

Title of Report:	Corporate Services Management Accounts – Period 8
Committee Report Submitted To:	Corporate Policy and Resources
Date of Meeting:	27 January 2026
For Decision or For Information	For Decision
To be discussed In Committee YES/NO	No
Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Leader and Champion
Outcome	Provide Civic Leadership
Lead Officer	Director of Corporate Services
Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	N/A – Monthly update
Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	N/A
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	
Staffing Costs	

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	YES/NO
Legal Opinion Obtained	YES/NO

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report to provide Members with information on the current financial position of Corporate Services Directorate at the end of Period 8.

2.0 Background

Council has approved the annual budget for Corporate Services and delegated authority to officers to utilise this budget in the provision of services to the rate payers. Corporate Services budget for 2025/26 is **£7,167,859** and the Planning Budget is **£1,956,420**.

3.0 Detailed Analysis

The Corporate Services position at Month 8 shows a **£379,736** positive variance, as a result of **£367k** under budget in expenditure and **£12k** over budget in income.

Table 1 Analysis of Expenditure – Corporate Services Months 1 - 8

Head of Service Description	Actual Spend	Net 2026	2026 YTD	Budget	2026 Budget Variance	Sum of Annual Budget 2026	% Budget Variance
Democratic Services	1,067,813.66		1,365,359.23		297,545.57	2,137,608.07	27.86
Land and Property	166,915.44		212,650.42		45,734.98	318,729.08	27.40
Human Resources	893,634.41		923,559.66		29,925.25	1,528,177.20	3.35
ICT and Business Continuity	1,216,392.28		1,136,364.23		(80,028.05)	1,889,199.05	-6.58
Contributions to Other Bodies	113,657.67		113,657.67		0.00	170,703.00	0.00
Internal Audit	102,861.82		156,380.88		53,519.06	290,399.68	52.03
Centrally Managed	145,260.91		175,438.24		30,177.33	282,028.84	20.77
Policy & Community Planning	364,368.91		367,231.04		2,862.13	551,014.44	0.79
	4,070,905.10		4,450,641.37		379,736.27	7,167,859.36	9.33
Planning	1,002,190.93		1,265,516.59		263,325.66	1,956,420.48	26.27

3.1 Democratic Services (DS)

£298k favourable due to various elements of expenditure being less than budget in Period 8 including the following: Members allowances £147k, PR Salaries £34k, PR Printing £20k, Corporate & Democratic salary Costs £64k, and Registration services £25k.

3.2 Land and Property

£46k favourable at Period 8, £39k favourable on salary costs, £10k favourable on Valuation costs and £3k adverse on Legal Costs.

3.3 Human Resources

£30K favourable in Period 8

£12k favourable in salary costs, £5k favourable on Job advertising costs, £10k Favourable on Employee relations

3.4 ICT

£80k adverse overall in Period 8 due to adverse variances in Telephones £74k, Internet and Data Connections £7k, Photocopying Leases £29k and Computer Licences £25k.

3.5 Contributions to other bodies

No variance at period 8, as budget has been released to cover costs to date.

3.6 Internal Audit.

£54k favourable as at Period 8, £52k favourable on salary Costs, £4k favourable on Internal Audit services and £5k adverse on Legal Costs.

3.7 Centrally Managed

Overall, £30K favourable position at the end of Period 8, due to underspends in Telephones £20k and £13k on other Professional costs.

3.8 Policy & Community Planning

Overall, £3k favourable variance at the end of Period 8, due to overspend on salary costs of £15k and underspends in Programme Management Costs of £27k.

3.9 Planning

£263k favourable at end of Period 8, largely due to improvement in income from planning applications and property certificates, £225k favourable and maintaining staff costs and wages within budget, £13k favourable.

4.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Management Accounts for Period 8 - Corporate Services and Planning - and the associated narrative contained within the report are accepted.