



CABINET - 6 SEPTEMBER 2001

2000/2001 FINAL ACCOUNTS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Under the Audit and Accounts Regulations 1996, Local Authorities are required to adopt their final accounts within six months of the financial year to which they refer.
- 1.2. A copy of this Council's consolidated final accounts will be presented to General Purposes and Licensing Committee on 24 September 2001.
- 1.3. The audit of the accounts commenced on 28 August.
- 1.4. The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the unaudited outturn expenditure position.

2. GENERAL FUND

- # 2.1 As shown in Appendix 1, net expenditure before transfers between reserves was £16.669m. This is a saving of £443,000 on the revised budget, the main reasons for which are as follows:-

	£ 000's
Additional income from court fees including backdating re bad debt provision	-209
Additional Contribution to Redundancy Fund	200
Savings in net cost of Council Tax Benefits	-48
Additional administration and WBS Grant re Housing and Council Tax Benefits	-45
Net savings on business unit and holding accounts	-41
Hythe Marina additional income	-29
Savings in various Corporate and Democratic Core budgets	-33
Employee turnover savings at Recreation Centres	-85
Delays in Electrical Testing Remedial Work, principally in Recreation Centres	-24
Income shortfall at Dibden Golf Centre and the Recreation Centres	56

Savings in Plant costs at Dibden Golf Centre	-13
Net savings in Building Control principally due to additional income	-35
Public Conveniences – Savings in Employee and Supplies and Service costs	-19
Cemeteries – savings in Grounds Maintenance costs	-13
Additional Interest Earnings	-37
Other	-68
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	-443
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- 2.2 The revised estimates allowed for £361,000 to be transferred to the General Fund from the Capital Financing Reserve. This relates to accounting adjustments on the Minimum Revenue Provision (£143,000) and the commutation of Government Grants (£218,000). The commutation element is still the subject of discussion with the District Auditor and the Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions and has therefore not been transferred.
- 2.3 After allowing for the position in paragraph 2.2, the net savings on the General Fund are £225,000. The report to General Purposes and Licensing Committee will propose reducing the transfer from the General Reserve by £225,000.

3. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

- # 3.1 The actual income and expenditure for the Housing Revenue Account is shown in Appendix 2. While there are variations in a number of budget heads, the actual surplus in the year of £145,000 is exactly that predicted in the revised estimates.
- 3.2 The Housing Revenue Account balance of 31 March 2001 was £2.466m. It is forecast that this balance will reduce to £2.169m by 31 March 2002.

4. CONTRACT SERVICES

- 4.1 The trading surpluses for the year for each of the contract services teams were:

	£
New Forest Commercial Services	159,676
New Forest Caterers	9,293
Housing Contract Services	80,269
Tax and Benefits	44,968
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	294,206
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- 4.2 The balances on the reserve funds at 31 March 2001 for each of the contract services teams were:

	£
New Forest Commercial Services	773,132
New Forest Caterers	57,188
Housing Contract Service	350,723
Tax and Benefits	170,392
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	1,351,435
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5. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME – OTHER SERVICES

- # 5.1 Total actual expenditure for 2000/01 was £3.856m (Appendix 3), which is an underspend of £1.116m from the revised estimate. The main reasons for the underspend are as follows:

	£ 000's
Rephasing of schemes into 2001/02	-1,031
Millennium Trail scheme deleted (P & R 18/4/01)	-54
Appletree Court Basement Tanking Repairs not required	-10
Energy Management	-12
Other	-9
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	-1,116
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6. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME - HOUSING

- # 6.1 Total actual expenditure for 2000/01 was £4.648m (Appendix 3), which was an increase of £582,000 from the revised estimate. This was principally due to rephasing of the Social Housing Grant programme, as approved by Policy and Resources Committee in March 2001. An underspend of £42,000 on the capitalised repairs programme offsets a £53,000 overspend on the planned maintenance revenue programme within the Housing Revenue Account.

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 It is recommended that Members note the outturn position on the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account and the Capital Programme.

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