Cabinet

23rd July 2025

Financial Outturn Report 2024/25

Relevant Port	folio Holder	Councillor Baxter			
Portfolio Hold	er Consulted	Yes			
Relevant Hea	d of Service	Debra Goodall			
Report	Assistant Director of Fin	ance and Customer Services			
Authors		groveandredditch.gov.uk			
	Business Improvement	Manager			
	H.Mole@bromsgrovean	dredditch.gov.uk			
Wards Affecte	ed	All Wards			
Ward Council	lor(s) consulted	No			
Relevant Stra	tegic Purpose(s)	All			
Key Decision					
If you have any questions about this report, please contact the report author in advance of the meeting.					

1. <u>SUMMARY</u>

The purpose of this report is to set out the Council's Revenue and Capital Outturn position for the financial year April 2024 – March 2025 (subject to final accounts closedown procedures and audit).

2. <u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>

Cabinet is asked to resolve that:

- 1) The 2024/25 outturn position in relation to revenue budgets is a revenue underspend of £129k and that this excludes the Balance Sheet Monitoring for the Treasury Monitoring Report as this will be taken as a separate report.
- 2) The 2024/25 outturn position in relation to Capital expenditure is £9.53m against a total an approved programme of £7.07m.
- 3) Notes the Ward Budget allocation position at the year ending 31 March 2025 was approved allocations at £55,812.
- 4) Notes the outturn position in respect of the General Fund Reserves which was £14.299m on the 31 March 2025.
- 5) Notes the outturn position in respect of Earmarked Reserves.
- 6) There is an updated procurements position set out in Appendix D, with any new items over £200k to be included on the forward plan.
- 7) The Quarter 4 Performance data for the period January to March 2025 be noted.

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 This report sets out the draft financial outturn revenue and capital performance of the Council for 2024/25 against budget.
- 3.2 The £12.5m full year revenue budget included in the table below is the budget that was approved by Council in February 2024.
- 3.3 The Finance team have undertaken a detailed review of the 2024/25 accounts since year end including:
 - Accruals and prepayments,
 - Recharges have been made to and from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA),
 - Grants are applied to known expenditure and remaining balances are carried forward,
 - Reserves are applied to known expenditure,
 - Shared service recharges between Redditch Borough and Bromsgrove District Councils where a shared service arrangement exists and
 - Transfers between the Collection Fund and the General Fund.
- 3.4 The revenue outturn position is a £129k underspend. This shows a favourable net £76k movement since the position reported at Q3 due to a number of minor variations across a range of budget headings.

Service Description	2024-25 Approved Budget	2024-25 Actual Spend	2024-25 Budget Variance
Business Transformation and Organisational Development	1,792,618	1,694,730	-97,888
Community and Housing GF Services	1,159,987	1,457,961	297,975
Corporate Services	994,465	1,112,245	117,780
Environmental Services	3,798,721	5,633,565	1,834,844
Financial and Customer Services	1,441,300	2,078,764	637,464
Legal, Democratic and Property Services	1,563,913	1,577,192	13,280
Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services	1,365,472	1,611,134	245,661
Regulatory Client	397,337	608,765	211,428
Grand Total	12,513,813	15,774,356	3,260,543
Service Description	2024-25 Approved Budget	2024-25 Actual Spend	2024-25 Budget Variance
Corporate Financing	-12,513,813	-15,903,309	-3,389,496
Grand Total	-12,513,813	-15,903,309	-3,389,496

Cabinet		23 rd July 2025		
TOTALS	0	-128,953	-128,953	

3.5 The following paragraphs set out the variances for each service area against the 2024/25 revenue budget:

Business Transformation & Organisational Development – outturn position £98k underspend

Within Business Transformation & Organisational Development the underspend of £98k is due to:

- Head of Business Transformation underspent by £41k due to reduced Salaries.
- Equalities showed an underspend of £37k due to reduced Salaries.
- Human Resources underspent by £20k due to Salaries & Training savings of £70k offset by additional Shared Service charges of £50k.

Community and Housing General Fund Services - outturn position £298k overspend

Within the Community and Housing General Fund Services the overspend of £298k is due to a number of factors:

- Community Safety overspent by £311k due to additional costs of £93k on Salaries and £218k on additional Shared Services.
- Housing & Enabling overspent by £160k due to additional Salary costs of £43k, Property charges of £56k and Shared Service recharges amounting to £61k.
- Lifeline underspent by £173k due to reduced Shared Service costs.

Corporate Services – outturn position £118k overspend

Within Corporate Services, there is an overspend of £118k due to:

- Communications & Printing overspent by £50k additional Salaries offset by Shared Service Arrangements. £13k is for unachieved Efficiency Savings.
- Corporate showed an overspend of £80k due to additional Audit Fees
- PA & Directorate Support overspent by £25k due to additional Shared Service costs

Environmental Services – outturn position £1.835m overspend

Within Environmental Services, the overspend of £1.835m is due to:

- Bereavement Services overspent by £80k due to lower income of £64k, additional spend on Grounds Maintenance of £10k and Insurance costs of £6k.
- Car Parks/Civil Enforcement showed an overspend of £164k due to due to loss of income in the amount of £174k offset by Utilities savings of £10k.

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

- Core Environmental overspent by £103k due to loss of SLA income in the amount of £25k, Fleet Maintenance of £13k, additional fees from Wyre Forest for Watercourse Management in the amount of £50k and a loss of Shared Service income of £15k.
- Depot overspent by £80k due to Buildings Maintenance of £62k, Equipment Maintenance of £15k and Agency Costs of £30k offset by Insurance savings of £23k and additional Income of £4k.
- Place Teams overspent by £257k due to £106k on Fleet Costs, Insurance costs of £32k and Agency Costs of £205k offset by additional Shared Service income of £86k.
- Waste Operations overspent by £1.231m of which £1.193m is due to an aging fleet (Fleet Fuel of £80k, Fleet Maintenance of £631k and Fleet Hire of £482k). While generating additional income of £749k, there were overspends on Salaries & Agency Costs of £723k, increased Water costs of £26k and additional Insurance costs of £38k.

Financial & Customer Services - outturn position £637k overspend

Within Financial & Customer Services, the overspend of £637k is due to:

- Audit Services overspent by £10k due to additional Internal Audit costs.
- Benefits Subsidy underspent by £365k due to additional Grants received.
- Finance overspent by £660k due to the recruitment of agency staff to clear the backlog of Statement of Accounts which is now complete. There are also mitigating factors insofar as there are difficulties countrywide in the recruitment of staff which has now been made more difficult due to Local Government Reform. There were also additional ICT charges and therefore there were additional Shared Service charges.
- Revenues overspent by £332k including £62k on Shared Services and £270k on Civica System.

Legal, Democratic and Property Services – outturn position £13k overspend

Within Legal, Democratic and Property Services there was an overspend of £13k due to:

- Business Development had an overspend of £125k due to additional spend on Building Maintenance of £78k, Insurance costs of £14k, General Fees of £19k, Shared Service recharges of £38k offset by savings on Utilities of £24k.
- Democratic Services overspent by £93k due to additional Salary costs of £51k, insufficient budget for Councillor allowances of £38k and additional Shared Service recharges of 34k.
- Legal Advice and Services underspent by £205k due to additional income of £65k, salary savings of £86k due to vacant posts, General savings of £44k and additional Shared Service Income of £10k.

Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services – outturn position £246k overspend

Within Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services there is an overspend of £246k due to:

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

- Development Control overspent by £157k due to a drop in Planning Income against budget.
- Economic Development overspend of £28k is due to recruitment costs.
- Building Control overspent by £40k due to a loss of income.
- Town Centre overspent by £21k due to additional Business Rates at Windsor Street.

Regulatory Client – outturn position £211k overspend

Within Regulatory Client, the overspend of £211k is due to additional management costs of WRS amounting to £170k and a loss of Licensing income of £41k.

3.6 Cash Management

Borrowing

• As of the 31st of March 2025, there were no short-term or long-term borrowings.

Investments

• As at the 31st March 2025 there were £4.2m of short-term investments held.

Capital Monitoring

- 3.7 A capital programme of £7.07m was approved in the Budget for 2024/25 in February 2024. Many of these schemes were already in partial delivery in the 2023/24 financial year. By approving this list, the Council also agreed sums not spent in 2023/24 (and 2022/23 by default if schemes originated earlier than 2023/24 as sums have been carried forward through to the 2022/23 MTFS Report) to be carried forward into 2024/25. The table also splits amounts by funding source, Council or third party.
- 3.8 Many of these schemes are already in partial delivery in the 2024/25 financial year. By approving this list, the Council also agreed sums not spent in 2024/25 (and 2023/24 by default if schemes originated earlier than 2024/25 as sums have been carried forward through to the 2023/24 MTFS Report) to be carried forward into 2025/26. The table also splits amounts by funding source, Council or third party.

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

Year	Total Programme	Council Funded	Grant Funded
2024/5	7,069,671	4,334,500	2,735,171
2025/6	4,516,377	3,716,377	800,000
2026/7	2,558,000	1,758,000	800,000
2027/8	6,658,000	5,858,000	800,000
2028/9	1,879,000	1,079,000	800,000

- 3.9 Included in this funding the Council also have the following Grant Funded Schemes which were delivered in 2024/25:
 - The two Levelling Up schemes Old Fire Station and Market Hall which are funded via £14.5m of Government Funding, and the Council is funding £1.6m of works.
 - For the Market Hall Scheme
 - Construction is progressing on site. Piling is completed and groundworks are underway. The costs are covered by contingency and provisional sums so there is no increase to the budget.
 - Arcadis have been appointed as employer's agent and Quantity Surveyor for RIBA Stage 5 of the project.
 - GJS Dillon have been appointed to develop the marketing strategy for the commercial building and will manage letting enquiries.
 - For the Windsor Street Scheme
 - The site has been demolished and fencing is securing the site.
 - Soilfix are on site carrying out remediation work including testing two zones for contaminated material.
 - The Site Investigation indicated Zone 2 had the highest concentrations of PFAS, and they had excavated below the depth initially identified by Brownfield as the potential contamination layer (into the underlying sands). This means there is a possibility that the resampling may produce additional failures.
 - Thomas Lister have been appointed to support with the development appraisal that will inform the options paper.

It is still expected that there will be an overspend position on the overall projects. The Section 151 Officer is currently undertaking a Gateway Review of the projects including options to mitigate this position to the Council.

One of these is the former GBSLEP funding. The Council can claim up to £2.45m, although this will require the final costs as a complete application process needs to be followed. Birmingham City Council have informed all Councils wanting to access money from GBSLEP fund in 2025/26 that funds will not be available until

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

the 2026/2027 financial year. Therefore, BDC may have to use short-term borrowing until the funding is available.

3.10 The outturn spend is £9.534m against the overall 2024/25 capital budget totalling £7.07m is detailed in Appendix B. It should be noted that as per the budget decision carry forwards of £7.166m has been rolled forward from 2023/24 into 2024/25 to take account of slippage from 2023/24.

Earmarked Reserves

3.11 The position as reported to Council in February 2024 as per the 2024/25 – 2026/27 Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) is shown in Appendix C. This has been adjusted for the actual 2023/24 Outturn position, which was only estimated based on Q3 monitoring information at the time of the MTFP. As part of the MTFP, all reserves were thoroughly reviewed for their requirement and additional reserves set up for inflationary pressures such as utility increases. At the 31st March 2025 the Council holds £10.02m of Earmarked Reserves.

General Fund Position

3.12 The General Fund Balance as at the 31st March 2025 is £14.299m and is projected to move in the MTFP to £14.047m at the 31st March 2026.

Financial Performance

3.13 Council Tax collection rate data for the financial year 2024/25 is set out in the following tables. Overall, collection was below 0.5% below target.



Cabinet 23rd July 2025

3.14 The National Non-Domestic Rates collection rate data for the financial year 2024/25 is set out in the following tables. Overall, collection was just over 0.5% above target.



Cabinet

23rd July 2025



4. Legal Implications

4.1 No Legal implications have been identified.

5. <u>Strategic Purpose Implications</u>

Relevant Strategic Purpose

5.1 The Strategic purposes are included in the Council's corporate plan and guides the Council's approach to budget making ensuring we focus on the issues and what are most important for the borough and our communities. Our Financial monitoring and strategies are integrated within all of our Strategic Purposes.

Climate Change Implications

5.2 The green thread runs through the Council plan. The Financial monitoring report has implications on climate change and these will be addressed and reviewed when relevant by climate change officers to ensure the correct procedures have been followed to ensure any impacts on climate change are fully understood.

6. Other Implications

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

6.1 None as a direct result of this report.

Operational Implications

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

6.2 Managers meet with finance officers to consider the current financial position and to ensure actions are in place to mitigate any overspends.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 Items identified in the Finance and Performance monitoring is included in a number of the Corporate Risks. These are listed below. The mitigations to these risks are set out in the Risk Report, of which the Quarter 4 Report is reported to Audit, Standards and Governance Committee in July:
 - COR 10 Decisions made to address financial pressures and implement new projects.
 - COR16 Management of Contracts.
 - COR17 Resolution of the Approved Budget Position.
 - COR19 Adequate Workforce Planning.
 - COR20 Financial Position Rectification.
 - COR22 Delivery of Levelling Up and UK SPF Initiatives
 - COR23 Cost of Living Crisis
 - COR25 The new Environment Bill

8. <u>APPENDENCES</u>

Appendix A – Capital Outturn

Appendix B – Reserves Position

Appendix C – Ward Budgets

Appendix D – Procurement Pipeline

Appendix E – Performance Indicators

AUTHOR OF REPORT

Name:	Debra Goodall – Assistant Director of Finance and Customer Services
	(Deputy S151)
E Mail:	Debra.Goodall@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

Appendix A - 2024/25 Capital Outturn

Cap Proj	Description	2023/24 Total £	23/24 Spend £	c/f	2024/25 Total (Original) £	2024/25 Total (Incl C/F's) £	24/25 Spend £
	Large Schemes						
	Levelling Up Fund						
200072	- Market Hall	7,563,360	428,395	7,134,965	0	7,134,965	2,780,979
200073	- Ex-Fire Station/Windsor Street	805,133	15,592	789,541	0	789,541	2,264,724
	UK Shared Prosperity Fund						
200086	- Remainder (to be allocated)	680,988	73,987	607,001	1,784,215	2,391,216	2,391,216
	Other Schemes						
200008	Funding for DFGs	913,000	842,776	70,224	913,000	983,224	986,697
200009	Home Repairs Assistance	50,000	-19,690	69,690	50,000	119,690	0
200010	Energy Efficiency Installation	0	0	0	110,000	110,000	0
200016	New Finance Enterprise system	0	0	0	20,000	20,000	0
200019	Fleet Replacemnet new line	0	0	9,400	3,090,000	3,099,400	271,682

Cap Proj	Description	2023/24 Total £	23/24 Spend £	c/f	2024/25 Total (Original) £	2024/25 Total (Incl C/F's) £	24/25 Spend £
200019	Fleet Replacemnet new line	0	0	9,400	3,090,000	3,099,400	271,682
200022	Replacement Parking Machines	96,000	212,270	-116,270	125,000	8,730	143,611
200026	Rubery Redevelopment Works	0	0	0	0	0	1,504
200030	Wheelie Bin Purchase	55,000	188,195	-48,195	60,000	11,805	228,672
200033	Bus Shelters	0	0	0	18,000	0	19,655
200045	Greener Homes	0	197,505	-197,505	0	-197,505	6,125
200069	Cisco Network Update	11,574	0	11,574	0	11,574	0
200070	Server Replacement	2,000	93,201	-91,201	177,500	86,299	0
200071	Laptop Refresh	25,000	11,542	13,458	150,000	163,458	132,209
200075	Sanders Park	0	33,027	-33,027	0	-33,027	103,763
200076	Play Area, POS and Sport improvements at Lickey End Recreation Ground in accordance with the S106 Agreement	0	8,842	-8,842	37,956	29,114	30,000

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

Cap Proj	Description	2023/24 Total £	23/24 Spend £	c/f	2024/25 Total (Original) £	2024/25 Total (Incl C/F's) £	24/25 Spend £
200079	Footpaths	75,000	75,408	-408	75,000	74,592	117,981
200082	New Digital Service	33,668	0	33,668	0	33,668	0
200104	Buildings	100,000	0	100,000	100,000	200,000	37,575
200105	Initial Play Audit Requirements	87,000	0	87,000	364,000	451,000	0
200106	New ongoing Cyber securty budget	0	0	0	25,000	25,000	0
200107	Artrix - Landlord Obligations	0	0	0	20,000	20,000	17,587
n/a	Wild Flower Machinery	62,000	0	62,000	0	62,000	0
	Total	11,050,723	3,978,960	7,166,163	7,069,671	14,667,102	9,533,980

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

Appendix B - Earmarked Reserves

		Transfers In	Transfers Out		Prior Yr Bud		Transfers Out	Balance	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Balance	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Balance	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Balance
	Balance as at 31 March 2023	2023/24	2023/24	Balance as at 31 March 2024		Transfers In	Transfers Out	Balance as at 31 March 2024	In	Transfers Out	Balance as at 31 March 2024	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Balance as at 31 March 2024	Transfers In	Out	Balance as at 31 March 2024
-	£000	£000	£000	£000		2024/25	2024/25	31-Mar-25		2025/26	31-Mar-26		2026/27	31-Mar-27	2027/28	2027/28	31-Mar-28
General Fund Balances	13.104	1.747	(1.330)	13.521	1,200	£000 53	£000 (50)	£000 14,724	£000	£000 (252)	£000 14,472	2000	£000 (1,115)	£000 13,357	£000	£000 (484)	£000 12,873
General Fund Balances	13,104	6747	(1,330)	13,321	1,200		(50)	14,124		(2)2)	14,412		(1,10)	13,331		(404)	12,013
General Fund:																	
Building Control Other	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	7
Building Control Partnerships	82	0	0	82	0	0	0	82	0	0	82	0	0	82	0	0	82
Community Services	321	0	(125)	196	0	0	0	196	0	0	196	0	0	196	0	0	196
Economic Regeneration	1,348	50	0	1,398	(600)	0	0	798	0	0	798	0	0	798	0	0	798
Election Services	85	0	0	85	0	0	0	85	0	0	85	0	0	85	0	0	85
Environmental Services	27	0	0	27	0	0	0	27	0	0	27	0	0	27	0	0	27
Financial Services	4,705	430	(500)	4,635	(750)	0	0	3,885	0	(334)	3,551	0	0	3,551	0	0	3,551
HR Backlog Funding					75	0	0	75	0	0	75	0	0	75	0	0	75
ICT Backlog Funding					75	0	0	75	0	0	75	0	0	75	0	0	75
Housing Schemes	864	0	0	864	0	0	0	864	0	0	864	0	0	864	0	0	864
ICT/Systems	197	0	0	197	0	0	0	197	0	0	197	0	0	197	0	0	197
Leisure/Community Safety	115	0	0	115	0	0	0	115	0	0	115	0	0	115	0	0	115
Local Neighbourhood Partnerships		0	0	16	0	0	0	16	0	0	16	0	0	16	0	0	16
Other	67	0	0	67	0	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0	67	0	0	67
Planning & Regeneration	463	0	0	463	0	50	0	513	0	0	513	0	0	513	0	0	513
Regulatory Services (Partner Share	85	0	0	85	0	0	0	85	0	0	85	0	0	85	0	0	85
Replacement Reserve (Inc. Recycli	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shared Services (Severance Costs		0	0	311	0	0	0	311	0	0	311	0	0	311	0	0	311
Covid-19 (General Covid Grant)	766	0	0	766	0	0	0	766	0	0	766	0	0	766	0	0	766
Covid-19 (Collection Fund)	1,604	0	0	1,604	0	0	0	1,604	0	0	1,604	0	0	1,604	0	0	1,604
Utilities	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ward Budgets	0			0	0	234	(78)	156	0	(78)	78		(78)	0			0
Council Tax Hardship Fund	79	0	0	79	0	0	0	79	0	0	79	0	0	79	0	0	79
Property Services Review								0	100	(100)	0			0			0
EPR Funding Allocationb								0	1,004	(100)	904		(450)	454		(450)	4
Artrix Holding Trust	17	0	0	17	0	0	0	17	0	0	17	0	0	17	0	0	17
Total General Fund	11,159	480	(625)	11,014	(1,200)	284	(78)	10,020	1,104	(612)	10,512	0	(528)	9,984	0	(450)	9,534

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

Appendix C - Ward Budgets

Activity	Spend	Balance
		£2,000
Cllr Alan Bailes	2,000.00	0
Cllr Ruth Lambert	400.00	1,600.00
Cllr Sam Ammar	2,000.00	0
Cllr Ester Gray	2,000.00	0
Cllr Peter McDonald	2,000.00	0
Cllr Harrison Rone-Clarke	1,150.00	850.00
Cllr Anita Dale	2,000.00	0
Cllr Webb	2,000.00	0
Cllr Hunter	1970.00	30.00
Cllr Rachel Bailes	2,000.00	0
Cllr Sue Baxter	1,200.00	800.00
Cllr J Clarke	1999.00	1.00
Cllr Stephen Colella	2,000.00	0
Cllr J Elledge	2,000.00	0
Cllr Derek Forsythe	2,000.00	0
Cllr D Hopkins	1,093.00	907.00
Cllr Charlie Hotham	2,000.00	0
Cllr Helen Jones	2,000.00	0
Cllr B Kumar	2,000.00	0
Cllr M Marshall	2,000.00	0
Cllr Karen May	2,000.00	0
Cllr Bernard McEldowney	2,000.00	0
Cllr D Nicholl	2,000.00	0

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

Activity	Spend	Balance
		£2,000
Cllr Simon Nock	2,000.00	0
Cllr S Peters	2,000.00	0
Cllr J Robinson	2,000.00	0
Cllr S Robinson	2,000.00	0
Cllr J Stanley	0	2,000.00
Cllr Kit Taylor	2,000.00	0
Cllr Peter Whittaker	2,000.00	0
Cllr S Evans	2,000.00	0

Cabinet

23rd July 2025

Appendix D - Procurement Pipeline

Council	Contract Title	Department
	Over £200,000	
Bromsgrove	Fleet Replacement	Environmental Services
Bromsgrove	Replacement Parking Machines	Engineering & Design
Bromsgrove	Refuse and Recycling products	Supplies
Bromsgrove	Microsoft Licenses	ICT
Bromsgrove	PROVIDE Kennelling of Dogs	WRS
Bromsgrove	Planning/GIS/Gazetteer	ICT
Bromsgrove	Supply of HVO fuel	Supplies
Bromsgrove	Air Quality Analysers	WRS
Bromsgrove	Data Access Services	ICT
	£50,000 to £200,000	
Bromsgrove	Idox Support & Maintenance	ICT
Bromsgrove	Server/SAN Replacement	ICT
Bromogrovo	Network Equipment Maintenance Contract via Framework RM6116-	ICT
Bromsgrove Bromsgrove	Vehicle Hire	Environmental - Fleet
Bromsgrove	Automation/Robotics	ICT
Bromsgrove	Web security subscription (Ironport)	ICT
Bromsgrove	GIS System	ICT
Bromsgrove	Web Filter	ICT
Bromsgrove	Community Transport	Community Services
Bromsgrove	VMware License & Support	
Bromsgrove	Digital Forms	WRS
Bromsgrove		WRS
Bromsgrove	Street Naming and Numbering	ICT
Bromsgrove	LogPoint SIEM	ICT
Bromsgrove	Cloud Storage	ICT
	Over £200,000 Purchased by Partner	
Joint	Corporate Building Electrical contract	Property Services
	Fire alarm, Extinguisher contract service	
Joint	contract	Property Services
Joint	Public Space CCTV Maintenance	CCTV and Lifeline
Joint	Lifeline Call handling	CCTV and Lifeline