

Report to Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Board

28 July 2022

Subject:	2021/22 Financial Outturn
Director:	Director of Finance Simone Hines
Contact Officer:	Head of Finance, Rebecca Maher Rebecca_Maher@sandwell.gov.uk

1 Recommendations

That the Board considers and comments upon the 2021/22 Financial Outturn report which is attached as an appendix to this report.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

The Scrutiny Board is required to consider and provide comments on the financial outturn report for the Council.

3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

The financial position for the Council underpins all objectives in the Corporate Plan.

4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 The overall outturn position for the General Fund is an underspend of £4.788m. The overall net directorate outturn variance, excluding the HRA, is an underspend of £7.925m following reserve transfers. The variance for each service area is summarised in the following table and analysed in more detail within Appendix 1.



- 4.2 The council has continued to see the impact of the COVID pandemic although this has not been as significant as in the last financial year. Reduced income in areas such as car parking and Residential Education Centres remain affected together with a backlog of work that ceased during times when restrictions were in place. COVID emergency funding and Contain Outbreak Management funding were brought forward into 2021/22 and this has been used to offset these costs. Where it is considered that the impact is likely to be long-term, this has been built into the budget planning process for 2022/23 onwards.
- 4.3 There have also been a number of vacancies during the year which has contributed to the overall underspend. A piece of work is ongoing to identify if any of these vacancies can be taken as long-term savings, whilst being mindful of the impact that recruitment difficulties is having in a number of service areas.
- 4.4 Individual outturn reports for each directorate, the Housing Revenue Account and the Individual Schools Budget can be found in the Cabinet Report attached.

5 Implications

Resources:	Resource implications are contained within the main body of the report.
Legal and Governance:	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.
Risk:	This information is contained within the main body of this report.
Equality:	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.
Health and Wellbeing:	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.
Social Value	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.

6 Appendices

Financial Outturn Report 2021/22 – Cabinet 20th July 2022

7. Background Papers

None

