/20	Archaeology Planning Advice	Adoption post-guidance	Mark Hand	19/09/19	Deferred
Cabinet	01/07/20	COVID-19 Evaluation of Recovery Phase and Establishing Aims for Response Stage			17/06/20	
Cabinet	01/07/20	Home to School Transport Policy	Deferred		20/05/20	
Cabinet	01/07/20	Household Waste Recycling Centres	Deferred		20/05/20	
Cabinet	17/06/20	Revenue and Capital Monitoring Outturn	To provide Members with information on the outturn position of the Authority for the financial year	Peter Davies/Jon Davies	02/02/20	
Council	04/06/20	Licensing Act Policy		Linda O'Gorman		
Council	04/06/20	Estyn Report		Will Mclean		

Council	04/06/20	Safeguarding Covid19 Position Statement		Julie Boothroyd		
Council	04/06/20	Chief Officer, CYP Annual Report'		Will Mclean	11/03/20	
Council	04/06/20	Refit Programme		Ian Hoccom	28/02/20	
Cabinet	27/05/20	Safeguarding		Julie Boothroyd		
Cabinet	27/05/20	Active Travel and Town Centres		Paul Sullivan		
Cabinet	06/05/20	Welsh Church Fund Working Group	The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications 2020/21 - meeting 1 held on 2nd April 2020	Dave Jarrett	02/04/20	
ICMD	08/04/20	GUARANTEED INTERVIEWS FOR CARE LEAVERS		Gareth James	23/03/20	
ICMD	08/04/20	Momouthshire Registration Service Collaborative Working Agreement		Jennifer Walton	23/03/20	
Cabinet	01/04/20	Staffing re-alignment: Community Hubs and Contact Centre		Matt Gatehouse	11/03/20	
Cabinet	01/04/20	EAS Business Plan		Will Mclean	04/03/20	

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