

2023/24 Savings Monitoring Report
Place, Sustainability and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee
22nd April 2024

1 Summary position as at : 31st December 2023

£487 k variance from delivery target

	2023/24 Savings monitoring		
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
	Target	Delivered	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Communities	90	90	0
Place & Infrastructure	1,515	1,028	487
Total	1,605	1,118	487

2 Analysis of delivery against target for managerial and policy decisions:

Managerial £362 k Off delivery target
Policy £125 k Off delivery target

	MANAGERIAL			POLICY		
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
	Target	Delivered	Variance	Target	Delivered	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Communities	90	90	0	0	0	0
Place & Infrastructure	1,254	892	362	261	136	125
Total	1,344	982	362	261	136	125

3 Appendix G (i): Savings proposals not on target

Appendix G (ii): Savings proposals on target (for information)

DEPARTMENT	2022/23 Budget	FACT FILE	2023/24 Proposed	2023/24 Delivered	2023/24 Variance	EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION	REASON FOR VARIANCE
	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000		

Managerial - Off Target**Place & Infrastructure**

Departmental	net £52m		59	0	59	Review management structure	Comprehensive review of staffing / management structure based on the amalgamation of services to be undertaken but savings will not materialise in 23/24
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Highways & Transport

Parking Services	-1,232	The County Council provides off street car parking facilities in towns and villages to support the expeditious movement of traffic to enable town centres to function. Parking supports these wider transport policy objectives and enables the authority to maintain highway and public transport services. There are 57 car parks across the county.	40	0	40	Introduce a second camera enforcement vehicle, Business Case prepared	Difficulties with the procurement of a second camera car have delayed its introduction. The original supplier for the trial was unable to provide a vehicle and alternative supply arrangements are being investigated.
Total Highways & Transport division			40	0	40		

Waste & Environmental Services

Cleansing	2,674	The County Council maintain over 3,500km of roads throughout the County. The Cleansing Service provides for the sweeping and de-littering of streets and footways. The service includes mechanical sweeping of highways, footways and pedestrianised town centre areas, hand litter picking and emptying bins, chewing gum removal, graffiti and illegal poster removal, clearing up illegal dumping of rubbish and dog mess.	88	0	88	Phased purchase of plant (sweepers) and reduction in labour (agency).	Review of plant and resources is ongoing but savings will not be achieved in this financial year
Cleansing	Total Cleansing budget £2.674m	The County Council maintain over 3,500km of roads throughout the County. The Cleansing Service provides for the sweeping and de-littering of streets and footways. The service includes mechanical sweeping of highways, footways and pedestrianised town centre areas, hand litter picking and emptying bins, chewing gum removal, graffiti and illegal poster removal, clearing up illegal dumping of rubbish and dog mess.	75	0	75	Rationalisation of street cleansing activity	Review of plant and resources is ongoing but savings will not be achieved in this financial year
Waste services			100	0	100	Reduction in operational costs in CWM	Pending review of transfer stations logistics
Total Waste & Environmental Services			263	0	263		

Place & Infrastructure Total **362** **0** **362**

Policy - Off Target**Place & Infrastructure****Highways & Transport**

Parking Services	-----"	On-street permit parking areas prevents commuters parking in residential areas and ensures more parking opportunities for local residents and any business within the permit area	25	0	25	There is an administrative cost in receiving applications for on-street parking permits, checking eligibility and vehicle details, processing applications and issuing permits. There is also a cost to patrolling and enforcing the permit parking areas and maintaining road markings. Residents permits have cost £30 since 2009 and the proposal is to increase on-street permit charge to £40 per year to cover costs.	Price increases require completion of a legal process however this is delayed due to the implementation of the 20mph speed limits.
Total for Highways & Transport			25	0	25		

Waste & Environmental Services

Cleansing - Litter bin	-----"	The Cleansing Service provides in excess of 2,500 litter bins which are serviced as part of general cleansing operative duties.	100	0	100	We are looking to rationalise up to 20% of litter bins for the County. Following a review, we have seen that bins in laybys are often filled with household waste which is in contradiction to the initial purpose of these bins (i.e., fast food packaging). This rationalisation will deliver savings on Waste disposal charges, operative time and plant costs.	Service review has commenced - unlikely to achieve savings in 2023/24.
Total Waste & Environmental division			100	0	100		

Place & Infrastructure Total **125** **0** **125**

DEPARTMENT	2022/23 Budget	FACT FILE	2023/24 Proposed	2023/24 Delivered	2023/24 Variance	EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION
	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	

Managerial - On Target

Communities

Homes and Safer Communities

Public protection and CF Housing	3,345	Public Protection and CF housing services is part of Homes and Safer Communities. It provides a range of services in relation to Housing, Environmental Protection, Business and Consumer Affairs, Housing Options and Tenancy Support and Community Engagement.	30	30	0	Rationalise out of hours working. Better utilisation of Delta Well-Being for out of hours services.
Realignment of posts in Consumer and Business Affairs			50	50	0	Realignment of posts in Consumer and Business Affairs
Public protection	2,123	Public Protection and CF housing services is part of Homes and Safer Communities. It provides a range of services in relation to Housing, Environmental Protection, Business and Consumer Affairs, Housing Options and Tenancy Support and Community Engagement.	10	10	0	Comprehensive review of charging digest e.g. licences. Will need a comprehensive review and resource intensive Increase in some charges
Total Homes and Safer Communities			90	90	0	

Communities Total

90 90 0

Place & Infrastructure

Business Support & Performance

Business Support Unit	£40k non-pay budget	The BSU Division provides support and advice to all sections of the Department by providing a variety of financial, administrative, democratic, business support, learning development, health & safety and performance management services.	16	16	0	Reduction in office consumables, photocopying & postages
Total for Business Support & Performance			16	16	0	

Highways & Transport

Road Safety	243	The Road Safety Unit is responsible for delivery of road safety initiatives to meet road casualty reduction targets. The unit has responsibility for road safety education, training and publicity, the School crossing patrol service, national driver improvement schemes and road safety outside schools.	5	5	0	Road Safety Innovation - the service will develop income streams and sponsorship. If sponsorship is not delivered a budget cut will be made
Parking Services	-----"	-----"	30	30	0	New fixed camera enforcement sites to tackle congestion & improve road safety, New sites to enforce yellow box blocking and banned turning movements
Traffic Management	391	Implement road safety/speed management schemes in accordance with statutory obligations.	15	15	0	Three year moratorium on new speed limits not included within 20mph legislation unless overriding safety issue
Traffic Management	-----"	-----"	11	11	0	£10k - Limit number of prohibition of waiting orders processed per year with emphasis on safety rationale. £0.75k - Increase charge for Tourism signs, currently £100 for assessing application, works costs are extra, we currently process around 5 applications per year. Suggest increase to £250
Traffic Management	391	Implement road safety/speed management schemes in accordance with statutory obligations.	5	5	0	Introduce charge for deferred TTRO applications of £350. In 2022/23 we expect to have revised road closures for 15 projects to applicants delaying start of works.
Traffic Management	391	Implement road safety/speed management schemes in accordance with statutory obligations.	15	15	0	Reduce budget allocated to TRO for parking issues, Focus on sites with evidenced safety issue
Asset Utilisation - Client budget reductions Invest to Save	various across the dept	Use of vehicles and plant with service users.	10	10	0	Review the utilisation of plant for all services within the department.
Road Safety and Traffic Management	634	The Traffic Management & Road Safety Unit investigates and strives to prevent road accidents by utilising a mix of engineering, education and enforcement interventions across Carmarthenshire. With the third highest traffic volumes in Wales, managing the expeditious movement of traffic and improving road safety on the second highest length of road network in Wales, requires prudent management of a limited resource.	50	50	0	Increased income from Road Closures due to increased utility activity, this will be kept under review for future years due to its reactive nature.
Street Works	58	Co-ordination and management of all works affecting public highways in accordance with the Traffic Management Act - including utility works. Supervision of new housing estate roads in preparation for future adoption by Carmarthen County Council under section 38 of the Highways Act.	31	31	0	£15k - Additional income generation from Street Works compliance issues if the Compliance and Enforcement Officer role is created and filled. £20k - Additional income from an increased coring programme subject to creation and appointment of the Compliance and Enforcement Officer role and procurement process. Cost Recovery not income generation i.e. Retrospective charge for sub standard reinstatement work identified from coring sampling of reinstated works undertaken by utility companies.

DEPARTMENT	2022/23 Budget	FACT FILE	2023/24 Proposed	2023/24 Delivered	2023/24 Variance	EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION
	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	
Highways - Public Lighting & stopping up orders	1,382	Provision and maintenance of Street lighting and ancillary equipment. <u>Stopping Up Orders</u> are made when sections of the existing highway become redundant. This happens for example when a road improvement is undertaken, land within the extent of the original highway limit that has become redundant is then stopped up via a legislative process and reverts to the landowner. Where there is a formal request received from a landowner to Stop Up an area of highway land, the proposal is to charge the respective landowner the associated costs for undertaking this work.	7	7	0	£4k - Increase cost for switching off / on traffic signals for roadworks - increase charge from £250 to £350 (approx. 30-40 switch offs per year) Powys charge £400, Pembrokeshire 2 hours, Swansea £225 or £312 Out Of Hours. £3k - increase income target for Stopping Up Orders
Highway Services	-----"	-----"	26	26	0	Depot Storesperson (Cillefwr Depot) ~ Depot Storesperson post has remained vacant since Oct 2021 following promotion of the Storesperson to Depot Foreperson. Management of the depot stores, waste transfer station and servicing and maintenance of the light plant & tools has continued to be undertaken effectively. No requirement to back-fill the post.
Highway Services	-----"	-----"	80	80	0	£30k - General Mtce / Minor Works ~ Reduce general maintenance budget - subject to the financial position remaining unchanged the service will be forced to further reduce the level of general maintenance work. Negative impact on general maintenance work, total revenue and capital budget is insufficient to meet demand. Backlog of maintenance works will continue to increase leading to claims. Reduction in work raises the level of overhead recovery unless there is a corresponding reduction in overheads. £25k - Signs ~ Reduce maintenance budget and prioritise work in line with the risk based / network hierarchy approach laid down in the HAMP. Negative impact on maintenance work. £25k - Road Studs ~ Reduce maintenance budget and prioritise work in line with the risk based / network hierarchy approach laid down in the HAMP. Negative impact on maintenance work.
Highway Services	-----"	-----"	10	10	0	Rationalisation of mechanical plant and equipment and reconfiguration of construction gangs. Plant and equipment to be reviewed across all sectors, North West (Llandovery) currently has the smallest workload for construction works.
School Transport	3,645	Provision of home to primary/secondary/special schools transport in accordance with statutory obligations. Provision of transport in the post-16 sector is a discretionary service. Provision of passenger assistants for pupils with Additional Learning Needs	30	30	0	Additional Needs Personal Travel Budgets. Parents will be offered a personal travel budget to help reduce demand on the Authority.
Technical Surveys	-----"	-----"	20	20	0	Reduce technical surveys. Reduce drainage (mapping & condition surveys) and geotechnical surveys
Total Highways & Transport division			345	345	0	

Waste & Environmental Services

Reduction Black bag waste	8,504	Targeted campaigns to reduce waste and increase the awareness and use of all recycling schemes/initiatives. It is anticipated that this will result in the diversion of waste from the residual waste stream to the recycling waste stream, thereby realising savings due to the differential in the treatment costs as set out.	35	35	0	Anticipated savings due to differential in gate fee between blue bag and black bag treatment as a result of proposed kerbside black bag restrictions.
Crematorium	0	Park Gwyn Crematorium, Narberth	17	17	0	Crematorium income
Environmental Enforcement	570	Environmental enforcement relating to litter control, fly-tipping, dog fouling, nuisance vehicles, abandoned vehicles, graffiti and fly posting offences.	30	30	0	Enforcement realignment
Bring sites - Operational	401	Bring sites are located across the County to provide recycling facilities within communities. They currently cater for glass deposits.	37	37	0	Potential to reduce the number of service vehicles due to fewer Community Bring Sites being operated. The saving is phased over two financial years to reflect the introduction of kerbside glass collections from October 2022 with half the savings delivered in 22/23 and the balance in 23/24.
Waste Services - operational	3,141	The operational budget includes for the provision of resources, including vehicles and premises to effect the kerbside waste collection service.	10	10	0	A review of garden waste collection leased vehicles for 2023/24 with the potential to purchase vehicles meaning a reduction in revenue spend with a required capital purchase of vehicles. 2025/26 - Review of waste rounds and depot utilisation, subject to the conclusions of detailed route planning for the kerbside collection rounds.
Food waste liner consortium procurement	341	The Authority currently provides Corn-Starch food waste liners for our food waste recycling scheme to all households as part of an Annual delivery.	200	200	0	As part of our treatment contract the contractor has a requirement to remove all food waste bags as part of the pre-treatment solution and conform to an end product industry regulation. At present three neighbouring Authorities use different liners to Carmarthenshire at a significantly reduced cost. A move to a joint procurement with our neighbouring authorities for these liners would deliver significant savings.
Closed Landfill	265	We currently manage the ongoing aftercare at two former refuse landfill sites - Nantycaws (Phase 1) in Carmarthen and Wern Ddu in Ammanford. This includes dealing with leachate from the landfill sites and ensuring the adequacy and functionality of the infrastructure, including drainage systems.	10	10	0	Reduction in maintenance of infrastructure.

DEPARTMENT	2022/23 Budget	FACT FILE	2023/24 Proposed	2023/24 Delivered	2023/24 Variance	EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION
	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	
Grounds maintenance - Reduced sub-contractor work	1,272	The Grounds Maintenance Section incorporates the direct responsibility of managing and maintaining parks and playgrounds, inland water areas and a large number of public open spaces within Carmarthenshire. It also maintains grounds for many other departments of the County Council such as Social Care and Housing, Cultural Services, Education and many individual schools. The Section also has numerous external clients such as Town and Community Councils and private sports clubs.	70	70	0	Reduce the reliance on sub-contractors through greater internal efficiencies.
Grounds maintenance - Reduced sub-contractor work	1,272	The Grounds Maintenance Section incorporates the direct responsibility of managing and maintaining parks and playgrounds, inland water areas and a large number of public open spaces within Carmarthenshire. It also maintains grounds for many other departments of the County Council such as Social Care and Housing, Cultural Services, Education and many individual schools. The Section also has numerous external clients such as Town and Community Councils and private sports clubs.	30	30	0	Grounds - additional sub-contractor efficiencies
Waste, Grounds and Cleansing	no specific budget	A review of consumables; PPE and Water	10	10	0	At present we provide an annual stock of single-use water bottles during the summer season to all staff. We propose to provide a single re-usable water container to all operational staff with access to drinking water re-fill stations. A review of PPE provision - Gloves, and clothing. With the provision of higher quality items meaning reduced ongoing replacement costs.
Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC)	total budget for Waste is £18.2m	There are currently four HWRCs located across the County that serve all communities.	67	67	0	Technology driven efficiencies at HWRC sites
Public Conveniences	210	Carmarthenshire County Council currently oversees the running and servicing of 19 publicly accessible traditional stand-alone toilet blocks throughout the county.	15	15	0	Public Toilet Rate Relief - 100% rate relief is available to occupied properties in the rating list described as Public Lavatories/Conveniences.
Total Waste & Environmental Services			531	531	0	

Place & Infrastructure Total**892 892 0****Policy - On Target****Place & Infrastructure****Highways & Transport**

Countryside Access	982	The Public Rights of Way network (PROW) extends over 2000Km and includes a range of paths, byways and bridleways. A network hierarchy has been introduced to focus limited resources on the most popular and key routes. Where vegetation encroaches over a PROW it is normally the adjacent landowner's responsibility to cut the vegetation back. The Council's responsibility normally only relates to the surface of the route.	15	15	0	Cease discretionary clearance by Contractors (3 cuts per year) of overhanging and encroaching vegetation on 70% of the promoted PROW network (132km) and engage with landowners to ensure they take responsibility for their encroaching vegetation
Parking Services	-----"-----"	There are 57 car parks currently maintained by the Council. Sometimes these car parks are used for Mobile banks, fairs, filming, construction and utility compounds.	10	10	0	We are proposing a charge for the commercial use of these car parks.
Traffic Management			8	8	0	Decrease number of School Crossing Patrols - CCC have currently got 42 sites with only an estimated 30 sites that meet the threshold criteria for SCP.
Nant y Ci Park & Ride	50	The park and ride facility at Nant-y-Ci includes a shuttle bus service which links to Carmarthen town centre and Glangwili Hospital. Use of the service is particularly low with a current average of 4.3 passengers per trip. However, this also includes people living in the area surrounding Nant-y-Ci who walk to the site to catch one of the half hourly service. This reduces the viability of alternative bus services which run nearby but on a less frequent basis.	40	40	0	Withdrawal of service between Nant-y-Ci, Town Centre and Glangwili Hospital. The service is part funded by Hywel Dda health board and discussions will take place before any service change.
Total for Highways & Transport			73	73	0	

Waste & Environmental Services

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC)	total budget for Waste is £18.2m	There are currently four HWRCs located across the County that serve all communities. With Trostre, Nantycaws and Wernddu HWRCs open 7 days a week and Whitland open 5 days.	63	63	0	This proposal focuses on the rationalisation of the days and times that the sites are open based upon usage. 1. Change of Whitland opening hours - 10am -4pm all year - £7,500 2. Change Nantycaws and Wernddu to close on one week day based on site usage - £55,500
Total Waste & Environmental division			63	63	0	

Place & Infrastructure Total**136 136 0**

Savings Monitoring Report - 2022/23 brought forward
Place, Sustainability and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee
22nd April 2024

1 Summary position as at : 31st December 2023

£130 k variance from delivery target

	2022/23 Savings monitoring		
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
	Target	Delivered	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Communities	0	0	0
Place & Infrastructure	130	0	130
	130	0	130

2 Analysis of delivery against target for managerial and policy decisions:

Managerial
Policy

£130 k Off delivery target
£0 k ahead of target

	MANAGERIAL			POLICY		
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
	Target	Delivered	Variance	Target	Delivered	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Communities	0	0	0	0	0	0
Place & Infrastructure	130	0	130	0	0	0
	130	0	130	0	0	0

3 Appendix G (iv): Savings proposals not delivered in 2022/23

DEPARTMENT	2021/22 Budget	FACT FILE	2022/23 Not achieved	2022/23 Delivered in 2023/24	2023/24 Variance	EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION	REASON FOR VARIANCE
	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000		

Managerial - Off Target

Place & Infrastructure

Highways & Transport

Parking Services	(£1,066)	The County Council provides off street car parking facilities in towns and villages to support the expeditious movement of traffic to enable town centres to function. Parking supports these wider transport policy objectives and enables the authority to maintain highway and public transport services. There are 57 car parks across the county.	125	0	125	Parking services charges increases effective January 2021. Additional income added to budget on a phased approach basis, recognising the impact of COVID on reduced usage. This saving does not require any further increase.	Parking services are showing a £228k overspend on the December budget monitoring report due to reduced footfall in town centres. Parking fee increase of 5% due to be implemented.
Road Safety	184	The Road Safety Unit is responsible for delivery of road safety initiatives to meet road casualty reduction targets. The unit has responsibility for road safety education, training and publicity, the School crossing patrol service, national driver improvement schemes and road safety outside schools.	5	0	5	Road Safety Innovation - the service will develop income streams and sponsorship.	Report prepared for consideration and approval, due diligence was required to ensure risks were evaluated and mitigation measures in place to safeguard the authority.
Total Highways & Transport division			130	0	130		

Place & Infrastructure Total

130 0 130

Policy - Off Target

NOTHING TO REPORT