

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AUDIT STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE 24TH MARCH 2016

APRIL – DECEMBER FINANCIAL SAVINGS MONITORING REPORT 2015/16

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Geoff Denaro
Portfolio Holder Consulted	-
Relevant Head of Service	Jayne Pickering – Exec Director Finance and Resources
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	No
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	Non–Key Decision

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

To report to the Committee the monitoring of the savings for 2015/16. This report includes the delivery of savings and additional income for the period April 2014 – December 2015.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Board note the final financial position for savings as presented in the report for the period April - December 2015/16.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 This report provides a statement to show the savings for April – December 2015/16 for each strategic purpose and the delivery of the saving for the financial year. This report is separate to the main financial monitoring report that is presented to Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny as it focuses on the delivery of savings rather than the overall financial position of the Council. In addition this report monitors only those savings that were identified as part of the budget process and does not present the overall position of other general savings and underspends to budget.
- 3.2 The External Auditors, Grant Thornton, have recommended that the delivery of savings be monitored more closely to ensure that the Council is meeting savings in the way that was expected when the budget was set. This monitoring is recommended to be undertaken by this Committee and the statement attached at Appendix 1 details the savings to be achieved and the current financial position of each area.

3.3 As members may be aware during the budget process, heads of service propose savings that are to be delivered during future financial years. The budget allocation is then reduced to reflect the proposed saving and officers meet on a monthly basis to ensure that all estimated reductions to budget are being delivered.

3.4 Appendix 1 shows that for April – December 2015/16 savings to budgets have been delivered. A number of the projections were based on reductions in cost following service reviews and due to the timing of the restructures a number of savings have been realised from vacant posts and other service savings to ensure the level of cost reduction is still achieved.

3.5 It is proposed that this report is revised for 2016/17 to show all savings delivered during the quarter. This will ensure that members have a full financial position of the delivery of savings identified as part of the budget process, together with all general underspends and savings during the financial year.

3.6 **Legal Implications**

None as a direct result of this report.

3.7 **Service/Operational Implications**

Timely and accurate financial monitoring ensures that services can be delivered as agreed within the financial budgets of the Council

4. **Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

None, as a direct result of this report.

5. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Effective financial management is included in the Corporate Risk Register.

6. **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Saving monitoring 2015/16

7. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Available from Financial Services

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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