

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AUDIT STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE 23rd January 2020

APRIL – SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL SAVINGS MONITORING REPORT 2019/20

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 April – September 2019/20. This report presents the savings delivered for the first quarter against those identified in the medium term financial plan (MTFP)

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 the period April – September 2019/20 as detailed in the MTFP and approved by Council in February 2019.

3.2 The medium term financial plan included £332k of savings identified to be delivered during 2019/20 the breakdown of these savings is attached at appendix 1. £166k of these identified savings are in relation to estimated vacancies.

3.3 To quarter 2 £181k of the savings have been realised against the budgeted April 2019 to June 2019 savings of £166k.

In addition to the above officers have been required to find further savings throughout the financial year 2019/20. At quarter 2 additional savings (above those identified) have been realised of £558k. The full details of the savings are included in the Quarter 2 monitoring reports as presented to Cabinet in January 2020.

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 was

recommended to be undertaken by this Committee and Grant Thornton further advised that the savings monitoring should be against the Medium Term Financial Plan.

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 April – September 2019/20

7. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Available from Financial Services

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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