

GENERAL FUND 1999/00 PROJECTION

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1. **Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise members of actual expenditure to date against profiled estimate and the projected position for the year 1999/00.

2. **Summary**

2.1 Latest Projected Outturn for the year 1999/2000 is that the Committee's net expenditure will be within estimate.

3. **Recommendations**

3.1 Committee is requested to note:

- (a) the latest Projections of the 1999/2000 budget; and
- (b) the carry forward of £150,000 older people placement budget from 1999/00 to 2000/01 to enable the maximisation of placements over the next 17 months.

4. **Background**

- 4.1 Financial Regulations dictate that each committee shall receive a statement identifying its spending position for the year and in addition receive a position statement on salary costs. These are attached as **Annex A and B** respectively.

5. **Issues and Choices**

- 5.1 The major projected variations are shown in **Annex A**. The overspend on Learning Disability of £374,000 is a result of the following:
- (a) additional agency staff having been used at Tower Drive day centre to cover for sickness (£56,000);
 - (b) additional staffing costs for the Emerson Valley Independent Living Project (£44,000); and
 - (c) additional placements required to be made during the year (£180,000) for which no estimate was made at the time that this year's budget was calculated in October 1998. There has been a marked increase in the overall number of clients and costs of care needed to be provided as well as a greater number of transition clients than that notified to the Directorate.
- 5.2 The underspend on Home wages (£460,000) is a result of the difficulty in recruiting staff and from a reduced requirement for hours. This matches the level of hours care provided in 1998/99.
- 5.3 The current Older People's Placement Budgets currently have enough funding in this financial year to make an additional 5 placements per month above turnover until March 2000 (25 placements in total). However, to fund the ongoing costs in 2000/01 it is necessary to transfer £150,000 from the 1999/00 budget to 2000/01. This virement between years was approved by the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 19 October 1999. This cash in addition to the Demographic Growth of £117,000 being added to the budget, will allow the 25 placements to be funded in 2000/01.
- 5.4 The timing of these placements needs careful consideration to enable any pressures to be met during the coming winter. Whatever the timing of the placements in this financial year there is available funding for the cost of 25 placements in the 2000/01 budget. It will be possible to make an increased number of placements in 2000/01 as there will be more places available to be released by turnover as the total number will be that much greater.
- 5.5 The salaries and wages monitor statement (**Annex B**) shows that the 3% vacancy provision has been exceeded by £73,000 for the first six months of the year. Savings shown are currently offsetting other variations on the budget.
- 5.6 There are no other major variations to report at present. It is estimated at this time that the Committee's outturn position will be within budget once the older peoples placement virement has been actioned.

6. **Implications**

6.1 Environmental

None.

6.2 Equalities

None.

6.3 Financial

The financial implications of this report are dealt with in other sections.

6.4 Legal

None.

6.5 Staff and Accommodation

None.

7. **Conclusion**

7.1 It is projected that the outturn position for 1999/2000 will be within the latest approved estimate.

Background Papers: None