



Title of Report:	Corporate Services Management Accounts – Period 9		
Committee Report Submitted To:	Corporate Policy and Resources		
Date of Meeting:	24 February 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 9.

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 9 shows a **£446,544** positive variance, as a result of **£435k** under budget in expenditure and **£12k** over budget in income.

Table 1 Analysis of Expenditure – Corporate Services Months 1 - 9

Head of Service Description	Actual Net Spend 2026	2026 Budget YTD	2026 Budget Variance	Sum of Annual Budget 2026	% Budget Variance
Democratic Services	1,208,729.64	1,547,975.59	339,245.95	2,137,608.07	28.07
Land and Property	204,269.35	239,455.57	35,186.22	318,729.08	17.23
Human Resources	991,147.50	1,054,209.89	63,062.39	1,528,177.20	6.36
ICT and Business Continuity	1,457,196.87	1,325,016.71	(132,180.16)	1,889,199.05	-9.07
Contributions to Other Bodies	113,657.67	134,604.25	20,946.58	170,703.00	18.43
Internal Audit	114,847.44	179,145.50	64,298.06	290,399.68	55.99
Centrally Managed	153,997.17	202,078.52	48,081.35	282,028.84	31.22
Policy & Community Planning	405,231.10	413,134.92	7,908.82	551,014.44	1.95
	4,449,076.74	5,095,620.95	446,544.21	7,167,859.36	9.61
Planning	1,145,227.57	1,423,648.21	278,420.64	1,956,420.48	24.31

3.1 Democratic Services (DS)

£339k favourable due to various elements of expenditure being less than budget in Period 9 including the following: Members allowances £166k, PR Salaries £35k (Vacant post), PR Printing £22k (Spent in Month 10/11), Corporate & Democratic salary Costs £69k (Vacant Posts), and Registration services £17k.

3.2 Land and Property

£35k favourable at Period 9, £29k favourable on salary costs, £6k favourable on Valuation costs and £3k adverse on Legal Costs.

3.3 Human Resources

£63k favourable in Period 9.

£9k favourable in salary costs, £19k favourable on staff training, £10k favourable on employee relations and £10k favourable on Occupational Health.

3.4 ICT

£132k adverse overall in Period 9 due to adverse variances in Telephones £129k, Security £25k, Photocopying/Printing Expenses £18k, Computer Licences £14k, offset by positive variances areas include Mobile Telephony, Supplies and Procurement.

3.5 Contributions to other bodies

£21k favourable at period 9, as budget has been released in period 9 and there have been no further costs to date.

3.6 Internal Audit.

£64k favourable as at Period 9, £62k favourable on salary Costs, £5k favourable on Internal Audit services and £5k adverse on Legal Costs.

3.7 Centrally Managed

Overall, £48K favourable position at the end of Period 9, due to underspends in Telephones £23k and £15k on other Professional costs.

3.8 Policy & Community Planning

Overall, £8k favourable variance at the end of Period 9, due to overspend on salary costs of £13k, and other Professional Costs £6k and underspends in Programme Management Costs of £30k.

3.9 Planning

£278k favourable at end of Period 9, largely due to improvement in income from planning applications and property certificates, £213k favourable and maintaining staff costs and wages within budget, £10k favourable. Other favourable variances include Programme Management Costs £15k, Development Plan £11k and Other professional costs £11k.

4.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Management Accounts for Period 9 - Corporate Services and Planning - and the associated narrative contained within the report are accepted.