

**PASC BALANCED SCORECARD**

**September 2019**

**Commentary**

**Financial Performance** - The forecast revenue position across West Suffolk shows an overall deficit of £25,639, representing 0.02% of the total budget across the council.

The council is forecasting a small deficit position for the year. The overall performance is impacted by a number of operational factors including increased Trade Waste, Grounds Maintenance and Apex income alongside their associated costs, below budget Planning Application income (which may be a timing issue connected to when planning applications come forward) and higher cash balances driving higher interest receivable.

The capital spend outturn shows the impact of timing changes in the Leisure Capital Investment Fund, Mildenhall Hub and 19/20 Cornhill schedules.

The Earmarked Reserve balance at the year end is currently forecasted to be just under £4m higher than budgeted, mainly as a result of the timing profile of major capital projects such as the Leisure Capital Investment Fund.

**Debt over 90 days** - This position is increasing with £54k Property-related and £110k Trade Waste which the council is actively pursuing. Debt collection is a focus of management given this increase.

**Housing in Temporary Accommodation** - The demand for Temporary Accommodation continues to rise and create pressure on the provision of suitable accommodation due to the duty to house for longer periods.

**Fly Tipping** - Over the last 2 quarters there have been 395 recorded incidents of flytipping in West Suffolk, which is higher than the 271 recorded for the same period last year. The increase is due to the improvements we have made to our recording processes and the targeted enforcement we have been carrying out in hotspot areas, which has raised awareness and reporting of incidents.

Over the same time period there have been 867 interventions carried out to combat incidents of flytipping, both proactively to reduce breaches of legislation and reactively to deter and investigate offenders. Of these interventions 360 were proactive 'Duty of Care' inspections where businesses are asked to demonstrate how they dispose of waste generated through their activities. In addition to this and in response to identified incidents 378 investigations were carried out which led to 122 warning letters and 4 fixed penalty notices being issued and paid. In addition to this we have also successfully prosecuted an individual and a business for waste offences, which has resulted in nearly £2,500 worth of fines and costs being awarded. We also have a further 4 cases awaiting hearing dates.

We will investigate every incident that is reported to us and where we are able to obtain evidence that allows us to identify an offender, will take enforcement action in line with councils Enforcement Policy. Also, as part of the Suffolk Flytipping Action Group (STAG), which involves all of the councils in Suffolk and external partners, we are working on a campaign to raise awareness about the practices of illegal waste carriers and the flytipping that often results. In addition to this, we are looking at increasing the amount of the FPN for flytipping and householder duty of care from £200 to £300 in Suffolk.

**Car Parking** - Car Parking Income is forecast to be in line with our budget for 2019/20. This includes the current estimates for the Flexi-stay scheme in St Andrews Car Park.

In the period 24 June to 30 September 2019, St Andrews Flexi-Stay Car Park hosted 36,228 parking events and generated £74,789 income. The same period in 2018 was 63,228 parking events and £123,013 income.

This shortfall is attributable to the experimental nature of the scheme and operational difficulties including an O2 network failure between 11th and 16th September.

However the overall Car Parking Income is still on track as this income has been made up in the other Bury St Edmunds Car Parks which can be attributed in part to the displacement of the vehicles from the St Andrews car park. August and September showed a £21k year on year increase in income across the parking portfolio.