

# Report to Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board

4 January 2024

<b>Subject:</b>	Q2 Budget Monitoring 2023/24
<b>Director:</b>	Brendan Arnold, Interim Section 151 Officer
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Claire Spencer – Acting Assistant Director Finance <a href="mailto:Claire_Spencer@sandwell.gov.uk">Claire_Spencer@sandwell.gov.uk</a>

## 1 Recommendations







- 1.1 That the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board considers the Q2 Budget Monitoring 2023/24 report and identifies any recommendations that it wishes to make to Cabinet.

## 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 Section 151 of the 1972 Local Government Act requires the Chief Financial Officer to ensure the proper administration of the council's financial affairs. Budgetary control, which includes the regular monitoring and reporting of budgets is an essential element in discharging this statutory responsibility. The recommended treatment of the year end variances supports the financial sustainability of the council.



### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	<p>The Council's financial status helps to underpin the Council's Corporate Plan and the associated aspirations.</p>
	
	
	
	
	

### 4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 Budget monitoring reports are produced quarterly for Cabinet and the budget position is reported monthly to Leadership Team, highlighting the anticipated year end projection.
- 4.2 The monitoring reports track progress against agreed budget decisions, consider any budget changes (including re-profiling of Capital), forecast any significant variances to the budget, and enable corrective action to be taken as necessary to ensure a balanced budget at year end.
- 4.3 Regular financial reporting is part of the governance and risk management approach within the Council, ensuring that it delivers sustainable and value for money services as required under statute.
- 4.4 The Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board has been asked to consider the Quarter 2 Budget Monitoring 2023/24, in the context of paragraphs 2.1 and 4.1-4.3 above, providing comment and recommendations to Cabinet as it sees fit.



## 5 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	Further details on the financial implications will be presented to the meeting.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	The Local Government Act 2003 places a requirement on local authorities to provide Members with regular financial monitoring.
<b>Risk:</b>	This information is contained within the main body of this report.
<b>Equality:</b>	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	The financial prosperity of the Council provides a foundation for health and wellbeing across the remit of the Council.
<b>Social Value:</b>	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.
<b>Climate Change:</b>	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.
<b>Corporate Parenting:</b>	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.

## 6 Appendices

Appendix 1 - Outturn Summary for Directorates

Appendix 2 - Central Items

Appendix 3 - Reserves

Appendix 4 - General Fund Capital

Appendix 5 - Housing Revenue Account Capital

Appendix 6 - CIL and S106 Funding

Appendix 7 - Treasury Update Q2

Appendix 8 - Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators Mid-Year Monitoring

Appendix 9 - Cabinet Report – Q2 Budget Monitoring 2023/24

## 7. Background Papers

Cabinet Report – Q1 Budget Monitoring 2023/24

