









Planning and Licensing Committees

Quarterly Finance Report

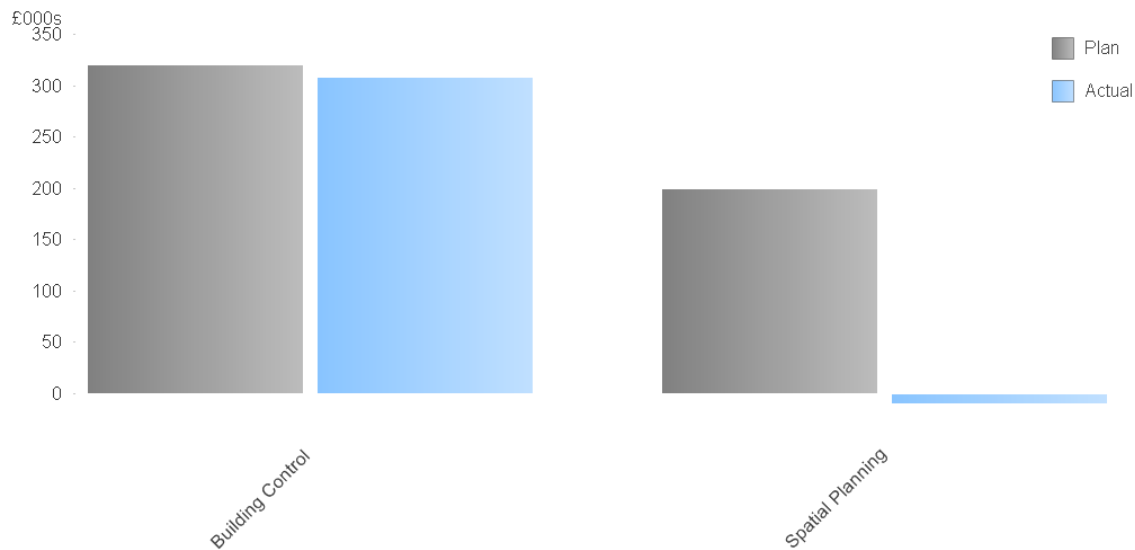
Report Period: Quarter 1, 2015/16

Dashboard

Quarter 1, 2015/16

Revenue Section							Page
Services	YTD	YTD Var £000s	Var %	Forecast	Forecast Var £000s	Var %	3,4
Building Control		(12)	(3.7)%		0	0.0%	
Spatial Planning		(208)	(104.6)%		(360)	(46.4)%	
Total		(219)	(42.4)%		(360)	(21.4)%	

Committee Net Revenue Expenditure: Year to Date Position



Planning and Licensing Committees overall position at the end of Quarter 1 is an under spend of £219k or 42.4% of the net budget.

The main reasons for this under spend are:

The **Belfast Planning Service** operates on annual estimated expenditure of £2.3m which is offset by estimated annual fee income of £1.5m.

Planning fees are paid in full on application and apportioned as income at various stages of completion, the allocation being calculated by a facility within the portal.

At the end of Quarter 1 the actual expenditure of £533k was £50k below the budgeted amount of £591k. This was due primarily to an under spend in employee costs.

In addition the estimated fee income of £393k for Quarter 1 was understated by £15k as the total amount allocated for work completed in the first quarter was £542k

The under spend in employee costs and additional income gives a net under spend in Planning of £208k for Quarter 1

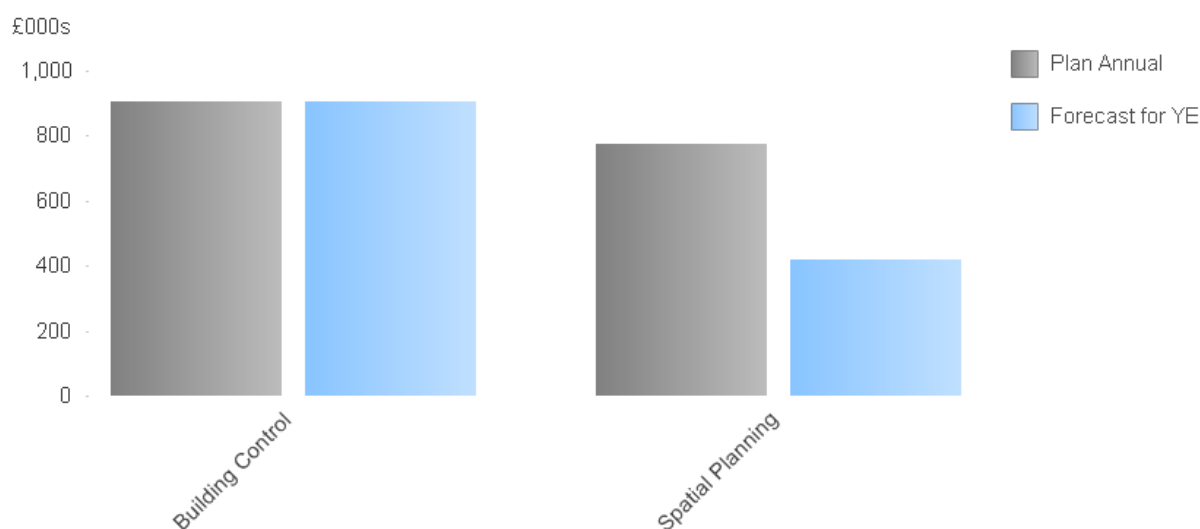
The **Building Control Service** operates on annual estimated expenditure of £3.9m which is offset by estimated annual fee income of £3m.

At the end of Quarter 1 the actual expenditure of £1,038k was £58k overspent which was due mainly to additional funds required for dangerous structures.

However, the estimated fee income of £666k for Quarter 1 was understated by £65k as additional income was received from plan fees

The overspend in supplies and services has been offset by the additional income giving a net under spend in Building Control of £12k (3.7%) for Quarter 1

Committee Net Revenue Expenditure: Forecast for Year End



The **Planning and Licensing Committees** overall forecast position for the year end is an under spend of £360k or 21.4% of the net budget.

The main reasons for this under spend are:

Income trends for the **Belfast Planning Service** are difficult to assess but it is likely to be in the region of £1.8m which is £270k above the budgeted target. It is also likely that employee costs will be underspent giving an overall under spend of £360k (46.4%).

However, it may be necessary to recruit additional staff to work on the Local Development Plan which will reduce this underspend

It is assumed that the full amount of £250k from the central non-recurring budget will be used for advertising and that any under spend in external legal costs will be considered as a specified reserve to provide for future legal costs eg judicial reviews.

We will consider how the assessment of advertising costs to the Belfast Planning Service will be reflected in the 2016/17 budget as part of the development of the 2016/17 revenue estimates.

The **Building Control Service** expects to receive additional income from fees and grants of approximately £145k however there will be funds required for additional staff to generate the fees and therefore expected that the Service will break even at year end.

Planning and Licensing Committees

Section Expenditure Budgetary Analysis & Forecast

Service	Plan YTD £000s	Actuals YTD £000s	Variance YTD £000s	% Variance	Annual Plan 2015/2016 £000s	Forecast for Y/E at P3 £000s	Forecast Variance £000s	% Variance
Building Control	319	308	(12)	(3.7)%	905	905	0	0.0%
Spatial Planning	198	(9)	(208)	(104.6)%	777	417	(360)	(46.4)%
Total	518	298	(219)	(42.4)%	1,681	1,321	(360)	(21.4)%