

Belfast City Council

Subject:	Financial Reporting – Quarter 2 2019/20
Date:	10 December 2019
Reporting Officer:	Aidan Thatcher, Director of Planning and Building Control
Contact Officer:	David Orr; Business Manager, Place and Economy Department

Restricted Reports		
Is this report restricted?	Yes No	\checkmark
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?		
After Committee Decision		
After Council Decision		
Some time in the future		
Never		

Call-in				
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes	✓	No]

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	This report presents the Quarter 2 financial position for the Planning Committee including a
	forecast of the year end outturn. It includes a reporting pack which contains a summary of
	the financial indicators and an executive summary (Appendix 1). It also provides a more
	detailed explanation of each of the relevant indicators and the forecast outturn for the year.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Members are asked to note the report and the associated financial reporting pack.
3.0	Main report

3.1	Overall Council Financial Position			
	The forecast year end position for the Council is an under spend of £154k which represents			
	a variance of 0.1% of the annual net expenditure budget. The district rate forecast from			
	Land and Property Services (LPS) is a clawback of £2.3m while the capital financing			
	budget is forecast to be underspent by £1.9m at the year end. This was reported to the			
	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee meeting of the 22nd November 2019 when			
	Members agreed that, given the departmental and district rate forecasts, no further			
	reallocations or cash flow payments will be considered until the Quarter 3 position is			
	presented to the Committee in February 2020.			
3.2	Committee Financial Position 2019/2020			
	The Quarter 2 position for the Committee is a net under spend of £544k (72.9%), with the			
	forecast year end position being an under spend of £326k (21.8%)			
	The main reasons for the Committee under spend relate to planning fees received			
	exceeding the anticipated level for the quarter by £352k offset by an under achievement of			
	£48k fee income in Building Control. Interim vacancies within Building Control and reduced			
	expenditure on dangerous structures have driven a £176k underspend in expenditure			
	budgets with other underspends across the Planning Service equating to £63k.			
3.3	Financial & Resource Implications			
	The report sets out the 2019/20 quarter 2 position.			
3.4	Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment			
	There are no equality implications with this report.			
4.0	Appendices			
4.1	Quarter 2 Performance Report			