

## **APPENDIX A - 2024/25 General Fund Revenue Significant Variance Analysis**

| <b>Corporate, Governance &amp; Public Protection</b> |                                       |                                                                                                                |                                            |                                                |                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Service Area</b>                                  | <b>2024/25<br/>Current<br/>Budget</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Current<br/>Budget (less<br/>proposed<br/>Budget C/F<br/>and<br/>accounting<br/>adjustments</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Provisional<br/>Outturn</b> | <b>Varianc<br/>e to<br/>Current<br/>Budget</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Outturn<br/>Variance</b> |
|                                                      | <b>£</b>                              | <b>£</b>                                                                                                       | <b>£</b>                                   | <b>£</b>                                       | <b>%</b>                                |
| Corporate Management                                 | 497,750                               | 497,750                                                                                                        | 573,003                                    | 75,253                                         | 15.1                                    |
| Human Resources & Organisational Development         | 467,450                               | 467,450                                                                                                        | 445,498                                    | (21,952)                                       | (4.7)                                   |
| Legal & Democratic                                   | 1,666,550                             | 1,573,050                                                                                                      | 1,554,696                                  | (18,354)                                       | (1.2)                                   |
| Public Protection                                    | 1,421,200                             | 1,412,900                                                                                                      | 1,395,739                                  | (17,161)                                       | (1.2)                                   |
| <b>Total</b>                                         | <b>4,052,950</b>                      | <b>3,951,150</b>                                                                                               | <b>3,968,936</b>                           | <b>17,786</b>                                  | <b>0.5</b>                              |

| <b>Explanation of Significant Variances</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>£'000</b> |
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| <b>Corporate Management</b><br>Additional capacity given to the Corporate Management support, these additional costs have been met from the overall savings from the staffing budget.                                                                                                                                                   | <b>75</b>    |
| <b>Legal &amp; Democratic</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Underspend relating to members allowances and expenses (£55k) due to some members having overlap with Special Responsibility's Allowance reduced travel expenditure</li> <li>Legal fees £74k – additional costs for member complaints / code of conduct</li> </ul> | <b>(18)</b>  |
| <b>Public Protection</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In year vacancies within the Environmental Protection team have resulted in an underspend of (£37k).</li> <li>Additional legal fees have been incurred resulting in an overspend of £16k</li> </ul>                                                                     | <b>(17)</b>  |

| <b>Finance, Property &amp; Waste Services</b>           |                                       |                                                                                                                |                                            |                                               |                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Service Area</b>                                     | <b>2024/25<br/>Current<br/>Budget</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Current<br/>Budget (less<br/>proposed<br/>Budget C/F<br/>and<br/>accounting<br/>adjustments</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Provisional<br/>Outturn</b> | <b>Variance<br/>to<br/>Current<br/>Budget</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Outturn<br/>Variance</b> |
|                                                         | <b>£</b>                              | <b>£</b>                                                                                                       | <b>£</b>                                   | <b>£</b>                                      | <b>%</b>                                |
| Community Engagement                                    | 334,900                               | 264,900                                                                                                        | 197,139                                    | (67,761)                                      | (25.6)                                  |
| Finance                                                 | 1,711,005                             | 1,672,005                                                                                                      | 1,934,559                                  | 262,554                                       | 15.7                                    |
| Finance Management                                      | 273,900                               | 273,900                                                                                                        | 319,110                                    | 45,210                                        | 16.5                                    |
| ICT Services                                            | 1,752,760                             | 1,681,160                                                                                                      | 1,814,841                                  | 133,681                                       | 7.8                                     |
| Property Services                                       | 2,896,685                             | 1,982,885                                                                                                      | 2,156,713                                  | 173,828                                       | 8.8                                     |
| Revenues, Benefits,<br>Customer & Community<br>Services | 785,750                               | 781,750                                                                                                        | 707,317                                    | (74,433)                                      | (9.5)                                   |
| Waste Depot                                             | 93,000                                | 0                                                                                                              | 0                                          | 0                                             | 0                                       |
| Waste & Markets                                         | 3,726,550                             | 3,171,750                                                                                                      | 2,902,441                                  | (269,309)                                     | (8.5)                                   |
| <b>Total</b>                                            | <b>11,574,550</b>                     | <b>9,828,350</b>                                                                                               | <b>10,032,120</b>                          | <b>203,770</b>                                | <b>2.1</b>                              |

| <b>Explanation of Significant Variances</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>£'000</b> |
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| <b>Community Engagement</b><br>There has been a reduction in requests for grants from the Community Fund as other sources of funding have been available, resulting in an underspend.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>(68)</b>  |
| <b>Finance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£32k on external audit fees for additional work undertaking regarding the closure of accounts process including dealing with new accounting standards.</li> <li>£59k increase on Insurance premiums increase based on previous claims history and general inflationary impact within the insurance markets.</li> <li>£98k relating to implementation of the new finance system.</li> <li>£58k cost for expected corporate recharge relating to Change for Lincs project which didn't materialise as expected.</li> </ul> | <b>263</b>   |
| <b>Finance Management</b><br>Interim cover for the Assistant Director vacancy in year resulted in an overspend of £45k                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>45</b>    |
| <b>ICT Services</b><br>Additional costs for a software extension and new invoice scanning software during the transition to the new finance system have resulted in an overspend of £152k. Additional Power BI licences purchased have resulted in an overspend of £20k. An in year vacancy resulted in a saving of (£21k)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>134</b>   |

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| <b>Property Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Property Maintenance</b> - A budget of £1m was approved and allocated to the capital programme. However, the stock condition surveys identified urgent remedial works, the majority of which relate to revenue expenditure which has resulted in an overspend of £262k. However, overall across both capital and revenue there is a net underspend of £220k which will be carried forward to complete ongoing works in 2025/26.</li> <li>• <b>Car Parking Income</b> – Additional income of (£182k) has been received across all car parks. This takes into account the income loss of £26k resulting from the introduction of Christmas free parking in Grantham and Stamford during December 2024. Lower income budgets had originally been set for 2024/25 when there was uncertainty with respect to the introduction of new tariffs that were being considered at that time.</li> </ul> | <b>173</b>   |
| <b>Revenues, Benefits, Customer &amp; Community Services</b><br>In year vacancies resulted in a saving of (£58k)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>(74)</b>  |
| <b>Waste &amp; Markets</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional green waste income of (£59k) has been received with 30,483 households renewing their subscription for 2024/25 (30,575 in 2023/24) and 648 new households joining the service.</li> <li>• The majority of the underspend relates to savings on fuel costs.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>(269)</b> |

| <b>Growth &amp; Culture</b>     |                                       |                                                                                                                |                                            |                                               |                                         |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Service Area</b>             | <b>2024/25<br/>Current<br/>Budget</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Current<br/>Budget (less<br/>proposed<br/>Budget C/F<br/>and<br/>accounting<br/>adjustments</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Provisional<br/>Outturn</b> | <b>Variance<br/>to<br/>Current<br/>Budget</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Outturn<br/>Variance</b> |
|                                 | <b>£</b>                              | <b>£</b>                                                                                                       | <b>£</b>                                   | <b>£</b>                                      | <b>%</b>                                |
| Arts & Culture                  | 1,704,700                             | 784,100                                                                                                        | 703,692                                    | (80,408)                                      | (10.2)                                  |
| Building Control                | 97,483                                | 96,883                                                                                                         | 31,679                                     | (65,204)                                      | (67.3)                                  |
| Communications                  | 309,700                               | 309,700                                                                                                        | 257,625                                    | (52,075)                                      | (16.8)                                  |
| Culture & Leisure<br>Management | 168,700                               | 168,700                                                                                                        | 165,516                                    | (3,184)                                       | (1.9)                                   |
| Development & Policy            | 694,540                               | 496,240                                                                                                        | 105,916                                    | (390,324)                                     | (78.6)                                  |
| Economic Development            | 269,305                               | 57,805                                                                                                         | 110,839                                    | 53,034                                        | 91.7                                    |
| Growth Management               | 367,500                               | 367,500                                                                                                        | 396,344                                    | 28,844                                        | 7.8                                     |
| Leisure                         | 2,550,950                             | 430,550                                                                                                        | 441,021                                    | 10,471                                        | 2.4                                     |
| Parks & Open Spaces             | 704,100                               | 583,000                                                                                                        | 502,825                                    | (80,175)                                      | (13.8)                                  |
| Street Scene                    | 1,963,650                             | 1,743,950                                                                                                      | 1,673,928                                  | (70,022)                                      | (4.0)                                   |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>8,830,628</b>                      | <b>5,038,428</b>                                                                                               | <b>4,389,385</b>                           | <b>(649,043)</b>                              | <b>(12.9)</b>                           |

| <b>Explanation of Significant Variances</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>£'000</b> |
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| <b>Arts &amp; Culture</b><br>Increases in room hire, lettings and theatre hire along with increases in admissions income across Guildhall Arts Centre, Stamford Arts Centre and Bourne Corn Exchange have resulted in additional income of (£128k). This has been partly offset by the costs of bar stock at Stamford Arts which was under budgeted for by £21k.                                                                                                                                                        | <b>(80)</b>  |
| <b>Building Control</b><br>SKDC's share of the saving made due to the net effect of a revised staffing structure, in year vacancies and fee income reductions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>(65)</b>  |
| <b>Communications</b><br>Savings of (£49k) have been made through a staffing restructure with graphic design work being outsourced when required                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>(52)</b>  |
| <b>Development &amp; Policy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning Fee Income – There has been a national decline of 14% in the number of planning applications submitted and this has been reflected locally. However, a number of major applications for solar farms with significant fees has resulted in income above budget (£303k)</li> <li>• Planning Policy in year vacancies have resulted in an underspend of (£28k)</li> <li>• Biodiversity Net Gain Grant was received for (£19k)</li> </ul> | <b>(390)</b> |
| <b>Economic Development</b><br>Software and licences for visitor insight and monitoring were purchased at a cost of £18k in year. Alongside side this there were a number of other additional costs across the service.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>53</b>    |
| <b>Parks and Open Spaces</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Income losses were incurred from cancellation of events due to bad weather £10k and a reduction in purchase of grave plots and rights of burial £12k.</li> <li>• Inspections of play park equipment resulted in an overspend of £25k</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>(80)</b>  |
| <b>Street Scene</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There have been in year vacancies (£103k) due to staff turnover and savings agreed in year to fund the loss of income from external contract work £40k.</li> <li>• The remaining part of the underspend relates to fuel costs.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>(70)</b>  |

| <b>Housing &amp; Projects</b>    |                                       |                                                                                                                |                                            |                                               |                                         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Service Area</b>              | <b>2024/25<br/>Current<br/>Budget</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Current<br/>Budget (less<br/>proposed<br/>Budget C/F<br/>and<br/>accounting<br/>adjustments</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Provisional<br/>Outturn</b> | <b>Variance<br/>to<br/>Current<br/>Budget</b> | <b>2024/25<br/>Outturn<br/>Variance</b> |
|                                  | <b>£</b>                              | <b>£</b>                                                                                                       | <b>£</b>                                   | <b>£</b>                                      | <b>%</b>                                |
| Centralised & Business Support   | 501,221                               | 501,221                                                                                                        | 483,496                                    | (17,725)                                      | (3.5)                                   |
| Corporate Projects & Performance | 539,629                               | 519,629                                                                                                        | 451,959                                    | (67,670)                                      | (13.0)                                  |
| Health & Safety                  | 146,000                               | 146,000                                                                                                        | 154,424                                    | 8,424                                         | 5.8                                     |
| Housing Services                 | 501,350                               | 414,350                                                                                                        | 219,203                                    | (195,147)                                     | (47.1)                                  |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>1,688,200</b>                      | <b>1,581,200</b>                                                                                               | <b>1,309,082</b>                           | <b>(272,118)</b>                              | <b>(17.2)</b>                           |

| <b>Explanation of Significant Variances</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>£'000</b> |
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| <b>Corporate Projects &amp; Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There have been savings for in year vacancies related to the Project officer/Business Support Team Leader posts (£24k)</li> <li>The post of the Tree officer has been vacant for part of the year resulting in a saving (£25k).</li> <li>Additional income has been received in year from the Electric charging points following a number of new units installed during 2024/25 (£22k)</li> </ul> | <b>(68)</b>  |
| <b>Housing Services – General Fund</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government grant has been received (£303k) to support homelessness delivery which has been spent on additional staffing £105k and increased emergency accommodation costs £126k resulting a net underspend of (£72k).</li> <li>The level of bad debt provision has reduced (£74k) due to the overall level Council debt being lower at the financial year end.</li> </ul>                              | <b>(195)</b> |