

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

28 NOVEMBER 2019

6

Report Title	COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE REVENUE ESTIMATES – REVISED 2019/20 AND ORIGINAL 2020/21
Purpose of Report	To present to the committee the revised estimates for 2019/20 and original estimates for 2020/21.
Decision(s)	<p>The Committee RECOMMENDS to Strategy and Resources Committee</p> <p>a) The revised Community Services and Licensing revenue budget for 2019/20 and original 2020/21 revenue budget are approved.</p> <p>b) The Fees and Charges list as shown at Appendix B is approved.</p> <p>c) That the Culture, Arts and Leisure Reserve is committed to fund a full strategic review of the activities of the Council and partners at Stratford Park.</p>
Consultation and Feedback	Consultation has been undertaken with residents and businesses. Feedback on the outcome of the consultation will be provided to members in January 2020.
Financial Implications & Risk Assessment	<p>This report sets out the draft budget relating to the Committee for 2020/21. This will form part of the budget setting process to be considered by Strategy and Resources Committee in January 2020 and Council in February 2020.</p> <p>Andrew Cummings, Strategic Director of Resources Tel: 01453 754115 Email: andrew.cummings@stroud.gov.uk</p>
Legal Implications	<p>There are no legal implications arising from this report.</p> <p>Patrick Arran, Interim Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer Tel: 01453 754369 Email: patrick.arran@stroud.gov.uk</p>
Report Author	<p>Adele Rudkin, Accountant Tel: 01453 754109 Email: adele.rudkin@stroud.gov.uk</p>
Options	The Administration will be considering its budget options at the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting on 30 January 2020. Council will consider the overall budget position for 2020/21 on 20 February 2020.

Performance Management Follow Up	Budget monitoring reports are presented to Committee in September, November and March each year. Members will be informed of the outturn position for 2019/20 at the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting in May 2020.
Background Papers and Appendices	Appendix A – Committee’s detailed budget Appendix B – Fees and charges

Background

1. The Budget Strategy report to Strategy and Resources Committee in October 2019 set out the way in which the Council would approach setting budgets for the forthcoming financial year.
2. Members will be aware from both the 2019/20 budget and MTFP (approved in January 2019) and the Budget Strategy reports, the Council is facing a number of financial challenges in 2020/21 and future years. A budget deficit has been forecast in the latter part of the medium term due to anticipated reductions in the level of Government funding and inflationary/cost pressures across the Council’s services. The Committee’s service revenue budgets have been prepared in accordance with the budget framework set out in the Budget Strategy report.
3. The Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) report to Strategy and Resources will set out a projection of General Fund expenditure over the medium term 2020/21 to 2023/24. This report sets out a more detailed analysis of the changes to the Community Services and Licensing Committee budget for 2019/20 (Revised Estimates) and 2020/21 (Original Estimates).
4. **It would be helpful where members have questions on matters of detail if they could be referred to the report author or the appropriate service manager before the meeting.**

Revenue Budget position

5. The original budget for the Community Services and Licensing Committee was **£3.334m**. This has been revised in 2019/20 following adjustments to reflect the work force plan savings (previous policy decision as identified in budget monitoring report), carry forwards and re-profiling of service budgets.
6. This has subsequently been used as the base estimate for both 2019/20 revised and 2020/21 original estimates. The revised estimates incorporate changes arising from budget pressures and efficiency savings. The original budget approved in February 2019 has only changed as a result of items reported to the Committee in budget monitoring reports.
7. The original estimate for Community Services and Licensing budget for 2020/21 is **£2.856m a decrease of £298k** on the base budget. This is largely due to the following significant budget changes, as outlined in table one below.

Table 1 – Summary of changes from the 2019/20 Original Budget

Community Services and Licensing Committee		2019/20 Revised Estimate (000's)	2020/21 Original Estimate (000's)
Base Budget		3,334	3,154
Virements/adjustments	8	(180)	(153)
Recurring changes:	9		
Pay increases			80
Fees and charges growth			(36)
Contract increases			6
Proposed budget adjustments	10		(194)
Net Service Budget		3154	2,856

(Table subject to roundings)

8. In year virements/adjustments

In year virements include carry forwards from prior year, re-distribution of corporate maintenance budgets according to the proposed schedule of works within each Committee, removal of TIC budgets in 2019/20, Revenues and Benefits work force plan savings (previous policy decision), alignment of budgets to agreed establishment structures and re-allocation of Directors budgets to Strategy and Resources.

9. Inflation

a) Pay Inflation - £80k

The 2020/21 salary budgets have been increased by an initial 2.5% in line with budget strategy.

b) Fees & Charges Growth – (£36k)

Fees and charges budgets have been inflated by 2.5% unless stated otherwise on the fees and charges appendix.

A full list of fees and charges for this committee is included in Appendix B.

c) Contract Increases - £6k

Contract inflation has been updated in line with the Budget Strategy, this includes insurance uplift, software budgets, business rates and the Multi Service Contract (Grounds maintenance and building cleaning).

10. Budget Pressures & Savings

Table 2 provides a detailed overview of the budget pressures and savings for 2020/21, which have been incorporated into the General Fund budget.

Table 2 – Budget Pressures and Savings

SERVICE	Para Refs	REASON FOR PRESSURE/SAVING	2020/21 (£'000)
Public Spaces	11	Amenity Areas (playgrounds)	15
Stratford Park	12	Reduction in income (Stratford Park)	10
Various	13	Additional Corporate Maintenance pressure identified across the Committee	28
Various		Minor Budget Adjustments	7
Subtotal - Pressures			60
Subscription Rooms	14	Remove Sub Rooms grant	(226)
Tourist Information Centre	15	Remove TIC budget	(14)
Community Health & Wellbeing	16	Community Health & Wellbeing (salary saving)	(14)
Subtotal - Savings			(253)
Total Community Services & Licensing			(194)

11. Amenity Areas - £15k pressure

This pressure has been identified for ongoing maintenance of play areas across the district. 8 sites have been identified as worn and we are responsible for ensuring these areas are meeting health and safety standards.

12. Stratford Park - £10k pressure

The agreement between Stroud District Council and South Gloucestershire and Stroud College for the use of the Car Park comes to end in 2020. The College have indicated that they will not renew the agreement so therefore there is a loss of income of £10k.

13. Corporate Maintenance - £28k pressure

Building costs have increased significantly over past 10 years and will continue to rise in the immediate future. The maintenance backlog is rising along with new properties acquired by the Council. The revenue budget has not reflected these increases and also the Capital Funding for the maintenance backlog was removed in Dec 2016. The £28k pressure represents Community Service and Licensing's share of the Corporate Maintenance budget which includes Public Conveniences, The Pulse and The Museum in the Park.

14. Subscription Rooms – (£226k) saving

Removal of the one year maintenance grant that was part of the Subscription Rooms agreement when it was transferred to the Trust.

15. Tourist Information Centre – (£14k) saving

Following the decision to close the TIC a one off grant (£14k) was awarded to Market Towns to allow them to improve their offering of tourist information. This has now been taken out the budget for 2020/21 increasing the total saving to (£82k).

16. Health & Wellbeing – (£14k) saving

A re-structure within the Sports & Health Development Team has resulted in a saving within the budget.

17. Use of Reserves

The Council currently holds a reserve of £130k towards Culture, Arts and Leisure activities. A future meeting of this committee will consider the need to carry out a full strategic review of activities at Stratford Park. This review will consider the provision of not only services at the Leisure Centre but also wider activities of the Council and others within the park. This Committee requests that Strategy and Resources Committee allocate that reserve towards the costs of consultants and other costs as necessary for that review.

18. Capital

Table three below outlines the capital schemes that the Committee is responsible for. The Q1 budget monitoring that was reported to this Committee September 2019 forecast that the spend on both Stratford Park Lido and Community Building Investment schemes would now be re-profiled into 2020/21 and 2021/22.

These changes have been reflected in the table below, but at this stage, no further changes have been incorporated into the Capital Programme. Council will consider the Capital Programme and the Capital Strategy at their meeting in January 2020.

Table 3 – Capital schemes 2019/20 and 2020/21

		2019/20 Original Budget (£'000)	2019/20 Revised Budget (£'000)	2020/21 Original Budget (£'000)
Community Services Capital Schemes	Para Refs			
Community Buildings Investment		0	0	117
Stratford Park Lido		200	0	30
Community Services Capital Schemes TOTAL		200	0	147

		2019/20 Original Budget (£'000)	2019/20 Revised Budget (£'000)	2020/21 Original Budget (£'000)
Community Services Committee	Para Refs			
Community Safety		24	36	14
Abandoned Vehicles		3	3	0
Careline Services		(89)	(89)	(103)
Neighbourhood Wardens		194	194	227
Car Parks Enforcement		40	40	43
Stroud and Dursley CCTV		37	37	27
Community Safety		208	220	207
Museum in the Park		378	387	397
Subscription Rooms	14	230	230	4
Tourism	15	92	24	10
Cultural Services - Arts and Culture		700	640	411
Community Health & Wellbeing	16	169	205	158
Cultural Services - Community Health & Wellbeing		169	205	158
Joint Use Sports Centres		0	0	0
Stratford Park Leisure Centre		122	124	122
The Pulse		(292)	(277)	(327)
Cultural Services - Sports Centres		(170)	(153)	(205)
Customer Service Centre		387	387	398
Customer Services		387	387	398
Director (Customer Services)		135	23	0
Director (Customer Services)		135	23	0
Grants to Voluntary Organisations		337	337	341
Grants to Voluntary Organisations		337	337	341
Licensing		(62)	(62)	(61)
Licensing		(62)	(62)	(61)
Public Space Service	11	526	526	547
Cemeteries		27	27	28
Amenity Areas		136	154	150
Commons and Woodlands		14	14	14
Stratford Park	12	190	203	212
Grassed Areas Contribution to HRA		170	170	170
Public Conveniences		215	220	247
Street Naming Maintenance		9	9	5
Public Spaces		1,286	1,323	1,371

		2019/20 Original Budget (£'000)	2019/20 Revised Budget (£'000)	2020/21 Original Budget (£'000)
Community Services Committee	Para Refs			
Business Rate Collection		(119)	(111)	(102)
Creditors		39	72	78
Council Tax Collection		208	196	207
Council Tax Support Administration		52	(4)	20
Rent Allowances and Rebates		(77)	(77)	(178)
Housing Benefit Administration		142	53	106
Revenues and Benefits		244	129	131
Hear by Right / Youth Services		101	106	103
Youth Services		101	106	103
Community Services and Licensing TOTAL		3,334	3,154	2,856

(Budgets are shown excluding support service charges, depreciation and technical adjustments. Table is subject to roundings)