

COMMITTEE REPORT

Subject:	<i>Budget Monitoring Report for 2026/27 to the end of July</i>
Committee:	<i>The Environment Committee</i>
Item Number:	<i>Item 8</i>
Date:	<i>28 September 2026</i>
Author:	<i>Jay Gawthorpe, Head of Environment</i>
Report status:	<i>Noting</i>
Confidential / Exempt:	<i>No</i>

1. Report Summary

- 1.1. This report provides the Committee with a statement of income and expenditure, comparing actual expenditure and income against that budgeted for the period to the end of July 2026. Any budget heading showing variances over £50,000 are discussed in the report.
- 1.2. Budget monitoring reports will be presented to every committee meeting using the latest available monthly budget monitoring information in accordance with Financial Regulation 4.8 and the resolution of Full Council at its meeting on 4 March 2024.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1 Notes the Committee's financial position at the end of July.

3. Background

- 3.1 The budget monitoring report for the Environment Committee is appended to this report – see **Appendix A**.
- 3.2 The report uses the following conventions:

In the Budget and Actual columns

- Expenditure is shown as **black numbers**
- Income is shown as **(red numbers in brackets)**

In the Variance columns

- 'Bad' variances (over-spends) are shown as **black numbers**
- 'Good' variances (under-spends) are shown as **(red numbers in brackets)**

4. Explanation of significant Revenue variances

- 4.1 Budget holders are expected to scrutinise their regular budget monitoring reports throughout the year, taking corrective action as necessary and being able to explain any variances.
- 4.2 Financial Regulation 4.8 requires all budget holders to explain any material variances over £50,000. In addition, budget holders are also invited to explain any large variances up to £50,000 if considered of particular corporate importance.
- 4.3 **Appendix A** sets out the July-end results for the Environment Committee cost centres, which appear overspent by almost £52k. There is only one significant variance over £20k which is explained below:

Parking Income (CAR ENV 73001)

- 4.4 The £29k under-achievement of income is partly due to this year's budget being increased by £41k as part of the cost improvement plan and partly due to an unrealistic budget profile. This has now been rectified for P5 monitoring onwards.
- 4.5 Additionally unplanned reactive repair works had to be taken on both Hudsons Field and Castle Road car parks where the car park matting had failed.

Parks and Open Spaces (POS ENV)

- 4.6 The £31k underspend is mainly attributed to a £15k underspend on salaries and associated costs as well as an underspend of £10k on the ring-fenced tree planting budget as tree planting does not take place during the summer months.

5. Explanation of significant Project variances

- 5.1 **Appendix B** indicates an overall £80k total overspend on this Committee's projects (previously referred to as 'capital schemes'), although only £6k impacts on the revenue account. A short update on each project will be provided separately on the committee meeting agenda.

6. Implications

Implication Area	Impact	Comments / Mitigation
Financial	Medium	The Council's financial position directly impacts upon its available funds and the achievability of its medium-term financial plan objectives. Significant over-spends or under-achievement of planned surpluses could impact services delivered to residents, prevent planned activities, lead to liquidity problems, service cuts and even insolvency.
Legal	Low	Significant budget overspends and losses can only be met from general reserves which, if seriously depleted can result in unlawful expenditure.
Risk	Medium	Financial discipline (or lack thereof) is a major factor in the success or failure of the Council's medium term financial plan and its service delivery objectives. Effective budget monitoring should give early warnings, enabling corrective action to be taken to keep plans on-track.
Personnel	Low	The recent Job Evaluation exercise has updated officer job

		descriptions and, where applicable, clarified financial responsibilities within roles. Where managers identify areas for development, clarification, or support, these should be raised with Finance so that any gaps in budget understanding, monitoring or forecasting can be addressed.
Environmental Impact	Low	The approved annual budget and medium-term financial plan presume that services are delivered in compliance with the Council's environmental objectives. Annual budget bids, in-year virements and other mechanisms are available to address any changes in environmental conditions.
Equalities Impact Statement	None	No known impacts at this time.
Community / Public Impact	Medium	Budgets are tools to assist the Council to deliver its planned services. The purpose of this report is to highlight potential problems area sufficiently early to enable corrective action to be taken to avoid adverse impacts on service delivery to communities and the public.
Procurement / Contractual	Medium	The approved annual budget and medium-term financial plan presume that the financial impact of any contract changes have been factored in. (Low impact) Annual budget bids, in-year virements and other mechanisms are available to address the financial impact of procurement and contract decisions.
Property / Asset	Low	The approved annual budget and medium-term financial plan presume that teams have sufficient resources, including the necessary property/assets to deliver their services. Annual budget bids, in-year virements and other mechanisms are available to address any property/asset requirements.
Data Protection	None	Not relevant

7. Appendices / Background Papers

7.1 Appendix A – Revenue Cost Centres

7.2 Appendix B – Projects ('Capital Programme')

Appendix A

Salisbury City Council Budget Monitoring 2026/27 Period 4 July

Cost Centre		FULL YEAR BUDGET BEFORE ADJUSTMENTS	FULL YEAR BUDGET AFTER ADJUSTMENTS	PROFILED BUDGET	ACTUAL NET EXPENDITURE / (INCOME)	VARIANCE £
CRP	Investment Properties	(101,495)	(220,427)	(34,320)	(25,517)	8,803
CTV	Closed Circuit Television	130,347	140,702	44,135	44,505	370
FAC	Facilities	474,922	451,211	75,979	60,010	(15,969)
LBT	Lower Bemerton Trust	6,435	6,435	6,410	18,419	12,010
POS	Parks & Open Spaces	1,496,978	1,514,255	484,425	453,064	(31,361)
ALL	Allotments	7,036	1,722	17,657	23,813	6,155
PWC	Public Conveniences	160,789	166,000	55,989	76,800	20,811
SSS	Street Scene	1,223,723	1,211,404	450,163	459,758	9,595
CAR	Car Parks	(182,409)	(217,022)	(59,950)	(28,691)	31,260
CCC	Camping & Caravan Club	(83,116)	(68,829)	(84,276)	(77,648)	6,628
PAV	Pavilions	63,015	55,654	21,869	20,329	(1,540)
DEP	Depot	151,430	176,365	67,715	72,814	5,099
		3,347,655	3,217,470	1,045,795	1,097,656	51,860

Appendix B

Salisbury City Council Budget Monitoring 2026/27 Period 4 July

Cost Centre	ORIGINAL BUDGET BEFORE ADJUSTMENTS	REVISED BUDGET AFTER ADJUSTMENTS	PROFILED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE / (INCOME)	VARIANCE £	VARIANCE %
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RECURRING

Z12	Urban Tree Challenge	30,240	-		-	
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PROJECTS - B/F FROM 2025/26

Z16	Depot De-watering bay (cap)	133,515	45,000	108,774	63,774	142%
Z17	Depot De-watering bay (s106)	200,000			-	
Z32	Rowbarrow s.106	25,733		10,751	10,751	
Z57	River Park tractor	75,000			-	
Z13	Wyndham Park Wall	85,000			-	

PROJECTS - NEW

Z45	Poultry Cross			1,840	1,840	
Z63	Market Place Toilet refurbishment	270,000	270,000	4,067	4,067	
Z64	Central Toilets refurbishment	40,000	40,000		-	
Z62	Depot Solar & Battery Storage (rev)	30,000	30,000		-	
Z59	QE Gardens Bridges s.106		39,830		-	
Z15	Depot Solar & Battery Storage (cap)	119,562	119,562			
		489,802	1,018,640	45,000	125,432	80,432

Funded from Capital receipts pot	119,562	253,077	45,000	108,774	63,774
Funded from S.106 pot	0	340,563	0	10,751	10,751
Funded from CIL pot	0	85,000	0		0

Funded from Revenue	370,240	340,000	0	5,907	5,907
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Governance

Jan 25 MTFP cell F60; bid 10.25

Full Council special delegated decision 16/4/26

Jan 24 Cap Prog

26/5/26 Full Council minute 17.1

Jan 25 MTFP cell F45

Jan 26 MTFP cell F22; bid 1.18

Jan 26 MTFP cell F22; bid 1.29

12/1/26 Full Council minute 14.7

26/5/26 Full Council minute 18.1

Jan 25 MTFP cell H60; bid 10.23/Jan 26 MTFP cell F58