

People and Places	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of November 23 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (starred items)
Domestic Abuse Duty	0	-23	-23	0	Home Office funding received in advance to support post salary and project budget. Post recently became vacant and is being recruited to.
Leisure Contract	-201	-319	-117	-188	Quarterly management fee for White Oak Leisure Centre invoiced and received. Funding received in advance from successful bid to Swimming Pool Support Fund.
Leisure Contract - Interim	0	806	806	1,338	Impact of the interim leisure contract (Asset purchase, mobilisation, Q1 management fee and utilities).
Police & Crime Commissioners (PCCs)	0	-23	-23	0	Funding received in advance from Police and Crime Commissioner.
Tourism	17	-124	-141	0	Grant received ahead of spend.
Future Issues/Risk Areas					Impact of the interim leisure contract as part of an open book facility with Everyone Active continues to be monitored. A budget of £1.83m was agreed by Council in April 2023 for a 2 year period, which will need to be repaid. Currently £1.3m is the estimated cost for year 1, which has been forecast. It should be noted that in Quarter 1, the Council needed to negotiate the transfer of utilities (electricity and gas), following Sencio's administration. The utility provider held the Council on a standard tariff whilst it undertook the transfer of the utility contracts from Sencio, with this additional cost being borne by the Council.
					The impact of Kent County Council's budget savings may impact the Council, notably as any reductions in youth, community safety or communities funding, may see a possible cost and customer shunt to us.

Development and Conservation	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of November 23 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (starred items)
Building Control Non Fee	50	64	14	28	Forecast salary overspend due to pay award.
Building Control Fee	-147	-143	3	19	Forecast overspend due to the above and agency staff required due to staff vacancies.
Local Development Plan	0	75	75	0	Spend to be funded from Local Development Plan reserve.
Planning - Appeals	145	231	85	136	Expenditure on Hearings and Public Inquiries, including significant spend following an appeal hearing on Oakhill Rd
Planning - CIL Administration	-21	-15	6	20	Forecast unachieved on CIL Admin fees.
Planning - Development Management	-25	-56	-31	107	Income ahead of budget as a result of a large fee application.
Planning - Enforcement	211	292	81	79	Additional staffing costs due to contractors covering vacant posts.
Administrative Expenses - Planning Services	33	61	28	39	Recruitment advertising cost and training costs.
Future Issues/Risk Areas					There remains the risk that planning decisions and enforcement action will be challenged, either at appeal or through the Courts. Recruiting to vacant posts continues to be difficult. The financial impact of proposed changes to the Planning System will need to be carefully considered.

Finance and Investment	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of November 23 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Asset Maintenance CCTV	13	4	-9	-15	No further spend required on CCTV at the depot.
Dartford Rev&Ben Partnership Hub (SDC costs)	1,396	1,560	164	0	Additional software costs to be covered by reserve. Additional resource to be partly funded by Dartford BC.
Dartford Audit Partnership Hub (SDC Costs)	157	126	-31	0	Underspend on salaries due to vacancy.
Local Tax	-68	-120	-52	-63	New Burdens funding ahead of spend for government new service implementation.
Misc. Finance	818	798	-20	-22	Underspend on Covid 19 related cleaning materials.
Administrative Expenses - Finance	14	28	15	10	Additional expenditure on consultancy to implement Direct Debits
Support - Exchequer and Procurement	153	142	-11	-8	An underspend on salaries due to all posts being budgeted at top of band but not all posts are being paid this. In addition a salary sacrifice has reduced pay costs.
Support - Legal Function	196	208	11	0	Vacant Post will offset Locum - (Jan-Mar £15k budget)
Future Issues/Risk Areas					

Finance and Investments	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of November 23 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Asset Maintenance Argyle Road	55	35	-20	0	Spend currently behind profile.
Asset Maintenance Leisure	132	40	-92	0	Budget being treated as an emergency fund due to age of assets.
Asset Maintenance Support & Salaries	67	30	-37	4	Spend currently behind profile.
Car Parks	-1,275	-1,411	-136	-251	Day tickets charge income is exceeding budget but season tickets income is underachieving. Utilities bills higher than budget.
CCTV	195	253	58	99	Increased staffing costs to cover vacancies and training. Transmission cost savings not yet implemented due to market conditions. Cost review with BT (Supplier) underway.
Car Parking - On Street	-327	-365	-38	0	On Street day tickets exceeding budget.
Refuse Collection	180	534	354	585	High quantities of waste and recycling still continue. Increased agency and salary costs to cover sickness and annual leave, along with the 2023/24 pay award affect.
Trade Waste	-140	84	223	266	Income forecast lower than budget. Waste disposal charges per tonne have significantly increased.
Green Waste	-124	-36	88	164	Income expected to be lower than budget. Underspend on vacant posts, offset by agency costs.
Street Cleansing - Operational	10	-47	-57	-42	Lower transport costs and increased recharges for services, along with lower repair costs. A grant of £25k received for The Gum Project.
Transport Workshop	42	52	10	12	Reduced income on repairs due to investment of new vehicles, offset by reduced expenditure across the services.
Cesspool Emptying	-60	1	61	90	Lower demand for service than budget assumption. Service making a loss.
Pest Control	-32	-2	30	49	Lower demand for service than budget assumption. Service making a loss.
Fly Tipping	-30	-3	27	32	Service requiring major repairs to vehicles.
Fleet	-99	-135	-36	-32	Underspend due to a subsidised levy on testing HGV vehicles. This ended on 1st August 2023. Full costs are now being paid. Fleet servicing recharge lower due to the leasing of new vehicles.
Depots	-47	-6	41	53	Internal recharges relating to work orders from other departments lower than budget. Also income reduction.
Emergency - Operational	-18	-29	-11	-13	Lower transport costs due to keeping vehicle and equipment longer.
Grounds Maintenance	-22	-15	7	28	Overspend due to agency costs.
Emergency	55	48	-8	-12	Standby has been quiet through the summer, but we are entering winter preparedness which may see an increase in standby spend.
Parking Enforcement - Tandridge DC	-2	-24	-22	-8	Work relating to 2022/23 still continuing for Tandridge DC for a fee. Income collected relating to 2022/23 to be paid over.
Estates Management - Buildings	19	47	28	49	Overspend forecast due to sinkhole at Shurlock Avenue risk management.
Housing Other Income	-9	-40	-30	-27	Overachieved income.
Licensing Partnership Hub (Trading)	-1	-22	-22	-0	Hub expenditure currently behind budget profile.
Licensing Regime	60	40	-20	-12	Forecast salary underspend.

Finance and Investments	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of November 23 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Markets	-303	-255	48	78	Contracts renewed in April 2023. Swanley Sunday market is not currently achieving target levels but being reviewed with the operator on a regular basis.
Off-Street Enforcement	40	8	-31	-41	Forecast to overachieve on penalty notice income.
Parks - Greensand Commons Project	0	26	26	0	Externally funded project. Spend will be reclaimed.
Parks and Recreation Grounds	94	84	-11	-15	Repairs and maintenance charges lower than budget.
Parks - Rural	126	159	33	40	Tree works on Oakhill Rd required due extended SDC ownership following the Development Management Committee refusal. (£20k). Works to Mill Pond also contributing to the adverse forecast.
Street Cleansing	1,046	1,057	11	21	Underachieved income.
Support - Central Offices	477	454	-23	-4	Forecast an overspend on gas and a underspend on electricity supply and repairs and maintenance to Argyle Road. Favourable variance should decrease as we head into the winter months.
Support - Central Offices - Facilities	159	131	-29	-13	Underspend due to invoices due from previous cleaning contract and current vacant posts
Support - General Admin (Post/Scanning)	164	94	-70	-58	Forecast EOY position due to underspend on salaries coupled with corporate economy of scale on postage
Support - Direct Services	35	42	7	11	Higher postage costs and staff advertising for vacant posts attributed to adverse forecast.
Future Issues/Risk Areas					Government changes to refuse collection and funding 2024/25

Housing and Health	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to end of November 23 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k
Gypsy Sites	-4	-1	3	12	Predicted under recovery in rents from vacant plots. Work to refurbish 3 pitches is due to complete in December and new tenancies have been awarded, which will help recover some of the rental income. Additional funding is being sought to refurbish a further 7 pitches.
Homeless	455	438	-17	-16	Increased demand on temporary accommodation, with less than 30% Housing Benefit able to be claimed.
Housing	128	130	2	18	Additional staff costs, which are funded externally. Overspend highlighted will be offset by external funding.
Housing Energy Retraining Options (HERO)	39	-10	-49	-24	Salary underspend due to vacant posts - HERO Housing Team Leader current vacant, but an interim appointment from existing staff will cover this post.
Homes for the Ukrainians	28	-569	-597	0	Funding received in advance from Kent County Council with property checks, housing and staffing resource in place.
KCC- Household Support Fund	0	94	94	0	KCC allocated funding. Phase 4 of the Household Support Fund has been drawn down allocated to low-income households/pensioners to support the cost of living.
Private Sector Housing	141	102	-39	-60	Home Upgrade Grant salary cost received in advance. Salary underspend due to vacant posts - two Senior Private Sector Housing Officers since recruited to.
Rough Sleepers Initiative 2022-25	29	-52	-81	0	Rough Sleepers Initiative funding - received in advance. On track to spend in full.
Rough Sleepers Programme	0	-45	-45	0	Funding received in advance from Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme and supporting staffing, customer support and accommodation support.
One You - Kent Public Health	-10	-36	-25	0	Funding received from Dartford, Gravesham & Swanley Health and Care Partnership to support a recently recruited community and health projects officer. Post recruited to.
Housing and Health Project	16	0	-16	0	Externally funded project now evaluated and closed.
Future Issues/Risk Areas					<p>New placements into Temporary and Emergency Accommodation have started to increase due to the cost of living. Securing affordable move on accommodation in the district for existing placements, continues to be a challenge and impact the budget. The acquisition by Quercus Housing of Gladedale House in Westerham, 27-29 High Street and 11-13 High Street, Swanley has brought forward 41 new affordable homes in the district. A further 8 units will come on line in early 2024 to support Homes for Ukraine households living in the District. The Council has worked with the Heart Foundation to secure the lease of a rental property (Stay Green House) in the district.</p> <p>A pressure on homelessness and temporary accommodation is being seen as host placements end as part Govt's Homes for Ukraine Scheme. Alongside pressures from other resettlement schemes, including the Afghan Resettlement Scheme is only serving to increase the pressure on budget resources. The Council has received funding to support some costs associated with Homes for Ukraine, but this support ends on 31 March 2024. Capital funding secured by Quercus Housing via the Local Authority Housing Fund will also secure the acquisition of affordable housing to support refugee schemes - however, all funding must be spent by 31 March 2024.</p> <p>As a result of closure order on the Hever Road Gypsy and Traveller site due to criminal damage, rents and HB claims has reduced due to x7 tenancy evictions. A new Allocations Policy was approved in July and funding was secured to bring x3 of the most damaged pitches and utility blocks back into use, with works being completed in October 2023 and the pitches allocated.</p> <p>The rising cost of living is impacting households in the district and we are starting to see homeless presentations from working households, who are unable to afford rising rental costs, utility and food costs.</p> <p>Although the council is predicting to come in on budget for this current financial year for emergency accommodation spend due to a combination of external funding, increased homelessness prevention and the delivery of new homes by Quercus Housing to alleviate homelessness pressures, it should continue to be highlighted as a potential risk, as the cost of living pressures continues to impact many households, resulting in increased homelessness and demand for emergency accommodation. The Council is also seeing its highest numbers of homeless approaches due to domestic abuse.</p>

Improvement and Innovation	Budget to Date £'000	Actual to November 23 £'000	Variance to date £'000	Total Annual Forecast Variance £'000	Explanation for year end variances greater than £10k (starred items)
Asset Maintenance IT	187	144	-43	0	As per long term asset maintenance plan.
Corporate Management	681	652	-28	-11	Underspend on salaries and external services
Corporate - Other	75	0	-75	-76	Additional savings generated from vacant posts exceeding budget.
Economic Development	34	21	-13	0	Current underspend on services, spend in future months planned.
Swanley Meeting Point	40	85	45	60	Overspend on salaries and agency costs. Underachieving income.
Economic Development Property	423	345	-78	-89	Underspend on salaries due to vacancies be filled.
UK Share Prosperity Fund	0	-150	-150	0	Grant received ahead of spend.
Elections	63	291	228	3	Costs of the May 2023 elections to be partially recharged to Town & Parish Councils. District costs to be met from earmarked elections reserve
Land Charges	-34	-3	31	45	Forecast underachievement on income of around £68k partially offset by a draw on previous grants received
Members	328	309	-18	2	Members Allowance pay award now included which was higher than assumed in the budget, slightly offset by underspends on travel and refreshments.
Register of Electors	151	147	-4	44	Forecast adverse variance at year-end related to costs of postage for household notification letter, to be met from earmarked reserve
Administrative Expenses - Legal and Democratic	59	37	-22	-19	Current variance due to underspend on printing / & Publications offered up a new saving ? Query show as forecast underspend???
Support - Contact Centre	529	490	-40	-14	Underspend on salaries due to staff turnover
Support - General Admin (Print Shop)	37	62	25	49	Underachieved income slightly offset by an underspend on vacant post and materials. Underachieved income from internal print charges off-set by corresponding underspends in service internal print budgets.
Support - IT	885	888	3	11	Forecast overspend primarily due to impact of pay award
Support - Human Resources	399	380	-19	-18	Current variance due to review of training spend
Future Issues/Risk Areas					