

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AUDIT STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE 23rd JULY 2018

APRIL – MARCH FINANCIAL SAVINGS MONITORING REPORT 2017/18

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Brian Cooper
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 2017/18. This report presents the savings delivered projected for the full year against the efficiency plan.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Committee note the final financial position for savings as presented in the report and at Appendix 1.

3. KEY ISSUES

3.1 This report provides a statement to show the savings projected for 2017/18 linked to the efficiency plan. The efficiency plan was approved in October 2016 and the budget set in February 2017 reflected the savings proposed that were in addition to the efficiency plan. This report gives more detail in relation to the savings made compared with the report that is presented to Cabinet.

3.2 The statement shows that it is projected that the efficiency plan will be exceeded by £566k. It is worth noting that this only shows the savings made and there are a number of shortfalls to budget that were reported to Cabinet in July. It is clear that despite the overall savings being in excess of the plan some of the initial savings proposed have not been realised during 2017/18. Officers are continuing to work through the ways that the further savings can be delivered to meet the plan in future years. Where applicable the savings and additional income have been included in the budget projections for 2018/19.

3.3 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 projected outturn position for each. Grant Thornton have further advised that the savings monitoring should be against the Medium Term Financial Plan rather than the efficiency plan as the MTFP is the more recently approved budget projection for the Council. The savings monitoring for 2018/19 will reflect this approach.

3.4 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.

3.5 **Legal Implications**

None as a direct result of this report.

3.6 **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 2017/18

7. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Available from Financial Services

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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