

Cabinet

Date: 18 September 2017

Subject: Financial Report 2017/18 – June 2017

Lead officer: Roger Kershaw

Lead member: Mark Allison

Recommendations:

- A. That Cabinet note the financial reporting data relating to revenue budgetary control, showing a forecast net overspend at year end of £1.8million, 0.3% of the gross budget.
- B. That Cabinet note the adjustments to the Capital Programme contained in Appendix 5b

That Cabinet approve the following adjustments to the Capital Programme

Scheme	2017/18 Budget	2018/19 Budget	Funding/Re-profiling
<u>Corporate Services</u>			
Capita Housing	(70,000)	70,000	Re-profiling
Planning & Public protection System	165,580	(165,580)	Re-profiling
<u>Environment & Regeneration</u>			
Rediscover Mitcham Section 106	224,650	0	Section 106 Funding
Total	320,230	(95,580)	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This is the financial monitoring report for quarter 1 and period 3, 30th June 2017 presented in line with the financial reporting timetable.

This financial monitoring report provides:-

- The income and expenditure at period 3 and a full year forecast projection.
- An update on the capital programme and detailed monitoring information;
- An update on Corporate Items in the budget 2017/18;
- Progress on the delivery of the 2017/18 revenue savings

2. THE FINANCIAL REPORTING PROCESS

- 2.1 The budget monitoring process in 2017/18 will continue to focus on adult social care and children's social care as these areas overspent in 2016/17 and continue to have budget pressures.
- 2.2 Chief Officers, together with budget managers and Service Financial Advisers are responsible for keeping budgets under close scrutiny and ensuring that expenditure within budgets which are overspending is being actively and vigorously controlled and where budgets are underspent, these underspends are retained until year end. Any final overall overspend on the General Fund will result in a call on balances as has been the case for the last two financial years, however this action is not sustainable longer term.

2.3 2017/18 FORECAST OUTTURN BASED UPON LATEST AVAILABLE DATA

Executive summary – At period 3 to 30th June 2017 the year end forecast is a net £1.8m overspend compared to the current budget.

Summary Position as at 30th June 2017

	Current Budget 2017/18 £000s	Full Year Forecast (June) £000s	Forecast Variance at year end (June) £000s	Forecast Variance at year end (May) £000s	Outturn variance 2016/17 £000s
<u>Department</u>					
3A. Corporate Services	26,426	26,297	(128)	(131)	(1,287)
3B. Children, Schools and Families	47,513	48,561	1,047	820	1,154
3C. Community and Housing	60,011	60,823	812	506	10,124
3D. Public Health	(151)	50	50	121	16
3E. Environment & Regeneration	18,030	17,791	(239)	(495)	1,011
Overheads	0	0	0	0	12
NET SERVICE EXPENDITURE	151,829	153,523	1,542	821	11,030
<u>3E. Corporate Items</u>					
Impact of Capital on revenue budget	13,415	13,457	42	42	193
Other Central budgets	(19,701)	(19,511)	190	643	(8,329)
Levies	933	933	0	0	0
TOTAL CORPORATE PROVISIONS	(5,353)	(5,121)	232	685	(8,136)
Less corporate overheads	405				
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	146,071	148,401	1,774	1,506	2,894
<u>FUNDING</u>					
Revenue Support Grant	(15,520)	(15,520)	0	0	0
Business Rates	(35,483)	(35,483)	0	0	0
Other Grants	(10,733)	(10,733)	0	0	(537)
Council Tax and Collection Fund	(84,329)	(84,329)	0	0	0
FUNDING	(146,065)	(146,065)	0	0	(537)
					0
NET	5	2,336	1,774	1,506	2,357

The current level of GF balances is £12.778m and the minimum level reported to Council for this is £12.27m. This means that another reserve or further savings will need to be found to offset the remaining £1.27m overspend.

3. DEPARTMENTAL SUMMARY OF CURRENT POSITION

Corporate Services

	2017/18 Current Budget	Full year Forecast June	Forecast variance at year end (June)	Forecast variance at year end (May)	2016/17 Outturn Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Business Improvement	2,973	2,881	-92	-1	-54
Infrastructure & Transactions	9,310	9,344	34	87	-431
Resources	6,430	6,543	114	113	-314
Human Resources	1,948	1,948	0	0	-34
Corporate Governance	2,485	2,400	-85	-123	-330
Customer Services	2,277	2,268	-9	-120	-164
Corporate Items including redundancy costs	1002	912	-90	-88	40
Total (controllable)	26,426	26,297	-128	-131	-1,287

Overview

At the end of the first quarter the Corporate Services (CS) department is forecasting an underspend of £128k at year end.

Business Improvement - £92k under

The systems and projects team are forecasting an underspend on staffing. This is due to vacant posts and staff recharges to projects and CHAS 2013 Limited. This is offset by a projected shortfall on saving CSD42 which is not expected to be fully achieved in 17/18.

Infrastructure & Transactions - £34k over

There are budget pressures in several teams.

The professional development centre (Chaucer Centre) is expected to under-achieve on income by £130k. Bookings year to date are lower than previous years. As budgets are reduced, customers are choosing the Civic Centre non-chargeable rooms over the Chaucer Centre's chargeable rooms. Rental income is also lower and there is a delay with agreed office renters now not taking residence at the centre until November.

The transactional services team are forecasting an overspend of £60k mainly because saving CS70 which is to charge for paper copies of invoices is unachievable due to delays in the implementation of e5, SharePoint and EDRMS.

The Garth Road income target is forecast to under-achieve by approximately £60k and there is a projected overspend in the Commercial Services team on staffing costs of £45k. This team is essential in driving and delivering procurement savings across the Council.

These forecast overspends are partly offset by over-achievement of income on printing.

Resources - £114k over

The division is forecasting to overspend due to staffing in two teams, one of which is due to long term sickness.

Some of the ongoing development costs of e5 are being funded within the division.

Human Resources – on budget

There is an expected shortfall on schools buy back income of £78k which is being offset by vacant posts.

There are budget pressures payroll contract with Agilisys which are being reviewed.

Corporate Governance - £85k under

The forecast underspend is partly due to a £27k underspend in Internal Audit and £23k in Benefits Investigation where a 18/19 saving has been captured early.

There are other forecast underspends on non salary budgets across the division.

The South London legal partnership (SLLp) has budget pressures on staffing costs. There are numerous agency staff as recruitment is becoming increasingly difficult in certain teams. This will be closely monitored and reported to all partnership boroughs, including the impact on their budgets due to the hard charging of the service.

Customer Services - £9k under

The Merton Bailiff Service is forecasting over-achieving income by £200k but this is offset by a forecast £60k under-achievement of income in the Shared Bailiff Service.

The Communications Service is under-achieving on advertising income targets which is partially offset by underspends elsewhere in the service. The team are working to address the likely failure to achieve income targets through a review of the strategy. A task and finish group is being established to take this forward with the aim of a refreshed strategy and agreed targets being drafted by the autumn.

Corporate Items - £90k under

Redundancy costs are forecast to be approximately £500k over budget based on year to date actuals.

This is being offset by a reduction in the housing benefit provision.

The budget monitoring process will focus on pressures to ensure remedial action is taken and underspends can be held to offset any overspends.

Environment & Regeneration

Environment & Regeneration	2017/18 Current Budget	Full year Forecast (June)	Forecast Variance at year end (June)	Forecast Variance at year end (May)	2016/17 Outturn Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Public Protection	(10,562)	(11,525)	(963)	(1,008)	1,290
Public Space	15,408	15,845	437	504	510
Senior Management	968	895	(73)	(72)	(44)
Sustainable Communities	12,216	12,576	360	80	(745)
Total (Controllable)	18,030	17,791	(239)	(496)	1,011

Description	2016/17 Current Budget	Forecast Variance at year end (June)	Forecast Variance at year end (May)	2016/17 Variance at year end
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Overspend within Regulatory Services	627	203	100	(34)
Underspend within Parking & CCTV Services	(11,638)	(1,165)	(1,104)	1,442
Underspend within Safer Merton	449	(1)	(4)	(118)
Total for Public Protection	(10,562)	(963)	(1,008)	1,290
Overspend within Waste Services	14,135	142	183	168
Underspend within Leisure & Culture	871	(5)	(5)	(72)
Overspend within Greenspaces	1,354	230	241	206
Overspend within Transport Services	(952)	70	85	342
Total for Public Space	15,408	437	504	510
Underspend within Senior Management & Support	968	(73)	(72)	(44)
Total for Senior Management	968	(73)	(72)	(44)
Underspend within Property Management	(2,605)	(101)	(78)	(564)
Overspend within Building & Development Control	(332)	363	105	(157)
Underspend within Future Merton	15,153	98	53	(158)
Total for Sustainable Communities	12,216	360	80	(789)
Total Excluding Overheads	18,030	(239)	(496)	1,011

Overview

The department is currently forecasting an underspend of £239k at year end. The main areas of variance are Regulatory Services, Parking Services, Waste Services, Greenspaces, and Building & Development Control.

Public Protection

Regulatory Services overspend of £203k

The forecast overspend is as a result of a few factors. Firstly, a 2017/18 saving (E&R14) of £100k relating to further expansion of the Regulatory Services Partnership will not be achieved this year, as it is expected that the expansion will not commence until April 2018/19. Secondly, the Partnership has utilised the services of a project manager in order to achieve the aforementioned saving, and Merton's share of this is expected to be around £46k. Thirdly, an underachievement of Licensing income of £47k is forecast, which is associated with a 2016/17 saving (E&R13) of £50k. Finally, the section is liable for any Mortuary costs, which is not within their control. An overspend of £27k related to this service is being forecast.

Parking & CCTV Services underspend of £1,165k

The underspend is mainly as a result of the protracted timeframe for the implementation of the ANPR system across the borough. The section did not have a fully functional system during 2016/17, but the necessary upgrades and camera performance reviews conducted by the contractor and officers from the team have now been completed. The positive effects of this e.g. improved traffic flow are expected to be realised during the year. The later start of the ANPR enforcement has resulted in a delay in motorist compliance with traffic regulations and the revenue generated reflecting this. It is difficult to predict when compliance will begin to set in and how this will affect revenue but this will be closely monitored and future forecasts amended accordingly.

Included within this forecast is an employee related overspend of c£470k due to a combination of savings not yet implemented and increased demand. Due to the implementation of the diesel surcharge and the delay in fully implementing ANPR the section has been forced to delay implementing certain savings, whilst needing to recruit additional agency staff to manage PCN and permit demands. This pressure is being offset by an over-recovery in permit revenue (£431k).

Public Space

Waste Services overspend of £142k

The forecast overspend mainly relates to the ongoing operational costs associated with the management of the HRRC site (£136k). Research is currently being undertaken by waste services looking at alternative disposal options for high volume waste streams such as wood and hard-core.

The Phase C contracts have been rolled out successfully with significant savings achieved. An update report was presented to Sustainable Communities O&S Panel on 4th July with a further update in November. The latter paper will include a summary of all the savings achieved through the procurement of these contracts. Robust contract management is in place ensuring full contractual compliance.

Greenspaces overspend of £230k

The section is currently forecasting to underachieve on its income expectations in the following areas. Firstly, on events related income, whereby related savings of £170k have been implemented in the last two years, and although one event has been confirmed resulting in income of around £55k, work continues to identify how income from events in parks, including developing working partnerships with external event production companies, can be generated.

Secondly, due to a delay in the implementation of 2016/17 saving E&R26 i.e. P&D within certain parks (£60k). This is due to be implemented by September leading to an expectation that only half of the associated saving will be achieved this year. Finally, by a forecast under achievement of rental income of £74k, although work continues with reviewing current rental arrangements, whilst also attempting to identify new letting opportunities.

Sustainable Communities

Building & Development Control overspend of £363k

The section is forecasting to underachieve on income by £316k, in particular within building Control. This reflects a forecast reduction in related income from the previous financial year of around £25k, due to the market share in building control being reduced. This downward trend has also impacted on the section's ability to meet some of its associated 2017/18 savings, notably ENV20 and D&BC 3 i.e. Increased income from building control services, and the commercialisation of the service.

The section is also forecasting a reduction, when compared to 2016/17, in development control income of around £250k due to a downturn of around 10% in planning applications so far this year. This still results in an overachievement of £136k when compared to the associated budget, but is a considerable decrease in expected income levels.

Children Schools and Families

Children, Schools and Families	2017/18 Current Budget £000	Full year Forecast (Jun) £000	Forecast Variance at year end (Jun) £000	Forecast Variance at year end (May) £000	2016/17 Variance at year end £000
Cross Department budgets	2,044	2,008	(36)	(42)	(271)
Education	16,173	15,735	(438)	(496)	(874)
Social Care and Youth Inclusion	19,415	21,113	1,698	1,535	3,259
PFI	7,816	7,639	(177)	(177)	(549)
Redundancy costs	2,065	2,065	0	0	(411)
Total (controllable)	47,513	48,560	1,047	820	1,154

Overview

At the end of June Children Schools and Families had a forecast overspend of £1.047m on local authority funded services. Although the department received £1m growth which was allocated against placement budgets, there were pressures over and above the growth allocated to the department some of which were offset by planned underspends and management action in year. Whilst some planned underspends will continue, the majority of the underspend used to offset cost pressures last year were either non-recurrent management action or one-off windfalls which are not guaranteed or expected in the current financial year. The forecast overspend also includes the cost for agency staff which was funded from the Corporate Contingency for the last three years (£480k) to enable the department to maintain safe caseloads as part of our agreed approach and service model. Due to the volatile nature of placement budgets, we are expecting the overspend to increase and will update our forecast with the latest information and the appropriate management action being taken to address this during the course of the year.

Local Authority Funded Services

There are a number of volatile budgets, which require continuous and careful demand management. Significant cost pressures and underspends identified to date are detailed below:

Description	Budget £000	Jun £000	May £000	2016/17 £000
Other small over and underspends	1,517	(36)	(42)	(271)
Subtotal Cross Department budgets	2,044	(36)	(42)	(271)
Procurement & School organisation	550	(290)	(360)	(448)
Other small over and underspends	15,623	(148)	(136)	(248)
Subtotal Education	16,173	(438)	(496)	(874)
Fostering and residential placements (ART)	5,146	32	(138)	611
Supported lodgings/housing	1,645	(8)	21	1,110
Un-accompanied asylum seeking children (UASC)	61	705	752	579
No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)	21	379	379	484
Social Work staffing	3,178	541	302	282
Family and Adolescent Services	43	23	115	0
Other small over and underspends	9,267	26	104	288
Subtotal Children's Social Care and Youth Inclusion	19,361	1,698	1,535	3,259

Cross Department budgets

This budget includes the departmental business support, senior management, joint commissioning and partnerships, and the Policy, Planning and Performance services.

There are various small over and underspends forecast across these services netting to a £36k underspend.

Education Division

Procurement and school organisation budgets are forecast to underspend by £290k as a result of lower spend on revenue budgets. This budget relates to construction projects that cannot be classified as capital. The majority of this is required for temporary classrooms due to rising pupil demand when it is not viable to provide permanent buildings.

There continue to be pressures on specific services affected by the rising demographic including SEN, EWS, Elective Home Education and other services directly to pupils.

There are various other small over and underspends forecast across the division netting to a £148k underspend. These combine with the item described above to arrive at the total reported divisional underspend of £438k.

Children's Social Care and Youth Inclusion Division

While the numbers of Looked After Children (LAC) remain relatively stable, and indeed Merton maintains relatively low levels of children in care, the complexity of a significant proportion of cases is causing cost pressures as detailed below. Placement costs are reviewed on a monthly basis and assumptions reviewed quarterly to ensure that projections of spend are as accurate as possible.

Service	Budget £000	Forecast spend £000	Variance		Placements	
			Jun £000	May £000	Jun Nr	May Nr
Residential Placements	2,159	1,944	(215)	(125)	12	12
Independent Agency Fostering	1,789	1,750	(39)	(204)	42	36
In-house Fostering	964	1,210	246	210	49	50
Secure accommodation	134	0	(134)	(134)	0	0
Mother and baby	100	274	174	115	4	4
Total	5,146	5,178	32	(138)	107	102

The ART service seeks to make placements with in-house foster carers wherever possible and in line with presenting needs, however, the needs of some looked after children mean that placements with residential care providers or independent fostering agencies are required. Some specific provision is mandated by the courts.

- The residential placement expenditure is forecast to underspend by £215k. The value of these placements means that changes in caseload will have a material impact on this figure and will be reviewed throughout the year.
- The agency fostering placement expenditure is expected to underspend by £39k. This reduced from last month due to an increase in cases of six placed with Independent Fostering Agencies. This is a very volatile budget and therefore subject to big fluctuation during the year.
- The in-house foster carer expenditure is forecast to overspend by £246k at the end of June. This is a very volatile budget and therefore subject to big fluctuation during the year.
- We are not aware of any secure accommodation placements at this stage and will review throughout the year.
- The four Mother and Baby placements are expected to cause this budget to overspend by an estimated £174k at the end of June based on the expected length of stay of these placements.

The budget for semi-independent and supported lodgings/housing placements are estimated to underspend by £8k at June 2017. This budget is used to finance an increased number of placements for young people aged 16/17 and above. These are for young people who require semi-independent provision and for Care Leavers through to independence or, in some cases, through to the age of 21 (older in exceptional circumstances), as part of our statutory duties. There were 54 semi-independent placements for non-UASC young people at the end of June 2017.

The UASC supported lodgings/housing placements for post 18 children that became eligible for leaving care support is expected to overspend by £705k this year. This is lower than last month due to a reduction in caseload. At the end of June there were 29 placements for young people aged 18+ with no recourse to public funds in semi-independent accommodation.

The NRPF budget is expected to overspend by £379k in the current financial year. The NRPF worker is working closely with housing colleagues to manage cases as they arise and is also reviewing historic cases to identify ones where claimant circumstances has changed and can therefore be stepped down from services. We continue to use the Connect system to progress cases and have started a process of reviewing all open cases with the aim to limit the cost pressure on the council.

The Central Social Work, MASH, First Response and Bond Road team's staffing costs are expected to overspend by £541k. The majority of this is due to additional social work capacity required to manage safe caseloads, previously funded by the council's contingency. These are kept under regular review, as they are covered by agency. On top of the additional staff, the team also has to cover vacancies with agency staff due to difficulty in recruiting permanent members of staff.

The Family and Adolescent Services staffing budget is expected to overspend by £23k. This is due to the head of service post which has been deleted as part of the 2017/18 savings is being covered by an agency member of staff due to short term service requirements. These arrangements will cease in the autumn.

There are various other small over and underspends forecast across the division netting to a £26k overspend. These combine with the item described above to arrive at the total reported divisional overspend of £1,698k.

Dedicated Schools Grant

DSG funded services is forecast to overspend by £1.260m. These budgets are not within the council's general fund and cannot be offset against the local authority funded budgets. Any overspend will be funded from the DSG reserve and applied after consultation with Schools Forum. Variances between individual subjectives have been shown in the overall departmental analyses.

The main reasons for the forecast relates to an estimated overspend of £596k on Independent Day School provision and £521k on additional school business rate adjustments primarily due to the revaluation of properties in the beginning of 2017.

There are various other smaller over and underspends forecast across the DSG netting to a £143k overspend which, combined with the items above, equates to the net underspend of £1.260m.

Management Action

New burdens

There are a number of duties placed on the Local Authority which have not been fully funded or not funded at all through additional burdens funding from Central Government. £1m growth was added by the council in 2017/18 to the supported housing/lodgings budget. Excluding the cost of these duties would leave a net departmental underspend of £29k, however that figure masks substantial once off windfalls and non-recurrent and recurrent management action. The table below highlights the continued estimated overspends relating to these unfunded duties:

Description	Budget £000	Jun overspend forecast £000	May overspend forecast £000
Supported lodgings/housing	1,645	(8)	21
Un-accompanied asylum seeking children (UASC)	61	705	752
No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)	21	379	379
Total	1,727	1,076	1,152

Staffing

Agency cost continues to be a cost pressure for the department as permanent social worker recruitment continues to be challenging. We are operating, however at our lowest level of agency staff in 3 years. The continued recruitment drive including recruitment of NQSWs, temporary to permanent initiatives and retention payments will all have a positive impact on the current financial year and we will continue to take action to bring down anticipated overspends on agency/staffing costs.

Placements

Our strong management oversight enables us to ensure that an appropriate entry to care threshold is well-maintained. The impact of increased numbers of UASC is in particular affecting our LAC and care leaver numbers and we remain in the lowest rate of care range in London.

Work continues to ensure we lever in appropriate health contribution to children with complex needs and our ART service is driving down placement costs including through regional partnership commissioning.

Our ART Fostering Recruitment and Assessment team is continuing to recruit new foster carers who will offer locally based placements. This continues to enable a reduction in more expensive agency foster placements, but there is a time lag.

Our ART Placement service is working with providers to establish more local provision and offer better value placements to the Council. There is now an established agreed cost framework for semi- independent providers and this has resulted in more appropriately priced placements for Care Leavers and older LAC.

General

The department continues to scrutinise all budgets to see how we can offset the above costs pressures and others created by growing demographics and new burdens. Where possible we will use grant and income flexibly to bring our anticipated spend in line with available budgets.

Community and Housing Current Summary Position

Community and Housing is forecasting an over spend of £862k as at June 2017.

Community and Housing has bid farewell to retiring director Simon Williams and welcomed a new director Hannah Doody during the budget monitoring process.

The main known variances are in Housing £683k and Adult Social Care £107k. In Housing this is largely due to a shortfall in subsidy on temporary accommodation.

Adult Social Care received £9.3m in growth to support the identifiable pressures and challenges faced by the department. The service has allocated growth to the placements and deprivation of liberty budgets in line with the budget pressures identified in the budget setting report.

Community and Housing	2017/18 Current Budget	Full Year Forecast (June)	Forecast Variance (June)	Forecast Variance (May)	2016/17 Outturn Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Access and Assessment	46,870	47,027	157	(93)	9,432
Commissioning	4,148	4,073	(75)	(75)	67
Direct Provision	4,325	4,339	14	35	(169)
Directorate	755	767	11	11	(274)
Adult Social Care	56,098	56,205	107	(122)	9,056
Libraries and Heritage	1,975	2,019	44	20	(88)
Merton Adult Education	0	0	0	0	501
Merton Adult Education- Commissioning Model	2	(20)	(22)	(32)	0
Housing General Fund	1,937	2,620	683	640	655
Total	60,011	60,823	812	506	10,124
Public Health	0	50	50	121	16

Adult Social Care

The pressures on social care nationally have started to be recognised by central government, although thus far the response has fallen short of the scale of the funding pressures. The service will continue to face challenges due to increasing demands for services from an ageing population, a population with an increased number of people living longer with complex physical and learning disabilities and growing demands on mental health services.

To date central government has not provided a definitive plan on how social care is to be funded in the future to meet these expected pressures. The response so far has largely reflected the NHS pre-occupation with older people in hospital and has not recognised the needs of older and disabled people in the community.

Both the financial management (e5) and social care (Mosaic) systems have been replaced in recent months. This is the first period in which we have been able to run critical commitment reports from Mosaic social care system. External data cleansing was undertaken pre and post

go-live in line with the budget action plan. However, we are still familiarising ourselves with how the system treats this large and complex dataset. Further verification work is being undertaken to ensure that commitments are accurately allocated to care types and are appropriately forecast to the year end.

For the current reporting period the standard commitment report was utilised to estimate forecasted expenditure for the financial year. This needs further refinement, and the aim is to have the final version working for period 4 reporting.

The forecast is based on savings achieved to date. No assumption has been made about further savings being made at this stage.

Access & Assessment - £157k Overspend

This section is forecasting an over spend which made up of under and overspends as follows:-

Access & Assessment	Forecast Variances (June) £00	Forecast Variances (May) £000
Underspend on Concessionary Fares	(68)	(68)
Underspend on Travel/ Transport	64	(35)
Overspend on Salaries- Includes £50k savings not met	34	55
Overspend on Better Care Fund Risk Share for 2016/17	275	275
Other	23	0
Placements*	1,649	0
Income*	(1,820)	(320)
Total	157	(93)

*Based on estimated data.

As part of the 2016/17 Better Care Fund plan, Merton signed up to a risk share with the CCG. There was a requirement from NHS England for the CCG to either divert at least £1.1m of its £2m discretionary contribution to NHS providers or to enter into a risk share in relation to its QIPP savings plan. The latter option was agreed as the least bad option. MCCG achieved some, but not all, of its savings in relation to its plan and as a result its contribution to the BCF pot was reduced by £275k. As the CCG performance was not finalised until after the 2016/17 accounts were closed, this falls as a cost in 2017/18.

Commissioning - £75k underspend

This service forecast remains unchanged from the previous month. Current underspends are on salaries budget lines.

Direct Provision - £14k overspend

Direct Provision service overspend has reduced since May 2017 by £21k. The reduction is in forecasted spend on salary budget lines which were balanced by additional cost for fire risk assessment expenditure. The main cause of the salary overspend is the ongoing impact of unfunded single status adjustments to pay.

Directorate - £ 11k overspend

This area overspend is due to the additional resources required to support Adult Social Care in the achievement of its budget action plan.

Adult Social Care: other management action 2017/18

An action plan for 2017/18 has been developed which reflects the on-going pressures on this service and proposed actions to mitigate those pressures.

Key elements of the current financial year action plan:

- Weekly review of the plan and metrics
- Continued reduction in the use of agency staff
- Ensure that people are supported to regain their independence after a hospital stay
- To develop a South West London Borough residential care forum.
- To re-commission home care, with a single borough rate.
- Continue structured reviews of placements to deliver savings.

C&H-Other Services

Libraries- £44k overspend

This service is forecasting a £44k overspend as at June 2017. This is due to the decrease in demand for the schools library service which is currently under review and one off employee costs linked to the old service structure and agency fees, The plan is to mitigate overspends against an improving income projection.

Merton Adult Education - £22k underspend

Merton Adult Education Commissioning service under spend has reduced since May 2017 forecast by £10k due to a decision to recruit a learning support assistant on an ad-hoc basis.

Housing - £683k overspend

This section is forecasting a £703k overspend in the temporary accommodation service which is supported by underspends on other budget lines within the housing service. The real pressure in this service is the shortfall in Housing Benefit subsidy and the issues surrounding client contributions following the introduction of Universal Credit.

Housing	Forecast Variances (June) £00
Temporary Accommodation-Expenditure	1,205
Temporary Accommodation-Client Contribution	(617)
Temporary Accommodation-Housing Benefit Income	(450)
Temporary Accommodation-Subsidy Shortfall	565
Total Temporary Accommodation	703
Housing Other- Staffing	(20)
Total	683

Public Health - £50k overspend

Public Health is currently forecasting an over spend of £50k. This is made up of savings yet to be achieved in 2017/18.

Corporate Items

The details comparing actual expenditure up to 30 June 2017 against budget are contained in Appendix 2. The main areas of variance as at 30 June 2017 are:-

Corporate Items	Current Budget 2017/18 £000s	Full Year Forecast (June) £000s	Forecast Variance at year end (June) £000s	Forecast Variance at year end (May) £000s	2016/17 Year end Variance £000s
Impact of Capital on revenue budget	13,415	13,457	42	42	193
Investment Income	(1,186)	(596)	590	643	(176)
Pension Fund	3,350	3,350	0	0	(498)
Pay and Price Inflation	751	751	0	0	(739)
Contingencies and provisions	4,858	4,458	(400)	0	(3,495)
Income Items	(1,152)	(1,152)	0	0	(330)
Appropriations/Transfers	(4,005)	(4,005)	0	0	(3,091)
Central Items	2,617	2,807	190	643	(8,329)
Levies	933	933	0	0	0
Depreciation and Impairment	(22,318)	(22,318)	0	0	0
TOTAL CORPORATE PROVISIONS	(5,353)	(5,121)	232	685	(8,136)

Based on latest projections of the level of investments available during 2017/18, it is anticipated that there will be an underachievement of £0.590m against budgeted income in 2017/18. This will be monitored closely during the year using the cash flow forecast and there will be regular updates as part of monthly monitoring. There is also a small overspend on capital borrowing costs against budget and this will be closely monitored as the capital programme is reviewed and updated during the year.

There is a £0.400m underspend forecast in the budget for contingencies and provisions. This arises because the P3 and P4 sites will remain as car parks throughout 2017/18 and therefore the loss of income for which the budget is provided will not arise.

As part of the Spring Budget 2017 announced on 8 March 2017, the Government approved an additional £2 billion to be given to councils in England over the next 3 years for adult social care. Merton's allocation in 2017/18 is £2.746m and this will be allocated against growth in Merton's Adult Social Care 2017/18 budget.

4. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017-21

4.1 The Table below shows the movement in the 2017/21 corporate capital programme since the last meeting of Cabinet:

Depts	Current Budget 17/18	Variance	Revised Budget 17/18	Current Budget 18/19	Variance	Revised Budget 18/19	Revised Budget 19/20	Variance	Revised Budget 19/20	Revised Budget 20/21	Variance	Revised Budget 20/21
CS	25,875	96	25,971	16,813	(96)	16,717	10,626	0	10,626	2,135	0	2,135
C&H	1,445	0	1,445	629	0	629	480	0	480	630	0	630
CSF	8,230	0	8,230	16,905	0	16,905	7,536	0	7,536	650	0	650
E&R	18,830	261	19,091	20,681	0	20,681	7,241	0	7,241	5,017	0	5,017
TOTAL	54,380	356	54,736	55,028	(96)	54,932	25,883	0	25,883	8,432	0	8,432

4.2 The table below summarises the position in respect of the Capital Programme as at June 2017. The detail is shown in Appendix 5a

Merton Summary Capital Report – June 2017 Monitoring

Department	Year to Date			Annual Budget	Full Year Forecast	
	Actuals	Budget	Variance	Final Budget	Final Forecast	Full Year Variance
Corporate Services	195,398	(34,884)	230,282	25,970,630	18,243,289	(7,727,342)
Community and Housing	97,909	84,065	13,844	1,444,770	1,212,580	(232,190)
Children Schools & Families	367,038	1,852,047	(1,485,009)	8,230,360	8,233,952	3,592
Environment & Regeneration	1,625,328	2,708,996	(1,083,668)	19,091,140	19,468,179	377,039
Capital	2,285,673	4,610,224	(2,324,551)	54,736,900	47,158,000	(7,578,901)

- a) Corporate Services – Currently officers are projecting an overspend on Customer Contact /EDRMS of £554k, the split between capital and revenue budgets is currently being finalised. There are currently two projected underspends the Acquisitions Budget £6.4 million and the Bidding Fund £1.8 million. Finally, there are two the budgets where the expected spend profile will lower at year-end than the current budget, these are the Housing Company £84k and Business Improvement IT Projects. Officers have re-profiled £70k for Capita Housing into 2018/19 and re-profiled £166k from 2018/19 into 2017/18 for Planning & Public Protection Systems.
- b) Community and Housing – All schemes are projecting full spend apart from Disabled Facilities Grants which are currently projecting a £232k underspend.
- c) Children, Schools and Families – Officers are currently projecting a slight overspend of £4k from one projected underspend on school loans of £4.9k and an £8.5k overspend on Harris Merton. There is sufficient budget in 2018/19 that can be drawn down to fund this timing difference.
- d) Environment and Regeneration – Officers are currently projecting net overspend of £377k and are looking to revise expenditure plans to remove the net projected overspend of £128k. The net overspend is caused by two projected underspends on CCTV Investment (£13k) and Tackling Traffic Congestion (£61k and five projected overspends of GPS Vehicle Tracking (£83k), Borough Regeneration (£46k), Morden Leisure Centre (£289k), Sports Facilities (£26k) and Parks (£7k). The largest overspend on Morden Leisure Centre will be drawn down from its 2018/19 budget. Two budgets have been increased Rediscover Mitcham has increased by £225k funded by Section 106 and £36k for two new camera's to Tackling Traffic Congestion funded from a revenue contribution.

The net impact of these proposals is that £95k of expenditure funded by Merton is moved from 2018/19 into 2017/18. This change will result in a £2k increase in the cost of borrowing in 2019/20.

- 4.3 Appendix 5b details the adjustments being made to the Capital Programme this month. The following adjustment will require Cabinet approval in September :

Scheme		2017/18 Budget	2018/19 Budget	Funding/Re-profiling
Corporate Services				
Capita Housing	(1)	(70,000)	70,000	Re-profiling
Planning & Public protection System	(1)	165,580	(165,580)	Re-profiling
Environment & Regeneration	-			
Rediscover Mitcham Section 106	(1)	224,650	0	Section 106 Funding
Total		320,230	(95,580)	

- 4.4 Appendix 5c details the impact of all the adjustments to the Capital Programme have on the funding of the programme in 2017/18 and 2018/19. The table below summarises the movement in 2017/18 funding since the July 2017 Cabinet Meeting:

Depts.	Approved Budget 17/18	Adjustments	New External Funding	New Internal Funding	Re-profiling	Revised Budget 17/18
Corporate Services	25,875	0	0	0	96	25,971
Community & Housing	1,445	0	0	0	0	1,445
Children Schools & Families	8,230	0	0	0	0	8,230
Environment and Regeneration	18,830	0	0	261	0	19,091
Total	54,380	0	0	261	96	54,736

- 4.5 The table below compares capital expenditure (£000s) to June 2017 to that achieved over the last few years:

Depts.	Spend To June 2014	Spend To June 2015	Spend To June 2016	Spend to June 2017	Variance 2014 to 2017	Variance 2015 to 2017	Variance 2016 to 2017
CS	(122)	131	79	195	317	64	116
C&H	(127)	(13)	(26)	98	225	111	124
CSF	2,805	1,869	699	367	(2,438)	(1,502)	(332)
E&R	798	376	1,051	1,625	827	1,249	574
Total Capital	3,476	2,232	1,724	2,285	(1,386)	(142)	366

Outturn £000s	36,869	29,327	30,626	
Budget £000s				54,737
Projected Spend May 2017 £000s				47,158
Percentage Spend to Budget				4.17%
% Spend to Outturn/Projection	9.43%	7.61%	5.63%	4.85%
Monthly Spend to Achieve Projected Outturn £000s				4,986

- 4.6 The table shows that spend during June 2017 was considerably below this target. Officers will continue to encourage budget managers to re-profile their budgets appropriately:

Department	Spend To May 2017 £000s	Spend To June 2017 £000s	Increase £000s
CS	48	195	147
C&H	(34)	98	132
CSF	(15)	367	382
E&R	501	1,625	1,124
Total Capital	500	2,285	1,785

5. DELIVERY OF SAVINGS FOR 2017/18

Department	Target Savings 2017/18	Projected Savings 2017/18	Period 3 Forecast Shortfall	Period 2 Forecast Shortfall	Period Forecast Shortfall
	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
Corporate Services	1,484	1,366	118	118	8.0%
Children Schools and Families	1,110	1,019	91	91	8.2%
Community and Housing	2,610	1,991	619	1,973	23.7%
Environment and Regeneration	3,050	2,208	842	842	27.6%
Total	8,254	6,584	1,670	3,024	20.2%

Appendix 6 details the progress on savings for 2017/18 by department.

6. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

- 6.1 All relevant bodies have been consulted.

7. TIMETABLE

- 7.1 In accordance with current financial reporting timetables.

8. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 All relevant implications have been addressed in the report.

9. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 All relevant implications have been addressed in the report.

10. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Not applicable

11. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Not applicable

12. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 The emphasis placed on the delivery of revenue savings within the financial monitoring report will be enhanced during 2016/17, the risk of part non-delivery of savings is already contained on the key strategic risk register and will be kept under review.

13. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

Appendix 1-	Detailed position table
Appendix 2 –	Detailed Corporate Items table
Appendix 3 –	Pay and Price Inflation
Appendix 4 –	Treasury Management: Outlook
Appendix 5a –	Current Capital Programme 2017/18
Appendix 5b –	Adjustments to the Current Capital Programme 2017/18
Appendix 5c –	Funding Current Capital Programme 2017/18 & 2018/19
Appendix 6 –	Progress on savings 2017/18
Appendix 7 -	Debt Report

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

14.1 Budgetary Control files held in the Corporate Services department.

15. REPORT AUTHOR

- Name: Roger Kershaw
- Tel: 020 8545 3458
- email: roger.kershaw@merton.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

Summary Position as at 30th June 2017

	Original Budget 2017/18 £000s	Current Budget 2017/18 £000s	Year to Date Budget (June) £000s	Year to Date Actual (June) £000s	Full Year Forecast (June) £000s	Forecast Variance at year end (June) £000s	Forecast Variance at year end (May) £000s	Outturn variance 2016/17 £000
Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3A. Corporate Services	10,866	26,426	6,892	8,052	26,297	(128)	(131)	(1,287)
3B. Children, Schools and Families	52,579	47,513	44,090	965	48,561	1,047	820	1,154
3C. Community and Housing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adult Social Care	59,402	56,098	12,119	12,054	56,205	107	(122)	9,056
Libraries & Adult Education	2,691	1,976	662	580	1,999	23	(12)	413
Housing General Fund	2,224	1,937	333	(127)	2,620	682	640	655
3D. Public Health	0	0	(38)	(2,051)	50	50	121	16
3E. Environment & Regeneration	23,184	18,030	4,710	(5,136)	17,791	(239)	(495)	1,011
Overheads	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
NET SERVICE EXPENDITURE	150,946	151,980	68,768	14,336	153,523	1,543	821	11,030
3E. Corporate Items	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impact of Capital on revenue budget	13,415	13,415	1,117	373	13,457	42	42	193
Other Central items	(19,224)	(19,701)	(4,089)	407	(19,511)	190	643	(8,329)
Levies	933	933	188	188	933	0	0	0
TOTAL CORPORATE PROVISIONS	(4,876)	(5,353)	(2,784)	968	(5,121)	232	685	(8,136)
Less corporate overheads		(556)			(556)			
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	146,070	146,071	65,984	15,304	147,846	1,775	1,506	2,894
Funding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Business Rates	(35,483)	(35,483)	0	0	(35,483)	0	0	0
- RSG	(15,520)	(15,520)	(1,777)	(1,777)	(15,520)	0	0	0
- Section 31 Grant	(1,035)	(1,035)	(385)	(385)	(1,035)	0	0	5
- New Homes Bonus	(4,150)	(4,150)	(1,097)	(1,097)	(4,150)	0	0	(542)
- PFI Grant	(4,797)	(4,797)	(1,199)	(1,199)	(4,797)	0	0	0
- Adult Social Care Grant 2017/18	(751)	(751)	0	0	(751)	0	0	0
Grants	(61,736)	(61,736)	(4,458)	(4,458)	(61,736)	0	0	(537)
Collection Fund - Council Tax Surplus(-)/Deficit	(1,386)	(1,386)	0	0	(1,386)	0	0	0
Collection Fund - Business Rates Surplus(-)/Deficit	(380)	(380)	0	0	(380)	0	0	0
Council Tax						0	0	0
- General	(82,244)	(82,244)	0	0	(82,244)	0	0	0
- WPCC	(318)	(318)	0	0	(318)	0	0	0
Council Tax and Collection Fund	(84,329)	(84,329)	0	0	(84,329)	0	0	0
FUNDING	(146,065)	(146,065)	(4,458)	(4,458)	(146,065)	0	0	(537)
NET	5	6	61,525	10,846	1,781	1,775	1,506	2,357

Appendix 2

3E.Corporate Items	Council 2017/18 £000s	Original Budget 2017/18 £000s	Current Budget 2017/18 £000s	Year to Date Budget (June) £000s	Year to Date Actual (June) £000s	Full Year Forecast (June) £000s	Forecast Variance at year end (June) £000s	Forecast Variance at year end (May) £000s	Outturn Variance 2016/17 £000s
Cost of Borrowing	13,415	13,415	13,415	1,117	373	13,457	42	42	193
Impact of Capital on revenue budget	13,415	13,415	13,415	1,117	373	13,457	42	42	193
Investment Income	(1,186)	(1,186)	(1,186)	(198)	(73)	(596)	590	643	(176)
Pension Fund	3,350	3,350	3,350	0	0	3,350	0	0	(498)
Provision for excess inflation	451	451	451		0	451	0	0	(439)
Utilities Inflation Provision	300	300	300		0	300	0	0	(300)
Pay and Price Inflation	751	751	751	0	0	751	0	0	(739)
Contingency	1,500	1,500	1,500		0	1,500	0	0	(821)
Single Status/Equal Pay	100	100	100		0	100	0	0	(60)
Bad Debt Provision	500	500	500		0	500	0	0	(271)
Loss of income arising from P3/P4	400	400	400	0	0	0	(400)	0	(400)
Loss of HB Admin grant	200	200	200		0	200	0	0	(200)
Reduction in Education Services Grant	819	819	819		0	819	0	0	0
Apprenticeship Levy	450	450	450	113	96	450	0	0	0
Revenuisation and miscellaneous	889	889	889		585	889	0	0	(1,743)
Contingencies and provisions	4,858	4,858	4,858	113	681	4,458	(400)	0	(3,495)
Other income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(280)
CHAS IP/Dividend	(1,152)	(1,152)	(1,152)		0	(1,152)	0	0	(50)
Income items	(1,152)	(1,152)	(1,152)	0	0	(1,152)	0	0	(330)
Appropriations: CS Reserves	(667)	(667)	(871)	(871)	(47)	(871)	0	0	0
Appropriations: E&R Reserves	4	4	(269)	(269)	(154)	(269)	0	0	2
Appropriations: CSF Reserves	283	283	283	283	0	283	0	0	0
Appropriations: C&H Reserves	(104)	(104)	(104)	(104)	0	(104)	0	0	0
Appropriations:Public Health Reserves	(600)	(600)	(600)	(600)	0	(600)			0
Appropriations:Corporate Reserves	(2,443)	(2,443)	(2,443)	(2,443)	0	(2,443)	0	0	(3,093)
Appropriations/Transfers	(3,528)	(3,528)	(4,005)	(4,005)	(201)	(4,005)	0	0	(3,091)
Depreciation and Impairment	(22,318)	(22,318)	(22,318)	0	0	(22,318)	0	0	0
Central Items	(5,809)	(5,809)	(6,286)	(2,972)	779	(6,054)	232	685	(8,136)
Levies	933	933	933	188	188	933	0	0	0
TOTAL CORPORATE PROVISIONS	(4,876)	(4,876)	(5,353)	(2,784)	968	(5,121)	232	685	(8,136)

Pay and Price Inflation as at June 2017

In 2017/18, the budget includes 1% for increases in pay and 1.5% for increases in general prices, with an additional amount of £0.451m which is held to assist services that may experience price increases greatly in excess of the inflation allowance provided when setting the budget. At present it is not anticipated that there will be a significant call on this budget and it will only be released when it is certain that it will not be required.

Pay:

The local government pay award for 2017/18 was agreed last year covering 2016/17 and 2017/18. For the lowest paid (those on spinal points 6-17) this agreed a pay rise of between 6.6% and 1.01% in the first year, and between 3.4% and 1.3% in 2017/18. Those on spinal points 18-49 received 1% in year one and the same again in 2017/18. The offer also included a joint review of the NJC pay spine and term-time working for school support staff. Departmental budgets include provision for the 2017/18 pay award.

Prices:

The Consumer Prices Index (CPI) 12-month rate was 2.6% in June 2017, down from 2.9% in May. Falling prices for motor fuels and certain recreational and cultural goods and services were the main contributors to the fall in the rate. These downward contributions were partially offset by rising prices for furniture and furnishings.

CPIH, a measure of UK consumer price inflation that includes owner occupiers' housing costs, 12-month inflation rate was 2.6% in June 2017, down from 2.7% in May. Although this is the first fall since April 2016, it remains higher than the rates generally seen since mid-2013.

The RPI 12-month rate for June 2017 stood at 3.5%, down from 3.7% in May 2017.

Outlook for inflation:

The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) sets monetary policy to meet the 2% inflation target and in a way that helps to sustain growth and employment. At its meeting ending on 14 June 2017, the Committee voted by a majority of 5-3 to maintain Bank Rate at 0.25%. The Committee voted unanimously to maintain the stock of sterling non-financial investment-grade corporate bond purchases, financed by the issuance of central bank reserves, at £10 billion. The Committee also voted unanimously to maintain the stock of UK government bond purchases, financed by the issuance of central bank reserves, at £435 billion. Under the Bank of England's revised timetable, the MPC does not meet in July and the next meeting will be held on 3 August 2017.

In the minutes to its meeting ending on 14 June 2017, the MPC noted that "CPI inflation has been pushed above the 2% target by the impact of last year's sterling depreciation. It reached 2.9% in May, above the MPC's expectation. Inflation could rise above 3% by the autumn, and is likely to remain above the target for an extended period as sterling's depreciation continues to feed through into the prices of consumer goods and services. The 2½% fall in the exchange rate since the May Inflation Report, if sustained, will add to that imported inflationary impetus.."

In its latest quarterly Inflation Report published in May 2017, the MPC sets out its view on the prospects for inflation over the next three years. The report notes that "Inflation has risen above the

2% target as the falls in the sterling exchange rate since late 2015 have begun to feed through to consumer prices. Quarterly GDP growth has slowed, in part reflecting the impact of lower real income growth on household consumption. Through its effects on costs, the fall in sterling is likely to keep inflation above the 2% target throughout the next three years. Where inflation settles once that upward pressure fades will depend on domestic price pressures. Conditional on current market interest rates, which suggest only one 25 basis point rate rise over the next three years, those domestic cost pressures are judged likely to be building towards the end of the forecast period.”

The latest inflation and unemployment forecasts for the UK economy, based on a summary of independent forecasts are set out in the following table:-

Table 11: Forecasts for the UK Economy

Source: HM Treasury - Forecasts for the UK Economy (July 2017)			
	Lowest %	Highest %	Average %
2017 (Quarter 4)			
CPI	2.4	3.4	2.9
RPI	2.5	4.9	3.6
LFS Unemployment Rate	4.2	5.5	4.6
2018 (Quarter 4)	Lowest %	Highest %	Average %
CPI	1.7	3.1	2.4
RPI	2.3	4.3	3.1
LFS Unemployment Rate	4.0	6.4	4.8

Clearly where the level of inflation during the year exceeds the amount provided for in the budget, this will put pressure on services to stay within budget and will require effective monitoring and control.

Independent medium-term projections for the calendar years 2017 to 2021 are summarised in the following table:-

Source: HM Treasury - Forecasts for the UK Economy (June 2017)					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	%	%	%	%	%
CPI	2.7	2.7	2.3	2.1	2.0
RPI	3.6	3.3	3.0	3.2	3.3
LFS Unemployment Rate	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.4

Treasury Management: Outlook

At its meeting ending on 14 June 2017, the Committee voted by a majority of 5-3 to maintain Bank Rate at 0.25%. The Committee voted unanimously to maintain the stock of sterling non-financial investment-grade corporate bond purchases, financed by the issuance of central bank reserves, at £10 billion. The Committee also voted unanimously to maintain the stock of UK government bond purchases, financed by the issuance of central bank reserves, at £435 billion. The MPC does not meet in July and the next meeting will be held on 3 August 2017.

In the Bank of England's quarterly Inflation report for May 2017, the MPC set out its most recent assessment of the outlook for inflation and activity and outlined its view on the long-term outlook for interest rates. The MPC noted that the economy was expected to operate with a small degree of spare capacity for most of the three-year forecast period, justifying the tolerance of some degree of above-target inflation. The continued growth of employment could suggest that spare capacity is being eroded, lessening the trade-off that the MPC is required to balance and, all else equal, reducing the MPC's tolerance of above-target inflation. Looking ahead, key considerations in judging the appropriate stance of monetary policy are the evolution of inflationary pressures, the persistence of weaker consumption and the degree to which it is offset by other components of demand." The decision to retain the Bank Base Rate at 0.25% was the closest it has been for a number of years and three MPC members considered it appropriate to increase Bank Rate by 25 basis points although all MPC members agreed that any increases in Bank Rate would be expected to be at a gradual pace and to a limited extent.

The MPC's forecasts of Bank Base Rate in recent Quarterly Inflation Reports which were made pre-Brexit up to May 2016 are summarised in the following table:-

	End Q.2 2017	End Q.3 2017	End Q.4 2017	End Q.1 2018	End Q.2 2018	End Q.3 2018	End Q.4 2018	End Q.1 2019	End Q.2 2019	End Q.3 2019	End Q.4 2019	End Q.1 2020	End Q.2 2020
May '17	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5
Feb'17	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	
Nov.'16	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4		
Aug.'16	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2			
May '16	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8				
Feb. '16	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1					
Nov '15	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3						
Aug.'15	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7							
May '15	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4								
Feb.'15	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1									
Nov '14	1.5	1.7	1.7										
Aug.'14	2.2	2.3											

Source: Bank of England Inflation Reports

The MPC makes its decisions in the context of the monetary policy forward guidance announced alongside the publication of the August 2013 Inflation Report. This guidance was summarised and reported in the July 2013 monitoring report.

The Inflation Report for February 2014 provided a summary of the Bank of England's approach to its proposed monetary policy as the economy recovers and once the unemployment threshold has been reached:-

- The MPC sets policy to achieve the 2% inflation target, and, subject to that, to support the Government's economic policies, including those for growth and employment.
- Despite the sharp fall in unemployment, there remains scope to absorb spare capacity further

before raising Bank Rate.

- When Bank Rate does begin to rise, the appropriate path so as to eliminate slack over the next two to three years and keep inflation close to the target is expected to be gradual.
- The actual path of Bank Rate over the next few years will, however, depend on economic developments.
- Even when the economy has returned to normal levels of capacity and inflation is close to the target, the appropriate level of Bank Rate is likely to be materially below the 5% level set on average by the Committee prior to the financial crisis.
- The MPC intends to maintain the stock of purchased assets at least until the first rise in Bank Rate.
- Monetary policy may have a role to play in mitigating risks to financial stability, but only as a last line of defence if those risks cannot be contained by the substantial range of policy actions available to the Financial Policy Committee and other regulatory authorities.

Changes to the Bank Base Rate will depend on how quickly the economy recovers and will be set to achieve the inflation target of 2%.

The MPC sets monetary policy to meet the 2% target in the medium term and in a way that helps to sustain growth and employment.

Capital Budget Monitoring June 2017

Please note totals are now at the top of activity rather than the bottom

Narrative	Year to Date			Annual Budget	Full Year Forecast	
	Actuals	Profiled Budget	Variance	Final Budget	Final Forecast	Full Year Variance
Capital	2,285,673	4,610,224	(2,324,551)	54,736,900	47,158,000	(7,578,901)
Corporate Services	195,398	(34,884)	230,282	25,970,630	18,243,289	(7,727,342)
Business Improvement	3,795	140,116	(136,321)	1,890,860	2,426,299	535,438
Customer Contact Programme	0	0	0	1,006,420	1,560,818	554,398
IT Systems Projects	3,795	33,731	(29,936)	486,040	467,081	(18,960)
Social Care IT System	0	106,385	(106,385)	398,400	398,400	0
Facilities Management Total	(194,466)	(280,000)	85,534	4,243,030	4,243,030	0
Works to other buildings	(5,352)	30,000	(35,352)	332,500	332,500	0
Civic Centre	(47,546)	0	(47,546)	275,000	275,000	0
Invest to Save schemes	(84,354)	(350,000)	265,646	3,188,720	3,188,720	0
Water Safety Works	(38,188)	15,000	(53,188)	153,990	153,990	0
Asbestos Safety Works	(19,026)	25,000	(44,026)	292,820	292,820	0
Infrastructure & Transactions	395,706	105,000	290,706	2,268,190	2,268,190	0
Disaster recovery site	90,952	105,000	(14,048)	513,790	513,790	0
Planned Replacement Programme	304,754	0	304,754	1,754,400	1,754,400	0
Room and Space Management	0	0	0	0	0	0
Resources	(9,637)	0	(9,637)	165,870	165,870	0
Financial System	(9,637)	0	(9,637)	18,070	18,070	0
ePayments System	0	0	0	106,800	106,800	0
Invoice Scanning SCIS/FIS	0	0	0	41,000	41,000	0
Corporate Items	0	0	0	17,402,680	9,139,900	(8,262,780)
Acquisitions Budget	0	0	0	6,372,180	0	(6,372,180)
Capital Bidding Fund	0	0	0	1,806,500	0	(1,806,500)
Multi Functioning Device (MFD)	0	0	0	36,000	36,000	0
Housing Company*	0	0	0	9,188,000	9,103,900	(84,100)
Community and Housing	97,909	84,065	13,844	1,444,770	1,212,580	(232,190)
Adult Social Care	4,024	16,122	(12,098)	83,600	83,600	0
ASC IT Equipment	4,024	8,832	(4,808)	39,850	39,850	0
Telehealth	0	7,290	(7,290)	43,750	43,750	0
Housing	105,808	47,943	57,865	962,490	730,300	(232,190)
Disabled Facilities Grant	123,777	47,943	75,834	962,490	730,300	(232,190)
Major Projects – Social Care H	(17,969)	0	(17,969)	0	0	0
Libraries	(11,922)	20,000	(31,922)	398,680	398,680	0
Library Enhancement Works	0	20,000	(20,000)	200,000	200,000	0
Major Library Projects	(11,922)	0	(11,922)	98,680	98,680	0
Libraries IT	0	0	0	100,000	100,000	0

* Loan to Housing Company

Narrative	Year to Date			Annual Budget	Full Year Forecast	
	Actuals	Profiled Budget	Variance	Final Budget	Final Forecast	Full Year Variance
Children Schools & Families	367,038	1,852,047	(1,485,009)	8,230,360	8,233,952	3,592
Primary Schools	(613,402)	8,500	(621,902)	340,120	340,120	0
West Wimbledon	0	0	0	6,090	6,090	0
Aragon	(11,083)	0	(11,083)	0	0	0
Hatfeild	(798)	0	(798)	13,330	13,330	0
Hillcross	(1,250)	0	(1,250)	0	0	0
Joseph Hood	0	0	0	2,720	2,720	0
Dundonald	(195,203)	0	(195,203)	96,070	96,070	0
Merton Abbey	(1,595)	0	(1,595)	0	0	0
Pelham	(18,780)	0	(18,780)	0	0	0
Poplar	(8,569)	0	(8,569)	1,000	1,000	0
Singlegate	(26,613)	0	(26,613)	149,290	149,290	0
Lonesome	10,995	0	10,995	61,500	61,500	0
William Morris	0	0	0	1,620	1,620	0
Unlocated Primary School Proj	(316,535)	0	(316,535)	0	0	0
St Mary's (RC)	(43,972)	8,500	(52,472)	8,500	8,500	0
Secondary School	883,804	1,571,500	(687,696)	5,096,630	5,105,125	8,495
Harris Academy Morden	0	0	0	50,060	50,060	0
Harris Academy Merton	745,299	1,191,500	(446,201)	3,147,020	3,155,520	8,500
St Mark's Academy	0	0	0	0	0	0
Raynes Park	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rutlish	0	0	0	88,000	88,000	0
Harris Academy Wimbledon	138,505	380,000	(241,495)	1,811,550	1,811,545	(5)
SEN	22,547	151,070	(128,523)	1,654,830	1,654,830	0
Perseid	8,714	80,000	(71,287)	1,273,760	1,273,760	0
Cricket Green	0	1,070	(1,070)	1,070	1,070	0
Secondary School Autism Unit	0	0	0	30,000	30,000	0
Unlocated SEN	13,834	70,000	(56,166)	350,000	350,000	0
CSF Schemes	74,089	120,977	(46,888)	1,138,780	1,133,877	(4,903)
CSF - IT Schemes	0	0	0	0	0	0
School Equipment Loans	0	0	0	104,900	100,000	(4,900)
Devolved Formula Capital	90,977	90,977	0	363,880	363,877	(3)
Capital Maintenance	(16,888)	30,000	(46,888)	670,000	670,000	0

Narrative	Year to Date			Annual Budget	Full Year Forecast	
	Actuals	Profiled Budget	Variance	Final Budget	Final Forecast	Full Year Variance
Environment and Regeneration	1,625,328	2,708,996	(1,083,668)	19,091,140	19,468,179	377,039
Public Protection and Developm	670	19,174	(18,504)	191,740	179,060	(12,680)
On Street Parking - P&D	0	0	0	0	0	0
Off Street Parking - P&D	0	0	0	0	0	0
CCTV Investment	670	19,174	(18,504)	191,740	179,060	(12,680)
Public Protection and Developm	0	0	0	0	0	0
Street Scene & Waste	(203,827)	1,069,870	(1,273,697)	1,618,080	1,700,590	82,510
Fleet Vehicles	142,302	80,000	62,302	400,000	400,000	0
GPS Vehicle Tracking Equipment	(42,014)	7,990	(50,004)	87,990	170,500	82,510
Alley Gating Scheme	12,296	10,000	2,296	40,000	40,000	0
Smart Bin Leases - Street Scen	0	0	0	5,500	5,500	0
Waste SLWP	(316,412)	971,880	(1,288,292)	1,084,590	1,084,590	0
Sustainable Communities	1,828,485	1,619,952	208,533	17,281,320	17,588,529	307,209
Street Trees	7,656	33,300	(25,644)	60,000	60,000	0
Unallocated Roads Budget (unsp	(33,311)	0	(33,311)	0	0	0
Highways & Footways	601,840	509,590	92,250	4,394,750	4,394,736	(14)
Cycle Route Improvements	211,603	284,550	(72,947)	859,740	859,730	(10)
Mitcham Transport Improvements	(989)	0	(989)	307,880	307,890	10
Electric Vehicle Infrastructur	0	0	0	15,000	15,000	0
Unallocated Tfl	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tracking Traffic Congestion	238,096	30,003	208,093	300,950	240,300	(60,650)
Industrial Estates	0	26,880	(26,880)	452,750	452,750	0
Colliers Wood Area Regeneratio	124,699	158,610	(33,911)	158,610	158,610	0
Mitcham Area Regeneration	410,659	118,840	291,819	1,443,480	1,443,490	10
Morden Area Regeneration	83,513	0	83,513	200,000	200,000	0
Borough Regeneration	27,278	79,870	(52,592)	79,870	125,682	45,812
Morden Leisure Centre	132,741	604,000	(471,259)	8,029,540	8,318,670	289,130
Sports Facilities	27,092	20,000	7,092	674,460	700,000	25,540
Parks	(2,392)	(290,691)	288,299	250,400	257,781	7,381
Mortuary Provision	0	45,000	(45,000)	53,890	53,890	0

Virement, Re-profiling and New Funding - June 2017

Appendix 5b

		2017/18 Budget	Virements	Adjusted & New Funding	Reprofiling	Revised 2017/18 Budget	2018/19 Budget	Reprofiling	Revised 2018/19 Budget	Narrative
-	-	£	£	£	£	£	£		£	
<u>Corporate Services</u>	-									
Capita Housing	(1)	100,000			(70,000)	100,000	0	70,000	70,000	Re-profiled to match expected spend
Planning & Public protection System	(1)	40,000			165,580	205,580	510,000	(165,580)	344,420	Re-profiled to match expected spend
<u>Environment & Regeneration</u>	-									
Tracking Traffic Congestion		264,900		36,050		300,950	0		0	Revenue Contribution to Fund 2 ANPR Cameras
Rediscover Mitcham S106	(1)	8,000		224,650		232,650	0		0	Additional Section106 Budget
Total		412,900	0	260,700	95,580	839,180	510,000	(95,580)	414,420	

1) Requires Cabinet Approval

Capital Programme Funding Summary 2017/18

	Funded from Merton's Resources	Funded by Grant & Capital Contributions	Total
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Revised Funding July 2017 Cabinet	40,726	13,655	54,381
<u>Corporate Services</u>			
Capita Housing	-70	0	(70)
Planning & Public protection System	166	0	166
<u>Environment & Regeneration</u>			
Tracking Traffic Congestion	36	0	36
Rediscover Mitcham S106	225	0	225
Revised Funding	41,082	13,655	54,737

Capital Programme Funding Summary 2018/19

	Funded from Merton's Resources	Funded by Grant & Capital Contributions	Total
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Approved Prog. July 2017 Cabinet	37,095	17,933	55,028
<u>Corporate Services</u>			
Capita Housing	70	0	70
Planning & Public protection System	(166)	0	(166)
Proposed Capital Programme	36,999	17,933	54,932

APPENDIX 6

Department	Target Savings 2017/18	Projected Savings 2017/18	Period 3 Forecast Shortfall	Period 2 Forecast Shortfall	Period Forecast Shortfall
	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
Corporate Services	1,484	1,366	118	118	8.0%
Children Schools and Families	1,110	1,087	23	91	2.1%
Community and Housing	2,610	1,991	619	1,973	23.7%
Environment and Regeneration	3,050	2,148	902	842	29.6%
Total	8,254	6,592	1,662	3,024	20.1%

DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY & HOUSING SAVINGS PROGRESS 2017/18-June 2017

Ref	Description of Saving	2017/18 Savings Required £000	2017/18 Expected Savings £000	Shortfall £000	RAG	2017/18 Mitigated by Growth £000	Responsible Officer	Comments	R /A Included in Forecast Over/Underspend ? Y/N
	Adult Social Care								
CH38, CH1	Placements (replaces three original savings proposals). Given ongoing market pressures and extensive work already undertaken to review OP packages, the savings can only be achieved by more targeted work to manage demand. There will be a focus on three areas: 1) demand coming through transition into adulthood, 2) maximising reablement opportunities to reduce long term needs, 3) Reviewing equity of access and resource in areas such as 1:1 care, night cover, double-up care, 15 min daytime visits and multiple provisions.	827	827	0	A		Richard Ellis	A lot of savings have already been achieved by reviewing packages of care. There is a focus on learning disabilities where package costs tend to be much higher and direct payments. £401k has been achieved to date	Y
CH20, CH58, CH54, CH 37, CH59	Staff savings: most were brought forward to 2016/17. These represent the residual savings in Direct provision	100	100	0	G		Andy Ottaway-Searle	Management capacity will be thinly spread, and there will need to be some changes at Senior level across the services. Residential savings should be achievable by flexible working across the two sites but some care assistant posts will need to be changed to Support Worker to help enable this.	Y
CH57	Staff savings: transfer of savings from housing	50	0	50	R		Richard Ellis	Need to identify salary underspends	Y
CH2, CH3	Contracts: re-commissioning of home care contracts. Moving packages from high cost spot purchased care to contract rate.	215	215	0	G		Richard Ellis	The new contracts will be in place by November 2017. The ability to transfer current spot purchased packages depends on the ability of the new providers to recruit carers. Bulk transfers of care are highly risky as TUPE is hard to enforce in a sector with a fluid workforce and disruption of care can cause harm to service users and significant reputational damage to the authority.	Y

DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY & HOUSING SAVINGS PROGRESS 2017/18-June 2017

Ref	Description of Saving	2017/18 Savings Required £000	2017/18 Expected Savings £000	Shortfall £000	RAG	2017/18 Mitigated by Growth £000	Responsible Officer	Comments	R / A Included in Forecast Over/Underspend ? Y/N
CH35, CH36, CH52	Supporting People: re-commissioning of former Supporting People contracts. Savings can be achieved by removing funding from community alarms and reducing the capacity for housing support (including single homeless, mental health and young people at risk)	100	0	100	A		Richard Ellis	Removing the current subsidy may be politically contentious and is likely to require consultation with current beneficiaries and stakeholders. All beneficiaries are in receipt of housing benefit, although only 10% have a current eligible social care need. Possible member resistance. Possible legal challenge. £50k of the spend is recycled back to MASCOT from MPH, although that is at risk in any case.	Y
CH35, CH36, CH52	Supporting People: re-commissioning of former Supporting People contracts. Savings can be achieved by removing funding from community alarms and reducing the capacity for housing support (including single homeless, mental health and young people at risk)	356	59	297	A	(356)	Richard Ellis	Contracts do not end until the end of November 2017. This is a challenging sector with a reducing number of providers. Two contracts have been handed back in the last year. The Homelessness Prevention Bill may result in more people coming forward for support, whilst existing provision is already fully utilised. The reduction in funding and/or support hours may result in properties being withdrawn and the residents being made homeless. There is a high risk of objection, particularly from mental health stakeholders who are lobbying for increased provision.	Y
CH53	Vol orgs Grant	600	600	0	G		Richard Ellis	The risks sit in Public Health who have already identified difficulty in achieving their consequential savings in 2017/18.	Y
	Subtotal Adult Social Care	2,248	1,801	447		(356)			
	<u>Library & Heritage Service</u>								
CH7	Introduce self-serve libraries at off peak times:Smaller libraries to be self-service and supported only by a security guard during off peak times (nb. Saving would be reduced to £45k if Donald Hope and West Barnes libraries are closed). 3.5FTE at risk	90	90	0	A		Anthony Hopkins	These savings were delivered as part of a full organisational review, which has reduced the workforce by approx. 33%. The new delivery model has been in place since 1 May 2017.	Y
CH49	Additional staff savings (Deletion of 1.5xFTE)	38	38	0	A		Anthony Hopkins		Y

DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY & HOUSING SAVINGS PROGRESS 2017/18-June 2017

Ref	Description of Saving	2017/18 Savings Required £000	2017/18 Expected Savings £000	Shortfall £000	RAG	2017/18 Mitigated by Growth £000	Responsible Officer	Comments	R /A Included in Forecast Over/Underspend ? Y/N
CH50	Deletion of Projects & Procurement Manager post (Deletion of 0.6xFTE)	22	22	0	A		Anthony Hopkins	Model has been in place since 1 May 2017. Currently working to deliver savings	Y
CH70	Additional staffing efficiencies and consolidation of branch managers	63	63		A		Anthony Hopkins		
CH71	Reduction in People's Network costs	40	40	0	G		Anthony Hopkins		Y
	Housing Needs & Enabling								
CH9	Rationalisation of admin budget :	36		36	G		Steve Langley	Service currently restructuring to achieve savings.	Y
CH10	Deletion of one staffing post	36		36	G		Steve Langley		Y
CH43	Further Staff reductions. This will represent a reduction in staff from any areas of the HNES & EHH :	100		100	G		Steve Langley		Y

DEPARTMENT: CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES - PROGRESS ON SAVINGS 17-18

Ref	Description of Saving	2017/18 Savings Required £000	2017/18 Savings Expected £000	Shortfall	17/18 RAG	Responsible Officer	Comments	R /A Included in Forecast Over/Undersp end? Y/N
CSF2016-01	<u>Cross cutting</u> Deletion of Assistant Director, Service Manager and half an admin support posts as part of phased restructure of the department.	224	201	23	A	Paul Angeli	Due to the number of management changes affecting social care and the preparation required for the OFSTED inspection, it is required to provide cover for the Service Manager reduction in the short term. Quantification of this shortfall will be reviewed during the year.	Y
CSF2015-05	<u>Contracts and School Organisation</u> property and contracts 1 FTE.	65	65	0	G	Jane McSherry		
CSF2013-01	<u>Early Years</u> Substantial reduction in EY budgets whilst retaining existing Children's Centres targeted work in areas of higher deprivation (up to 10% reduction overall to Children's Centre services). Reduction in funding and in kind contributions to voluntary sector organisations	250	250	0	G	Jane McSherry		
CSF2014-09	We are working on the detailed proposals which will in essence reduce the service to paid-for childcare (parents and DSG) with a very limited targeted service for highly vulnerable families.	296	296	0	G	Jane McSherry		
CSF2013-02	<u>School Standards and Quality</u> Reduced service offer from School improvement service.	75	75	0	G	Jane McSherry		
CSF2015-03	<u>Schools</u> Increased income from schools and/or reduced LA service offer to schools.	200	200	0	G	Jane McSherry		
	Total Children, Schools and Families Department Savings for 2015/16	1,110	1,087	23				

DEPARTMENT: CORPORATE SERVICES - PROGRESS ON SAVINGS 17-18

Ref	Description of Saving	2017/18 Savings Required £000	2017/18 Savings Expected £000	Shortfall	17/18 RAG	Responsible Officer	Comments	R /A Included in Forecast Over/Underspend? Y/N
<u>Customer Services</u>								
CS60	Deletion of Assistant Director post	109	109		G	Caroline Holland		N
CSD17	Reduce Marketing budget - Increase self service by using Panacea - marketing solution software in order to reduce designer costs for smaller marketing jobs	73	73		G	Sophie Poole		N
CS2015-04	Increase in Registrars income	25	25		G	Sean Cuniffe/Tomas Dyson		N
CS2016 -04	Increase income through Registrars service	15	15		G	Sean Cuniffe/Tomas Dyson		N
<u>Business Improvement</u>								
CS63	Reorganisation of systems development and support arrangements.	74	74		G	Clive Cooke		N
CSD42	Restructure functions, delete 1 AD and other elements of management	170	100	70	A	Sophie Ellis		Y
CS2015-08	Staffing support savings	13	0	13	A	Sophie Ellis		N
<u>I & T</u>								
CS70	Apply a £3 administration charge to customers requesting a hard copy paper invoice for services administered by Transactional Services team	35	0	35	A	Pam Lamb	Due to delays in implementation of e5, Sharepoint and EDRMS there will be a delay in achieving this. Alternative to be identified within the division.	N
CS71	Delete two in house trainers posts	42	42		G	Richard Warren		N
CS72	Consolidation of Infrastructure & Transactions revenue budgets	34	34		G	Tina Dullaway		N
CS2015-09	Restructure of Safety Services & Emergency Planning team	18	18		G	Adam Vicarri		N
CS2016-08	Potential income derived from letting two floors of vacant office space within the Civic centre to external/partner organisations.	90	90		G	Mark Humphries		N
<u>CEX</u>								
CS2015-07	Reduction in running cost budgets	28	28		G	Sophie Jones		N
<u>Resources</u>								
CS46	Resources -Deletion of 3 Posts within the Division	78	78		G	R Kershaw		N
CS66	Review recharges of Resources support function to pension fund	47	47		G	R Kershaw/Paul Audu		N
CSD20	Increased income	16	16		G	R Kershaw		N
CSD23	Cut running costs budgets	3	3		G	Bindi Lakhani		N
CSD26	Delete 1 Business Partner	78	78		A	Caroline Holland		N
CSD46	Reduce budget for LCGS to match actual contribution	81	81		G	John Dimmer		N
CS2016-01	Reduction in contribution to insurance fund	100	100		G	R Kershaw/Paul Audu		N
<u>Human Resources</u>								
CSD34	Learning and Development admin support	18	18		G	Kim Brown		N
CSD35	Learning and Development Budget	134	134		G	Kim Brown		N

DEPARTMENT: CORPORATE SERVICES - PROGRESS ON SAVINGS 17-18

Ref	Description of Saving	2017/18 Savings Required £000	2017/18 Savings Expected £000	Shortfall	17/18 RAG	Responsible Officer	Comments	R /A Included in Forecast Over/Underspend? Y/N
	<u>Corporate Governance</u>							
CS73	Saving from 4 borough shared legal service	20	20		G	Fiona Thomsen		N
CSD43	Share FOI and information governance policy with another Council	40	40		A	Graham Owen		N
CSD45	Share audit and investigation service	20	20		G	Margaret Culleton		N
CS2015-13	Reduction in capacity and service efficiency in Investigation service	40	40		G	Margaret Culleton		
CS2015-14	Reduction in capacity and service efficiency in Audit service	33	33		G	Margaret Culleton		
CS2016-03	Supplies & Services	50	50		G	Julia Regan		
	Total Corporate Services Department Savings for 2016/17	1,484	1,366	118				

DEPARTMENT: ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION SAVINGS PROGRESS: 2017-18

Ref	Description of Saving	2017/18 Savings Required £000	2017/18 Savings Expected £000	Shortfall	17/18 RAG	Responsible Officer	Comments	R /A Included in Forecast Over/Underspend? Y/N
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES								
ER23	Restructure of team to provide more focus on property management and resilience within the team.	18	18	0	A	James McGinlay	Business Case for restructure in progress, but expecting to achieve this saving once implemented.	Y
E&R5	Team transformation and asset review	82	82	0	A	James McGinlay	Business Case for restructure in progress, but expecting to achieve this saving once implemented.	Y
D&BC1	Fast track of householder planning applications	55	0	55	R	James McGinlay	This saving is not currently being achieved. The team is	Y
D&BC2	Growth in PPA and Pre-app income	50	50	0	G	James McGinlay		N
D&BC3	Commercialisation of building control	50	0	50	R	James McGinlay	This saving is not currently being achieved. The shared service discussions with Sutton and Kingston are still underway and a future direction decision is awaited at Director level.	Y
D&BC4	Deletion of 1 FTE (manager or deputy) within D&BC	45	45	0	G	James McGinlay		N
D&BC5	Eliminate the Planning Duty service (both face to face and dedicated phone line) within D&BC	35	35	0	G	James McGinlay		N
D&BC6	Stop sending consultation letters on applications and erect site notices only	10	10	0	G	James McGinlay		N
E&R32	Income from wifi concessionary contract to be let from 2015/16	5	5	0	G	James McGinlay		N
ENV20	Increased income from building control services.	35	0	35	R	James McGinlay		Y
ENV24	Cease subscription to Urban London and Future London Leaders	10	10	0	G	James McGinlay		N
ENV34	Increased income from the non-operational portfolio.	8	8	0	G	James McGinlay		N
PUBLIC PROTECTION								
EV11	Increase all pay and display charges for on and off street parking by 10%. It should be noted that no allowance has been made for elasticity of demand this figure could reduce by 25%	125	125	0	G	John Hill		N
E&R7	Due to additional requests from residents, the budget will be adjusted to reflect the demand for and ongoing expansion of Controlled Parking Zone coverage in the borough.	163	163	0	A	John Hill	The 2017/18 saving is expected to be achieved based on the latest CPZ forecast.	N
E&R8	In response to residents concerns about traffic congestion, enforcement of moving traffic contraventions, following the Implementation of ANPR.	-1,540	-1,540	0	G	John Hill		N
E&R14	Further expansion of the Regulatory shared service.	100	0	100	R	John Hill	New partner expected to join in April 2018.	Y
E&R43	Reprofiling how Safer Merton will achieve savings of £70,000 in 2017-18. The reprofiling will see staff levels maintained and budget reductions met through cutting back on non statutory budgetary spend.	70	40	30	R	John Hill	Due to the delay in recruiting the Integrated Offender Management co-ordinator this saving will not be met in full during 2017/18.	Y
ENV02	Review the current CEO structure, shift patterns and hours of operation with the intention of moving toward a two shift arrangement based on 5 days on/2 days off.	190	0	190	R	John Hill	This saving is not currently being achieved as the there has been slippage in the timetable for the restructure.	Y
ENV03	Reduction number of CEO team leader posts from 4 to 3	45	0	45	R	John Hill	This saving is not currently being achieved for the same reasons as those given in respect of ENV02 .	Y
ENV04	Improved management of traffic flows/congestion and availability of parking space through Increase compliance	250	250	0	A	John Hill	Saving expected to be achieved but too early in the year to certain.	N
ENV05	Review the back office structure based upon the anticipated tailing off of ANPR activity and the movement of CCTV into parking services.	70	0	70	R	John Hill	The implementation of this saving has been delayed by the slower than anticipated implementation of ANPR and its effect on the back office function. The review can take place when a full year's ANPR impact can be measured (which will be after August 2017)	Y
ENV06	Reduction in transport related budgets	46	0	46	R	John Hill	This saving has not yet been achieved as a number of options are being considered as the best way to meet this target.	Y

ENV09	Investigate potential commercial opportunities to generate income	50	25	25	R	John Hill	Although early in the process, there may be difficulty in achieving the full year effect.	Y
ENV10	Reduction in Transport/Supplies and Services budget through greater efficiency	10	10	0	G	John Hill		N
ENV33	Development of emissions based charging policy for resident/business permits recognising the damage particularly from diesel engine motor vehicles	250	250	0	G	John Hill		N
ENR3	Increase the cost of existing Town Centre Season Tickets in Morden, Mitcham and Wimbledon.	16	16	0	G	John Hill		N
SENIOR MANAGEMENT								
ENV01	Reduce the level of PA support to Heads of Service by 0.6fte.	19	19	0	G	Chris Lee		N
PUBLIC SPACE								
E&R1	Arts Development - further reduce Polka Theatre core grant	5	5	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
E&R2	Water sports Centre - Additional income from new business - Marine College & educational activities.	10	10	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
E&R3	Various Budgets - Reduction in supplies & services &/or increased income over expenditure	16	16	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
E&R16	joint procurement of waste, street cleansing, winter maintenance and fleet maintenance services (Phase C)	1,500	1,500	0	G	Graeme Kane	Completed April 2017. Actual savings delivered are being monitored closely	N
E&R20	To contribute to a cleaner borough, enforcement of litter dropping under EPA/ ASB legislation with FPN fines for contraventions.	-3	-3	0	G	Graeme Kane	Completed - FPN continue to be issued for littering offences.	N
E&R25	Joint procurement of greenspace services as part 2 of the Phase C SLWP procurement contract with LB Sutton	160	160	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
ENV11	Outsource leisure and sports activities	59	59	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
ENV12	Loss of head of section/amalgamated with head of Greenspaces	70	0	70	R	Graeme Kane	Expected to be achieved in 2018/19.	Y
ENV13	Staff savings through the reorganisation of the back office through channel shift from phone and face to face contact.	70	70	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
ENV18	Increased income from events in parks	100	0	100	R	Graeme Kane	This saving is not currently being achieved. Work continues to identify how income from events in parks, including developing working partnerships with external event production companies, can be generated.	Y
ENV19	Planned re-distribution of North East Surrey Crematorium funds	90	90	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
ENV21	Reduction in the grant to Wandle Valley Parks Trust	6	6	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
ENV22	Reduction in grant to Mitcham Common Conservators.	24	24	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
ENV23	Further savings from the phase C procurement of Lot 2.	160	160	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
ENV25	Department restructure of the waste section	191	191	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
ENV26	Re-balancing of rounds	20	0	20	R	Graeme Kane	Saving forms part of Phase C, but may not be achieved this financial year.	Y
ENV27	Remove free provision of food waste liners	66	0	66	R	Graeme Kane	Saving forms part of Phase C, but may not be achieved this financial year.	Y
ENV28	Divert gully waste and mechanical Street sweepings from landfill through pre-treatment and recycling	37	37	0	A	Graeme Kane	Working closely with SLWP to prioritise this project.	N
ENV29	Realign budget to reflect actual income achieved through sale of textiles	20	20	0	A	Graeme Kane	Price of textiles continue to fall. Income levels to be monitored closely.	N
ENV30	Increase annual Garden Waste subscription fees by £5 p.a.	30	30	0	G	Graeme Kane	Completed - Now part of Phase C service	N
ENV31	Commencing charging schools for recyclable waste (17/18) and food waste (18/19) collection	102	102	0	G	Graeme Kane	Completed - Now part of Phase C service	N
ENV36	Review and removal of NRCs	50	50	0	G	Graeme Kane		N
Total Environment and Regeneration Savings 2016/17		3,050	2,148	902				

Appendix 7

Subject: Miscellaneous Debt Update June 2017

1. LATEST ARREARS POSITION – MERTON'S AGED DEBTORS REPORT

- 1.1 A breakdown of departmental net miscellaneous debt arrears, as at 30 June 2017, is shown in column F of the table below.
- 1.2 Please note that on the 6 February 2017 the new financial computer system was implemented and this includes the raising and collection of invoices and the debt recovery system.

Sundry Debtors aged balance – 30 June – not including debt that is less than 30 days old (Please note the new system reports debt up to 30 days whereas previously we reported up to 39 days)

Department a	30 days to 6 months b	6 months to 1 year c	1 to 2 years d	Over 2 years e	June 17 arrears f	March 17 Arrears	Direction of travel
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Env & Regeneration	1,488,642	250,021	141,172	269,820	2,149,655	842,867	↑
Corporate Services	1,922,494	27,572	30,240	58,385	2,038,691	161,726	↑
Housing Benefits	756,241	497,485	1,418,694	1,669,151	4,341,571	4,306,029	↑
Children, Schools & Families	742,821	230,575	44,780	213,539	1,231,714	959,933	↑
Community & Housing	1,345,073	761,742	818,871	1,365,823	4,291,509	4,167,270	↑
Chief Executive's	0	0	0	0	0	0	↓
CHAS 2013	61,060	26,056	27,955	22,529	137,601	113,986	↑
Total	6,316,331	1,793,452	2,481,712	3,599,246	14,190,741	10,551,811	↑
Jun-16	4,637,416	2,302,037	2,385,836	3,422,628	12,747,917		
Variance June 16 to June 17	1,678,915	-508,585	95,876	176,618	1,442,824		↑

- 1.3 Since the position from 31st March 2017, the net level of arrears, i.e. invoices over 30 days old, has increased by £3,638,930.

- 1.4 The new financial system was implemented on 6 February 2017 and there was an initial delay in raising new invoices and therefore at the end of March 2017 the level of outstanding debt had reduced from £12.8m reported as at 31st December 2016. However, over the past three months there has been an improvement in the volume and speed of invoices raised and the backlog has reduced. There is still a backlog of invoices to be raised for Adult Social Care debt which is linked with the implementation of the new Social Care computer system, but the matter is being monitored and addressed.
- 1.5 We expect to be invoicing 11 weeks after service has been delivered versus our normal practice of a 6 week lag. This 5 week deficit from normal practice will need to be recovered over the remainder of the year. Apart from this there are no other areas where there are system related impediments to raising debt although we have noticed that in some areas staff are less familiar with the system which can cause a small lag versus what we would have expected in previous years. Additional training has been offered to assist with this.
- 1.6 There has been a considerable increase in debt outstanding that is between 31 days and six months old. This level of debt has increased from £2.7 million at the end of March 2017 to £6.3 million at the end of June 2017. This is due to the delay in commencing the issuing of reminders for unpaid invoices and the escalation of cases to the debt recovery team.
- 1.7 Reminders for unpaid invoices started to be issued in June 2017 and as a consequence cases that remain unpaid will be passed to the debt recovery team in mid-July. This process is being proceeded with cautiously both because of the potential impact on the teams that would receive enquiries from a large backlog and because of the impact on customers with numerous outstanding debts, instalment plans or missed payments. Once this initial 'catch-up' period has completed, hopefully by the end of July, we will be able to revert to a normal daily running of the reminder process
- 1.8 The largest increases since the end of March 2017 are for Environmental and Regeneration and Corporate Services departments. The increases in Environmental and Regeneration debt are for Community Infrastructure Levy, Commercial Rents and Commercial Waste depts. The increases in Corporate Services debt are for re-charges for IT to CHAS and debts owed to Legal Services. These debts are being pursued with service departments and other Councils.
- 1.9 Although none of the debts that are less than six months old have formally been passed to the debt recovery team, they have commenced informal recovery action on some of the larger debts, ringing or emailing debtors etc.

- 1.10 The table below shows the total net level of arrears for the last five years – not including debt that is less than 39 days old or 30 days in March 2017

Sundry debt June 2013 to June 2017 – not including debt that is less than 30/39 days old

Department	June 2013	June 2014	June 2015	Jun 2016	June 17
	£	£	£	£	£
Env & Regeneration	811,346	884,512	896,994	1,815,385	2,149,655
Corporate Services	623,983	858,227	290,128	401,015	2,038,691
Housing Benefits	3,173,011	2,685,560	3,196,008	4,014,558	4,341,571
Children, Schools & Families	133,712	367,884	995,833	1,248,528	1,231,714
Community & Housing	4,183,231	4,589,395	5,076,718	5,162,464	4,291,509
Chief Executive's	3,000	500	0	0	0
CHAS 2013	0	113,826	153,984	105,967	137,601
Total	8,928,283	9,499,904	10,609,665	12,747,917	14,190,741

- 1.11 The figures in the table above show that a major area of increase in debt over the four year period is housing benefit overpayments. It should be noted that the amount of housing benefit paid out has increased over this period. In 2008/09 £61.3 million was paid out and just under £85 million was paid in 2016/17
- 1.12 In addition there has been an increase in debt owed to Children Schools and Families which is mainly due to outstanding invoices owed by Lambeth and Croydon councils where we have re-charged them for children placed in our schools. These debts are being actively pursued by the debt recovery team and service departments.
- 1.13 The increase in Environmental and Regeneration and Corporate Services debts has been detailed above in 1.7.
- 1.14 The action being taken to recover the housing benefit overpayments and community care debts is outlined below

2 THE PROCESS FOR COLLECTION OF MISCELLANEOUS DEBT

- 2.1 In considering the current levels of debt, it is important to outline the general process Merton currently has in place to collect its arrears. In general terms the process has 5 stages, as detailed below, although

processes employed vary by debt type. It is important to note that most debtors can not pay their outstanding liabilities other than by payment arrangements. Once a payment arrangement has been made it can not be changed without the debtors consent.

The process for collecting debt

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
Invoice issued to debtor with 30 days allowed for payment.	After 30 days and following two requests for payment, a final warning notice is issued and the case passed to the Debt Recovery team.	The debt and debtor is evaluated to ensure the most effective recovery action is taken to attempt recovery. This will include contacting debtors' direct and collecting payment or agreeing repayment plans and passing the debt to collection agents to collect on our behalf, bankruptcy proceedings, attachment to benefit etc.	If the debt remains unpaid then County Court action is taken by the Debt Recovery team's solicitor who administers this process.	The final stage is consideration of the debt for write-off if all other attempts to collect the debt have failed.

3. ACTION BEING TAKEN TO COLLECT OUTSTANDING DEBT

- 3.1 One of the two largest debts owed to the council is for Community Care Debt and the current level of debt is £3.92 million, a reduction of £17,000 since last reported.
- 3.2 Over the past few years council staff have been working closely and following new processes to manage this debt. This work involves regular joint meetings between the financial assessments, social services, client financial affairs and debt recovery teams to review the debts of individual clients and establish action plans for each one.
- 3.3 These actions include, but are not limited to: early intervention from social workers to prevent debts from getting out of control and to ensure that clients are supported earlier to get their finances in order; as part of their induction all new Social Workers spend time with the Financial Assessment Team, to understand how financial assessments are carried out; social workers also check to see if there any safeguarding issues around non-payment of bills and work very closely with the Welfare Benefits Officer; there is more use of credit checks and land registry checks when assessing/investigating debt issues; increased involvement from the client financial affairs team to take appointeeship for those without capacity or appropriate deputyship; Increased identification of cases where we will consider legal action to secure the debt and generally to share information and support each

other in the collection and prevention of this debt. Although the debt has grown the actions being taken are mitigating the impact.

- 3.4 A new working group chaired by the Director of Community and Housing has been set up to monitor Community Care Debt and to work across departments to improve processes and ensure best practice is in place to maximise collection of debts at all stages. As part of this a Lean review is taking place which will include the assessment and raising of invoices through to debt collection practices.

- 3.5 The table below shows the breakdown of Community Care debt by recovery action

Total Community Care Debt by recovery action as at June 2017 compared to March 2016, June 2016, September 2016 and December 2016

Community Care Debt	Mar 2016	% at stage	Jun 2016	% at stage	Sep 2016	% at stage	Dec 2016	% at stage	Jun 2017	% at stage
Invoice stage	656,084	14%	387,608	9%	772,555	16%	646,210	13%	1,129,190	29%
Charge & Deferred Payment	995,753	22%	775,880	18%	706,043	15%	635,671	13%	311,604	8%
Payment arrangement	372,108	8%	462,801	11%	451,694	10%	235,667	5%	273,316	7%
Probate, DWP & Deputyship	925,447	20%	944,870	22%	895,603	19%	771,456	15%	553,437	14%
Court action	147,886	3%	141,345	3%	256,347	5%	188,264	4%	184,781	5%
Dept or service query	154,802	3%	182,702	4%	51,821	1%	286,782	6%	90,530	2%
No action secured	1,386,446	30%	1,460,347	33%	1,624,173	34%	2,186,747	44%	1,380,647	35%
Total Debt	4,638,526		4,355,553		4,758,236		4,950,797		3,923,505	

- 3.6 Although the debt has reduced since December 2016 the current debt figure is understated as stated in 1.4 above there is a backlog in issuing Community Care invoices. As at the end of June 2017 there had been no invoices issued for 2017/18 charges although it is planned that April's invoices will be issued by the end of July. In the first quarter of 2017/18 payments have been received to clear two large ongoing debts, one for just over £100,000 and one for £30,000.

- 3.7 The largest area of debt owed to the council is for housing benefit overpayments with the total level of debt being £8.6 million, of which

£4.2 million is within the sundry debtors system and the remainder of the debt is still within the housing benefit system.

- 3.8 The Department of Work and Pensions commenced a “Real Time” Information initiative at the end of September 2014 which was aimed at ensuring that earnings and pensions data within the housing benefit system matched that held by HMRC. At the same time they also commenced another initiative to identify fraud and error.
- 3.9 The DWP have provided additional funding to the council to undertake this work and up until March 2017 granted additional income based on targets met.
- 3.10 The Real Time information initiative continues into 2017/18 and we are currently dealing with up to 700 referrals every month.
- 3.11 Since the start of the Real Time information initiative over £5 million of overpayments have been identified. Where possible these overpayments are being recovered from on-going benefit payments. We are entitled to deduct between £10.95 and £23.35 per week from on-going housing benefit dependant on circumstances. Where the change has resulted in housing benefit being cancelled or nil entitlement we can contact the claimants employer and are paid a percentage deduction of their salary each month. So far we have over £250,000 secured by this method.
- 3.12 Although the overall housing benefit debt has increased there has been an increase in the amount of debt either being recovered from on-going benefit or on arrangements, with £3.3 million being recovered from on going benefit by reducing current housing benefit payments. Just over £5.7 million is on a payment arrangement or recovery from on going benefit
- 3.13 The table below shows breakdown of all housing benefit overpayments by recovery action.

Total Housing Benefit Debt by recovery action from Dec 2015 to June 2017 by quarter

Recovery Stage	Dec-15	Mar-16	Jun-16	Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17
Invoice and Reminder stage	1,571,934	1,205,885	667,690	624,877	874,548	723,613	284,713
On-going recovery	3,237,225	3,105,644	2,928,207	3,048,093	3,032,558	2,928,992	3,363,611

Payment Arrangements	1,606,401	1,792,340	1,922,400	2,134,893	2,220,007	2,314,257	2,353,352
No Arrangements secured	1,608,915	1,870,006	2,528,002	2,544,392	2,162,070	2,113,587	2,665,410
Total HB Debt	8,024,476	7,973,875	8,046,299	8,352,255	8,289,183	8,080,449	8,667,086

3.14 We have continued to review and target all housing benefit debt. We have tried to improve the procedures at the beginning of the process when a debt is first identified by ensuring that invoices are raised as soon as possible to give the best chance of recovery, we are targeting debtors who are now in work and we will be applying to recover the overpayments from their employers and we are looking at the oldest debts to consider if they are still collectable. However, it should be noted that a lot of the housing benefit debt is very difficult to recover as the Council's powers of recovery are very limited unless the debtor works or owns their own property.

3.15 The table below shows the amount of debt written off in accordance with financial regulations and scheme of management in 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Debt written off from 2014/15 to date by debt type

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	Total	Total	Total	Quarter 1
Debt type				
Sundry Debt	£347,726	£581,419	£129,338	£291,708
Housing benefit overpayments	£1,050,105	£510,352	£517,467	£0
Council Tax	£526,881	£951,280	£623,486	£0
Business Rates	£790,373	£659,514	£567,908	£136,709
Total	£2,715,085	£2,702,565	£1,838,199	£428,417

3.16 Of the business rates debt written a large proportion relates to debts owed by businesses that went into liquidation. From 2014/15 to 2016/17 £2.017 million of business rates debt was written off and £1.071 million related to businesses that went into liquidation.

- 3.17 Although the debt written off within any of the years does not relate to one specific year it should be noted that in 2016/17 the council was collecting a net debt of £102.9 million in council tax (this includes the GLA portion), a net debt of £91.3 million in business rates (this includes Business Rates Supplement) and approximately £44 million raised through sundry debts.
- 3.18 Every effort is made to collect all outstanding debts and debts are only written off as a last resort. The council is still collecting some council tax debts that are greater than 6 years old or will have secured the debts against properties where possible.

4. SUNDRY DEBT COLLECTED

- 4.1 The table below shows the amount of sundry debt raised over the past four years along with the payments received via cash, journals or credits, and shows the amount written off for each year along with the balance outstanding as at the end of December 2016.

As at end of December 2016

Year	Invoices raised	Credits	Journals	Written Off	Payments	O/s	% Collected	% o/s or w/o
2013/14	£44,842,844	-£2,531,232	-£91,213	-£217,833	-£41,252,390	£750,176	97.84%	2.16%
2014/15	£57,041,098	-£6,756,029	£459,436	-£179,094	-£49,731,873	£833,538	98.23%	1.77%
2015/16	£67,409,189	-£11,330,263	-£112,786	-£48,374	-£54,377,668	£1,540,099	97.65%	2.35%
2016/17	£43,058,643	-£4,200,922	-£60,362	-£696	-£30,050,524	£8,746,139	79.70%	20.30%

- 4.2 Active recovery action continues to be undertaken on all outstanding debts. Included in the amounts outstanding would be cases where the debt has already been secured against a charge on the property or deferred payment arrangement.
- 4.3 For 2013/14 and 2014/15, invoices for over £101.8 million were raised and over 98.4% has already been collected.

5. PROVISION FOR BAD AND DOUBTFUL DEBTS

- 5.1 Provision has been made available for writing off bad and doubtful debts held within the ASH, E5 and Housing benefits systems. These provisions are £2.96m for ASH miscellaneous debt and £6.95m for debt held in the Housing Benefits system, making a total General Fund provision for bad and doubtful debts of £9.91m. Clearly, every attempt is made to collect debts before write-off is considered. The current level of provision is analysed in the table below.

- 5.2 The Council adheres to the requirements of the SORP when calculating its provisions. Merton's methodology is to provide on the basis of expected non collection using the collection rates for individual departmental debt, and the age of the debt.

Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts

Department	Total Provision	
	At 31/03/2016	At 31/03/2017
	£000's	£000's
Env & Regeneration	377	294
Corporate Services	342	162
Housing Benefits	6,287	6,947
Children, Schools & Families	121	296
Community & Housing	1,995	2,207
Total	9,122	9,906

6. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / CONCLUSION

- 6.1.1 Merton's total level of miscellaneous debt arrears i.e. invoices over 30 days old, as at 30 June 2017 is £14,190,741. The net level of arrears as at 31st March 2017 was £10,551,811.

7. TOTAL DEBT DUE TO MERTON

The total amount due to Merton as at 30 June 2017 is detailed in the table below.

Total debt outstanding as at 30 June 2017 and compared with previous periods over the past 12 months

	Jun-16	Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17
	£	£	£	£	£
Miscellaneous sundry debt Note 1	12,762,026	12,406,364	13,588,220	7,067,219	12,454,666
Housing Benefit debt	8,046,299	8,352,255	8,289,183	8,080,449	8,667,087
Parking Services	2,475,209	2,800,371	3,425,473	3,526,192	4,451,650
Council Tax Note 2	5,028,749	4,524,303	3,822,875	3,866,556	6,940,774
Business Rates Note 3	1,696,598	1,147,749	972,883	654,794	2,558,946
Total	30,008,881	29,231,042	30,098,634	23,195,210	35,073,123

Note 1 This figure differs from the amount shown in Table 1 as it shows all debt, including that which is less than 30 days old.

Note 2 Council tax debt does not include the current year council tax collection.

Note 3 Business rates debt does not include the current year business rates collection

Note 4 From April 2017 council tax and business rates debt is being reported and monitored different. From April 2017 we will report the gross debt position whereas previously we have reported the net debt position (netting off credits on accounts).

- 7.1 The overall debt outstanding has increased by £11.87 million since last reported at the end of March 2017.
- 7.2 It has been detailed within this report the reasons for some of the large increase, such as reduction in backlog of invoicing of debts, reporting gross debt rather than net debt, increase in housing benefit overpayments, however, one further area is the large increase within the last three months of debt outstanding for Parking penalty charge notices, which has increased by just under a £1 million. There has been an increase of almost 8,000 unpaid charge notices which is due to the impact of ANPR.
- 7.3 Detailed breakdowns of the Council Car Parking figures are shown in the table below:

Car Parking Aged Debtors – June 2017

Age of Debt	Outstanding £	Number of PCNs	Average Value £
0-3 months	1,203,912	10,564	114
3-6 months	1,126,503	7,854	143
6-9 months	788,717	4,653	169
9-12 months	479,983	2,728	175
12-15 months	301,351	1,778	169
Older than 15 months	551,184	3,751	146
Total June 2017	4,451,650	31,325	142

Total March 2017	£3,526,192	23,447	150
-------------------------	-------------------	---------------	------------

Increase/-decrease	£925,458	7,878	
---------------------------	-----------------	--------------	--

APPENDIX AUTHOR - David Keppler (020 8545 3727/david.keppler@merton.gov.uk)