

**General Fund Budget Monitoring Statement for Period April 2004 – December 2004**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Budget £000</b>	<b>Projected Outturn £000</b>	<b>Over/(Under) spend £000</b>	<b>Note</b>
Central Resources	1,749	1,699	(50)	1
Community Services	4,763	4,847	84	2
Housing Services (General Fund)	202	288	86	3
Management Support Unit	828	881	53	4
Regeneration	1,383	1,244	(139)	5
Corporate Management	513	467	(46)	6
Technical Items	800	531	(269)	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,238</b>	<b>9,957</b>	<b>(281)</b>	

**Central Resources – Note 1**

- (i) Increased subsidy from Government for payment of housing/council tax benefit - **£130,000 under spend**
- (ii) Unbudgeted liability for accommodation costs associated with Wear Valley Training - **£38,000 over spend**
- (iii) Estimation error on central postage costs - **£10,000 over spend**
- (iv) Underestimation of prepayments on car leasing scheme when previous years budgets were prepared - **£10,000 over spend**
- (v) Durham County Council charges for land charges higher than budgeted and additional software costs - **£30,000 over spend**

**Community Services – Note 2**

- (i) Contribution to new organisation managing Wolsingham Pool financed from Community Investment Fund - **£11,000 under spend**
- (ii) Increased costs on sports events. This is partly due to budgeting errors and income received in 2003/04 that was properly due in 2004/05 - **£15,000 over spend**
- (iii) Projected shortfall on cemetery income due to delay in implementing memorial wall plan - **£15,000 over spend**
- (iv) Decision not to implement budget saving relating to Public Conveniences - **£10,000 over spend**
- (v) Increased car parking income - **£75,000 under spend**
- (vi) Costs of land drainage due to flooding - **£8,000 over spend**

- (vii) Costs of national non-domestic rates on car parks due to extension of pay and display in Bishop Auckland - **£16,000 over spend**
- (viii) Delay in implementation of departure charges at Bishop Auckland Bus Station - **£14,000 over spend**
- (ix) Shortfall in market income – **£20,000 over spend**

### **Housing Services (General Fund) – Note 3**

- (i) Shortfall in funding from Supporting People pot due to reduced grant rates and falling demand for the service - **£65,000 over spend**

### **Management Services Unit – Note 4**

- (i) No major variances

### **Regeneration – Note 5**

- (i) Additional income forecast for building control fees due to increased building activity - **£60,000 under spend.**
- (ii) Empty homes initiative fully funded by Neighbourhood Renewal Fund - **£54,000 under spend**
- (iii) Additional planning delivery grant of £199,000 in 2004/05 to be used for additional staffing, IT purchases, training and consultancy. Additional income is matched by additional expenditure.
- (iv) Additional planning fee income forecast due to increased building activity - **£50,000 under spend.**
- (vi) Higher rental income at Innovation House - **£10,000 under spend**
- (vii) Saving in operation of Durham Dales Centre due to rebate from County Council - **£20,000 under spend**
- (viii) Bad debt provision required for works in default - **£20,000 over spend**

### **Corporate Management – Note 6**

- (i) No major variances to report.

### **Technical Items – Note 7**

- (i) Rescheduling of loan debt following advice from external treasury management consultants - **£180,000 under spend**
- (ii) Additional investment income forecast due to improved cash flow and increasing interest rates - **£110,000 under spend.**