

Appendix 1: 2023/24 Key Variances - Quarter 4

GENERAL FUND DIRECTORATE/ DIVISION	VARIANCE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	Overspend/ (Underspend) Quarter 4 2023/24 £m
ADULT SOCIAL CARE			
Operations Team	Overspend	Unavailability of Care Home Beds	2.554
Operations Team	Overspend	Older People and Physical Support - Increase in placement cost primarily driven by increasing needs of existing service users.	1.823
Operations Team	Overspend	Older People and Physical Support - Savings Slippage	1.789
Operations Team	Overspend	Full Year impact Progression to Adulthood Cases and NRP Case from 2022/23 plus additional cases from 2023/24.	1.102
Operations Team	Overspend	Learning Disabilities - Increase in placement costs primarily driven by increasing needs of existing service users.	0.884
Adult Social Care	Overspend	Various adult social care overspends	0.031
Operations Team	Additional Income	Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund (MSIF) Workforce fund and North Central London Integrated Care Board and London Borough of Enfield one-off discharge funding.	(3.000)
Total Adult Social Care			5.183
CHIEF EXECUTIVE			
Chief Executive Office	Overspend	Overspend on employee costs	0.070
Chief Executive Office	Underspend	Underspend on supplies and services	(0.006)
Total Chief Executive			0.064
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE			
Directorate	Overspend	Overspend due to budget reductions that will be allocated across Divisions in 2024/25	0.166
Learning and Achievement	Overspend	Traded income shortfall	0.410
Learning and Achievement	Overspend	SEND transport overspends	0.934
Learning and Achievement	Underspend	Temporary staffing for strategic projects	(0.345)
Learning and Achievement	Underspend	Early Years underspends across Children's Centres/nurseries	(0.558)
Learning and Achievement	Overspend	Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) unit cost rate increase	0.146
Learning and Achievement	Underspend	Short breaks	(0.053)
Safeguarding and Family Support	Underspend	Early Help including wrap-around support for children remaining in the community as alternative to becoming Children Looked After	(0.116)
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Disabled Children's Service	0.361
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Legal costs for care proceedings	0.067
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Children in Need Teams and management	0.079
Safeguarding and Family Support	Overspend	Leaving Care Service including costs of temporary accommodation	0.004
Safeguarding and Family Support	Underspend	Children's Social Care placements underspend. Due to the reduction in the number of children in care	(1.831)
Safeguarding and Family Support	Underspend	Children Looked After management and social work teams	(0.009)
Safeguarding and Family Support	Underspend	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children	(0.272)
Safeguarding and Family Support	On budget	Virtual School	0.000
Safeguarding and Family Support	Underspend	Safeguarding, Quality Assurance and Workforce Development	(0.149)
Young Islington	Underspend	Adventure Play - contracts	(0.112)
Young Islington	Underspend	Youth Provisions	(0.006)
Young Islington	Overspend	Violence Against Women & Girls and Youth Safety	0.005
Young Islington	Overspend	Secure Remand Services	0.081
Young Islington	Underspend	Youth Council	(0.060)
Young Islington	Underspend	Targeted Youth Services	(0.106)
Young Islington	Underspend	Youth Justice Services	(0.144)
Health Commissioning	Underspend	Staff member on secondment	(0.072)
Total Children and Young People			(1.580)
COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING			
New Homes and Corporate Landlord	Income shortfall	Net shortfall in commercial income	1.316
New Homes and Corporate Landlord	Overspend	Delay to delivery of Future Work savings	0.454
New Homes and Corporate Landlord	Underspend	Miscellaneous cost pressures across the corporate landlord offset by staffing underspends	(0.070)
New Homes and Corporate Landlord	Additional Income	Assembly Hall surplus	(0.197)
Inclusive Economy and Jobs	Underspend	Miscellaneous net underspends across the division partly due to additional external one-off income	(0.076)
Inclusive Economy and Jobs	Underspend	Underspend against the childcare bursary as a result of changes to government policy	(0.057)
Planning and Development	Income shortfall	Underachievement in planning application fees due to delayed developments. This is partly mitigated this year due to the national increase in fees	0.468
Planning and Development	Income shortfall	Income shortfall related to building regulations and design review panels	0.240
Planning and Development	Underspend	Underspend against planning policy and development	(0.138)
Community Financial Resilience	Underspend	Miscellaneous net underspend across the service	(0.052)
Community Financial Resilience	Additional Income	Underspend against the housing benefit grant due to additional grant and external income	(0.533)
Community Financial Resilience	Overspend	Demand and inflation pressure against the Resident Support Service scheme	0.103
Total Community Wealth Building			1.458
Community Engagement and Wellbeing			
Resident Experience	Unachieved Saving	Unmet savings due to proposed alignment of Resident Experience and Libraries management structures being abandoned	0.300
Resident Experience	Cost Pressure	Agency and Overtime costs to fund the clearing of the Backlog of Complaints, including Compensation payments due to fault of the Council.	0.385
Resident Experience	Cost Pressure	Cost of three temporary full time Customer Service agents to support the Council's Cost of Living Campaign	0.000
Resident Experience	Underspend	Staffing efficiencies across the service due to recruitment delays, and other net underspends	(0.296)
Libraries	Cost Pressure	Unmet vacancy factor savings due to full establishment	0.091
Culture	Income Loss	Film income loss due to Hollywood strikes	0.064
Policy and Equalities	Cost Pressure	Staffing overspend due to secondment replacement being recruited to and the seconded staff member returning to substantive role	0.060
Policy and Equalities	Cost Pressure	Structural shortfall in relation to budgeted section 106 income and expected rental income	0.021
Cross-Department	Underspend	Ad hoc underspends due to management action to retain staffing vacancies to reduce directorate wide overspend and also recruitment delays	(0.443)
Communications	Cost Pressure	Islington Life Magazine external printing	0.014
Management	Cost Pressure	Ad hoc overspends across the service due to one-off costs	0.045
Total Community Engagement and Wellbeing			0.240
ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE			
Business Performance & Improvement	Underspend	Underspend on employee costs due to vacancies now not being filled as part of a saving in 2024/25 and underachievement on local land charges	(0.146)
Climate Change & Transport	Underspend	Mainly due to a shortfall in advertising income, legal costs relating to Bunhill offset by additional recharge / fee income and streetworks income	(0.209)
Directorate	Underspend	Net underspend on employee costs due to part year vacancies	(0.144)
Fleet	Underspend	Net additional recharge income for workshop services	(0.442)
Greenspace	Overspend	Non delivery of the vacancy factor within the grounds maintenance service offset by parks event income and underspends throughout	0.065
Leisure	Overspend	Annual rent loss within the leisure estate	2.470
Tree Service	Overspend	Shortfall of income and additional costs	0.162
Parking	Overspend	Net shortfall in Parking income streams	7.963
Parking	Overspend	Net overspend on employee costs due to new posts and staff recharges	0.476
Parking	Overspend	Overspend on running expenses: mainly printing, franking & postage, CCTV camera maintenance costs and bank charges	0.842
Parking	Overspend	Overspend on GMB pay award and Penalty Charge Notice debt registration charges	0.638
Street Operational Services	Overspend	Shortfall in income around rental / sale of containers, additional IT spend, net vehicle / transport pressures and winter maintenance costs.	1.115
Total Environment & Climate Change			12.790
HOMES & NEIGHBOURHOODS			
Housing Needs	Overspend	Temporary Accommodation (TA): Nightly Booked/Private Sector Leasing	0.269
Housing Needs	Overspend	Bad Debt/Arrears: Case numbers in TA are rising and due to the impact of cost of living, other priorities will conflict with TA rent, resulting in increased arrears.	0.279
Housing Needs	Underspend	No Recourse to Public Funds	(0.155)
Housing Needs	Overspend	Other Housing Needs	0.191
CSSR	Overspend	Compliance, Antisocial Behaviour, private sector housing, commercial services and community safety.	(0.104)
Civic Services	Overspend	Additional staff costs within Registrars and additional storage costs within the Mortuary service	0.068
Total H&N			0.549
PUBLIC HEALTH			
Obesity & Physical Activity	Overspend	Commissioning of 2 year pilot programme for Adult Weight Management Get Active Service.	0.050
NHS Health Checks	Overspend	Increase in activity for GP Health Checks.	0.026
Smoking & Tobacco	Underspend	Low activity numbers for stop smoking services, figures based on 2022/23	(0.060)
Public Health	Underspend	Underspend from remaining divisions.	(0.016)
Total Public Health			0.000
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE			
Law and Governance	Overspend	Staffing pressures in Business Support	0.275
Law and Governance	Overspend	Delayed delivery of 'back office efficiency' saving	0.345
Law and Governance	Overspend	Shortfall in budgeted income from the Housing Revenue Account following a review of recharges	0.265
Law and Governance	Overspend	Court costs and system improvements	0.172
Law and Governance	Overspend	Security costs at member surgeries	0.016
Human Resources	Overspend	Maternity, overtime and agency pressures in Human Resources	0.209
Human Resources	Underspend	Underspend against the organisation development training budget	(0.222)

Appendix 1: 2023/24 Key Variances - Quarter 4

GENERAL FUND DIRECTORATE/ DIVISION	VARIANCE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	Overspend/ (Underspend) Quarter 4 2023/24 £m
Human Resources	Overspend	Overspend to deliver the Human Resources transformation programme	0.144
Finance	Underspend	Vacancies and other underspends across Accountancy and Revenues Teams	0.098
Finance	Underspend	Underspend against the budget for bank charges	(0.030)
Digital Services	Overspend	Staffing pressures in Digital Services	0.100
Digital Services	Underspend	Unused provision for contact inflation	(0.147)
Total Resources			1.225
Directorates Total			19.929
CORPORATE			
Levies	Underspend	Reduced payments for London Pension Fund Authority levy	(0.646)
Levies	Overspend	Coroner's court pressure	0.200
Levies	Underspend	Reduced payments for Transport for London Concessionary Fares	(0.384)
Other	Underspend	Unused Energy Provision	(2.575)
Provisions	Overspend	Bad debt pressure due to increase in outstanding debt	1.260
Provisions	Overspend	Payment into Insurance fund as advised by actuary	2.554
Pensions	Underspend	Additional contributions from schools for pension costs	(0.125)
Other	Overspend	Cross-cutting savings delivery	1.423
Other	Underspend	Underspend on Pay Award	(0.916)
Specific Grants	Additional Income	Business Rates Surplus	(0.715)
Specific Grants	Additional Income	New Burdens and Non-Specific Grants	(0.407)
Other	Underspend	Unspent Homes & Neighbourhoods Demography budget	(0.220)
Other	Additional Income	School banking income timing difference	(0.450)
Capital Financing	Underspend	Minimum Revenue Provision underspend and PFI saving	(1.710)
Capital Financing	Underspend	Decrease in borrowing costs	(3.374)
Capital Financing	Overspend	Variances in internal borrowing and interest on balances	(0.414)
Capital Financing	Additional Income	Additional interest income	(2.494)
Core Funding	Additional Income	Additional Top Up Grant	(0.421)
Other	Overspend	Central Recharges pressure	0.559
Other	Overspend	Local Restrictions Support Grant Repayment	0.253
Audit Fees	Overspend	Increase in audit fees	0.331
Other	Overspend	Apprenticeship levy pressure due to change in split with Housing Revenue Account	0.233
Other	Overspend	Other Corporate variances	0.132
Total Corporate			(7.907)
GROSS GENERAL FUND			12.023
Less: Inflation, Energy and Demand Provision			(6.962)
Less: General Corporate Contingency			(5.000)
NET GENERAL FUND			0.061

Appendix 1: 2023/24 Key Variances - Quarter 4

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT DIRECTORATE/DIVISION	VARIANCE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	Overspend/ (Underspend) Quarter 4 2023/24 £m
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT			
Housing Property Services	Overspend	Establishment of Damp, condensation and mould taskforce	2.874
Housing Property Services	Overspend	New burdens in relation to New Building Safety Regulations	1.800
Housing Property Services	Overspend	Rising number of Housing disrepair claims	3.521
Housing Property Services	Overspend	Increased pressure in Repairs and Maintenance	4.104
Homes & Communities	Overspend	Increasing cost of temporary accommodation for HRA tenants	1.077
Finance	Accounting adjustment	Delayed use of Revenue to fund Capital expenditure (RCCO)	(14.516)
Finance	Income overachievement	Dwelling rents and tenant service charge income	(2.210)
Finance	Additional Income	Increased Leaseholder service charges income recovery	(5.970)
Finance	Additional Income	Increased income in other areas, mainly lease extension income	(1.209)
Finance	Additional Income	Increased income from investing HRA balances	(1.531)
HRA	Underspend	Miscellaneous smaller variances across the HRA	(0.606)
Total Housing Revenue Account			(12.666)