

Essex County Wide Traveller Unit Joint Committee 12th June 2020

Report by Ali Purdy, Financial Controller

Finance Report for the Essex County Wide Traveller Unit

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ECC Financial Controller
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Purpose	
1.	To receive the 2019/20 financial position
2.	To receive the budget for 2020/21 and to note the proposed budgets for 2021/22 and 2022/23
3.	To note the 2020/21 Membership Fees
4.	To note the Balance Sheet Reserves

1. 2019/20 Final Outturn Position as at 31st March 2020

	2019/20 Budget	2019/20 Actuals to 31st March 2020	2019/20 Variance
Expenditure:			
Employees	£251,198	£268,438	£17,240
Supplies & Services	£110,868	£48,820	(£62,048)
Legal	£0	£19,684	£19,684
Transport & Mileage	£21,277	£20,723	(£554)
Gross Expenditure	£383,343	£357,665	(£25,678)
Income:			
Partner Contributions (including ECC)	(£397,269)	(£422,413)	(£25,144)
Gross Income	(£397,269)	(£422,413)	(£25,144)
Net Expenditure (Surplus) / Deficit	(£13,926)	(£64,748)	(£50,822)

The Essex Countywide Traveller Unit 2019/20 outturn position is a net surplus position of £64,748, a favourable variance compared to budget of £50,822.

To Note:

1. Essex County Councils contribution to the ECTU for 2019/20 is £304,471 across internal partners which includes an increase of £20,000 to cover the pressure seen within Employees costs.
2. This position confirms that both legal fees and bailiff costs continue to be managed within the budget allocated but essentially relate to lower than anticipated unauthorised encampments throughout the year.
3. The year-end under spend position has increased the reserve from a surplus position at the closure of the 2018/19 accounts of £78,355 to a surplus of £143,103 at the close of the 2019/20 accounts.

2. Budget for 2020/21 and proposed budget for future years

	2019/20 Budget	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Budget (Agreed)	2021/22* Draft Proposed Budget	2022/23* Draft Proposed Budget
Expenditure:					
Employees	£251,198	£251,490	£273,710	£276,447	£279,212
Supplies & Services	£110,868	£73,330	£113,972	£117,164	£120,444
Transport & Mileage	£21,277	£22,331	£22,331	£22,485	£23,115
Gross Expenditure	£383,343	£376,882	£409,555	£416,096	£422,771
Income:					
Partner Contributions (including ECC)	(£397,269)	(£400,579)	(£409,577)	(£413,784)	(£418,034)
Gross Income	(£396,194)	(£400,579)	(£409,577)	(£413,784)	(£418,034)
Net Expenditure (Surplus) / Deficit	(£13,926)	(£53,428)	(£22)	£2,312	£4,737

The 2020/21 proposed draft budget assumes the following:

- 2% membership fee increase (approved in Nov 2019) excluding Essex Fire & Rescue
- 1% increase for Employee budgets in addition to the rate for the job amendment
- 2.8% RPI increase for Supplies & Services and Transport budgets

Proposed future year (*) budgets contain the following assumptions:

- 1% Employee budget increase
- 2.8% RPI increase for Supplies & Services and Transport budgets
- 1% membership fee increase

* Future year budgets are subject to change following proposal and discussion at a later date

3. To Note 2020/21 Membership Fees

Organisation	2020/21 Fee (Approved at the November 2019 Joint committee meeting)	% Contribution per member
Essex County Council		
Gypsy/Travellers	£221,268.00	54.02%
Highways	£8,312.00	2.03%
Public Health	£59,941.00	14.63%
Property and Facilities	£8,312.00	2.03%
Country Parkes	£8,312.00	2.03%
Total ECC	£306,145.00	74.75%
Essex Fire and Rescue	£12,000.00	2.93%
Districts/Boroughs & Unitary		
Basildon BC	£8,312.00	2.03%
Braintree DC	£8,312.00	2.03%
Brentwood DC	£8,312.00	2.03%
Castle Point	£8,312.00	2.03%
Chelmsford CC	£8,312.00	2.03%
Colchester BC	£8,312.00	2.03%
Maldon DC	£8,312.00	2.03%
Rochford DC	£8,312.00	2.03%
Tendring DC	£8,312.00	2.03%
Thurrock C	£8,312.00	2.03%
Uttlesford DC	£8,312.00	2.03%
Total Districts/Boroughs/Unitary	£91,432.00	22.32%
Total Contributions	£409,577.00	100.00%

4. Balance Sheet – Reserves

The surplus positions included within the table below for 2020/21 onwards are subject to change:

Balance Sheet: General Balance	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>
Opening Balance (Surplus)	£26,462	(£24,927)	(£78,355)	(£143,103)	(£143,125)	(£140,813)
Net Outturn position (Surplus)	(£51,389)	(£53,428)	(£64,748)	(£22)	£2,312	£4,737
Closing Balance (Surplus) / Deficit	(£24,927)	(£78,355)	(£143,103)	(£143,125)	(£140,813)	(£136,076)