Committee: Licensing Agenda Item

Date: 20 January 2010

Title: 2009/10 Budget Monitoring

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Item for decision

Summary

The Committee is responsible for overseeing General Fund Licensing Service Budgets. This report details income and expenditure for the period April to November 2009, and a forecast for the end of 2009/10.

2 A net underspend of £20,000 is forecasted. This is discussed below.

The information in this report will be collated into a report covering the Council's corporate financial position to be received by the Finance & Administration Committee on 28 January.

Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to approve this report.

Background Papers

2009/10 Budget Book

Impact

| Communication/Consultation | None |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Community Safety | None |
| Equalities | None |
| Finance | Detailed in the report |
| Health and Safety | None |
| Human Rights | None |
| Legal implications | None |
| Sustainability | None |
| Ward-specific impacts | None |
| Workforce/Workplace | None |

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Licensing Committee General Fund - Summary

Overall underspend is forecast

Overall, the Committee's expenditure is forecasted to underspend by £20,000.

This includes an excess of income over expenditure relating to taxi licensing of £26,000. This will be transferred to a new Licensing earmarked reserve and be used to support service improvements and any adverse financial variances arising in future years. As detailed in reports elsewhere on today's agenda, taxi licensing fees have been reviewed with effect from January 2010 to align income levels more closely with costs.

No other significant variances are anticipated.

Details are below.

| | April to Nov | | | 2009/10 Financial Year | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------|-----------------------|
| £000 | Current Budget | Actual April to | Variance April to | Original Budget | Current Budget | | Fore cast Variance |
| | April to Nov | Nov | Nov | | | | |
| Staffing Costs | 60 | 61 | 1 | 91 | 89 | 91 | 2 |
| Inspection Fees | 12 | 9 | -3 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 0 |
| Direct Admin Costs | 14 | 19 | 5 | 16 | 16 | 20 | 4 |
| Licensing Expenditure | 86 | 89 | 3 | 123 | 121 | 127 | 6 |
| Hackney Carriages | -102 | -143 | -41 | -157 | -157 | -183 | -26 |
| Other Licences | -69 | -74 | -5 | -87 | -87 | -87 | 0 |
| Licensing Income | -171 | -217 | -46 | -244 | -244 | -270 | -26 |
| Committee Total | -85 | -128 | -86 | -121 | -123 | -143 | -20 |
| | | | | | | | |

Risk Analysis

| Risk | Likelihood | Impact | Mitigating actions |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Actual income and expenditure will vary from forecast, requiring adjustments to budget and/or service delivery | 2 – some variability is inevitable | 2 – budget will be closely monitored and prompt action taken to deal with variances | Budgetary control framework |

- 1 = Little or no risk or impact
- 2 = Some risk or impact action may be necessary.
- 3 = Significant risk or impact action required
- 4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.

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