



Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

Date: 14 November 2014

**Committee:
Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee**

Date: Monday, 24 November 2014

Time: 9.30 am

Venue: Shrewsbury Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND

You are requested to attend the above meeting. Please note the earlier than usual start time of 9.30 am.

The Agenda is attached

Claire Porter
Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)

Members of Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

Gerald Dakin
David Minnery
John Cadwallader
Tracey Huffer
Simon Jones
Heather Kidd

Pamela Moseley
Peggy Mullock
Peter Nutting
Madge Shineton

Your Committee Officer is:

Amanda Holyoak Committee Officer

Tel: 01743 252718

Email: amandaholyoak@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

2 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members are reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2014

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2014 as a correct record (to follow)

4 Public Question Time

To receive any questions, statements or petitions of which members of the public have given notice. Deadline for notification is 4.00 pm on Wednesday 19 November 2014.

5 Member Question Time

To receive any questions of which members of the Council have given notice. Deadline for notification is 4.00 pm on Wednesday 19 November 2014.

6 Scrutiny of the progress made in delivering the Council's Financial Strategy (Pages 1 - 70)

Members will consider the progress in delivering the Council's Financial Strategy and help inform the refresh and any refocus for 2015/16 onwards.

To assist in this work the following documents are attached:

- a) Performance Report and Dashboards relevant to the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee's remit.
- b) Quarter 1 Performance Report and Dashboards [from 15 October 2014 Cabinet meeting]
- c) Financial Strategy [from 30 July 2014 Cabinet]

- d) Quarter 2 Revenue Monitoring Report [from 15 October 2014 Cabinet meeting]
- e) Latest Public Health England Summary for Shropshire

Members may also find it helpful to access the Business Plan and Financial Strategy 2014/15 to 2016/17 document [from 27 February Council meeting] available from the Members' Library or by using the following link:

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/CeListDocuments.aspx?Committeeld=125&MeetingId=2605&DF=27%2f02%2f2014&Ver=2>

7 Work Programme

The Committee's Work Programme will follow.

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<u>Committee and Date</u>	<u>Item</u>
Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee	
	<u>Public</u>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION for Quarter 1 Performance Report 2014/15

Responsible: Tom Dodds, Performance Manager

e-mail: tom.dodds@shropshire.gov.uk

01743 253068

1. Summary

1.1 This paper provides additional information to detail the performance intelligence summarised in the Quarter 1 Corporate Performance Report presented at Cabinet meeting on the 15th of October 2014 and should be read in conjunction with the report ([link to Cabinet report Item 9](#)).

1.2 This detailed intelligence, that informed the Quarter 1 performance report, is being monitored based on the 4 technical dashboards developed following work with the Portfolio Holders and Scrutiny members during the Performance Management Rapid Action Group in January - February 2014.

1.3 This additional report focuses on the two technical dashboards (attached):

Appendix C Outcome Dashboard Your life - Live Life My Way

Appendix D Outcome Dashboard Your health Long Enjoyable Life

2. 'Your life' Outcome - Technical Dashboards Details

2.1 Progress on delivering 'Your life' Outcome ('Feel valued as an individual and to live my life, with my choices respected and with as few compromises as possible') is presented as part of the Appendix C dashboard.

2.2 The increasing levels of demand on our Children's Social Care and Safeguarding Teams have continued from previous quarters. The number of referrals to children's social care is 44.9% higher than at this point last year, having risen from 517 to 749, this is due to changes to the way the operational decisions are made at ICT (Initial Contact Team) but also similar to other local authorities there has been an increase in referrals. Of the children referred to social services, 58.4% went on to be assessed. Improved recording and reporting allows for disaggregation of the outcomes for referrals that have not progressed to assessment and received either Early Help (5.2%), Professional Conversation (27.6%) or requiring No Further Action (8.8%).

2.3 The rate of children receiving assessments was similar across all referring agencies, ranging from 61.1% for those referred by education to 56.8% referred from 'other'.

2.4 The rate of LAC per 10k population has risen. The absolute number of LAC has been rising since August 2011 when it stood at 195. At the end of Q1 there were

286 LAC, representing a 47% increase over this period. Redesign of Children's Social Services focused on reducing the need for children to be looked after - where it is safe to do so. This included development of support and resources for the children on the edge of care, timely care planning for children deemed to be seen in need of permanency care outside of parental care due to significant harm, support from qualified social workers as part of the Early help offer.

- 2.5 The rate of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan (CPP) is higher than the available comparable information (2012/13) for England. Publication of the 2013/14 data later in the year will provide a clearer view of the national picture and whether similar increases have taken place in other areas.
- 2.6 The first quarter from April has seen a reduction of the percentage of Children with a 2nd or subsequent CPP within 2 years of the previous one ceasing. Performance is now below the maximum expected level and shows an improvement on last year. Performance will continue to be closely monitored with audit and quality assurance activity continuously undertaken to confirm that there has been a robust response to those cases.
- 2.7 Adult admissions into residential/nursing care homes for both age ranges have reduced. For adults aged 18-64: 22 adults were admitted into residential/nursing which is better than target. Performance is better than the comparator family group and England averages. For older People aged 65+: Whilst the end of year target has not been met the 2013/14 result is a significant improvement on last year. Admissions have been monitored on an individual basis through the year, to ensure admissions are kept as low as possible. Performance is lower than the comparator family group and England averages.
- 2.8 Chart 8 shows the average waiting time for all new clients to be assessed, and shows variable performance throughout the year. With the introduction of the new ways of working in 2014-15, more appropriate measures will be developed to demonstrate effectiveness in this area.
- 2.9 Surveys of social care clients show that the perceived quality of life is similar to those with comparator areas.
- 2.10 Information and advice is a core universal service, and is a key factor in early intervention and reducing dependency. The result this year is taken from the User Survey, of all those responding who selected "Very easy to find" or "Fairly easy to find". Shropshire's result for 2013-14 is 68.4%, compared to 73.6% last year. Improving access to reliable, up to date information forms a key part of the Adult Social Care Strategy. Improvements are being made to the way social media is used and we are developing our leaflets so that people can access information in a way that suits them. This work will be monitored to see if the expected improvements are made to the results next year.

3. 'Your health' Outcome - Technical Dashboards Details

- 3.1 Progress on delivering 'Your health' Outcome ('Live a long, enjoyable and healthy life') is presented as part of the Appendix D dashboard.
- 3.2 Average life expectancy in Shropshire is above the national average for both Male and Female.

- 3.3 Delays in transfer from hospital attributable to adult social care have been significantly reduced, performance is better than target and has improved year on year since 2011/12. Performance is better than the family group average and matched the England average for 2013/14. Effective joint working arrangements with partner agencies has ensured support services are in place ensuring delays from hospital are kept to a minimum.
- 3.4 The proportion of older people discharged from hospital into reablement services, who are still living independently at home, 91 days' later has improved. This measure is for a sample of clients for a specified time period and cannot easily be tracked through the year. Improvements have been made on last year's performance. Working in partnership with the Community Health Trust, has resulted in an increase, in both the volume and proportion of people receiving reablement who are still at home 91 days after discharge.
- 3.6 Activity data shows the percentage of adults who are physically active is similar to the national average. The percentage of inactive adults is also similar to the average.
- 3.7 The latest available data (2011/12) shows that the prevalence of smoking amongst mothers at the time of giving birth is significantly higher than the national average. Breast feeding rates are significantly below the national average at the 6 to 8 week stage after giving birth.
- 3.8 The prevalence of smoking amongst adults has shown an increase and whilst it places Shropshire above the national average the difference is not statistically significant.
- 3.9 Controlling your own care is one of the key outcomes for individuals derived from the policy on personalisation. This measure is taken from an annual survey of clients receiving adult social care services and is one means of determining whether that outcome is being achieved. Shropshire's result for 2013-14 is 71.8%, which is lower than both the comparator group and England averages and is also lower than the 77.8% achieved in the previous year. These results however, should be treated with caution, as with all user survey results, as these are snapshots, at a point in time, of peoples' perceptions. However, the results do provide a useful insight into users' experiences and will inform the development of our future outcome reporting.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Quarter 1 Performance Report 2014/15 – 15 October 2014

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Tim Barker, Lee Chapman, Karen Calder

Local Member

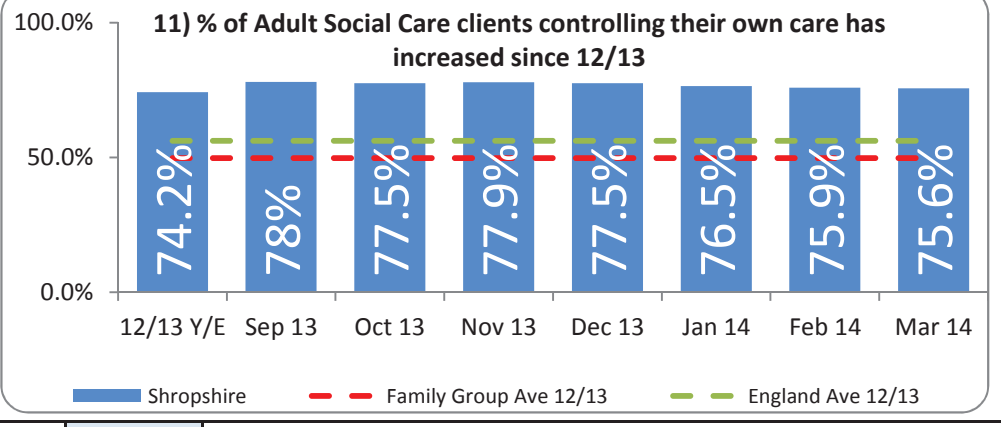
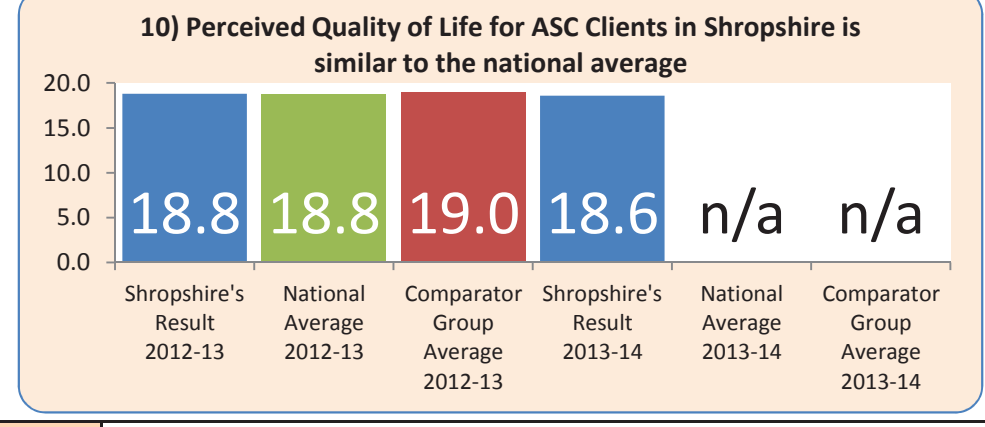
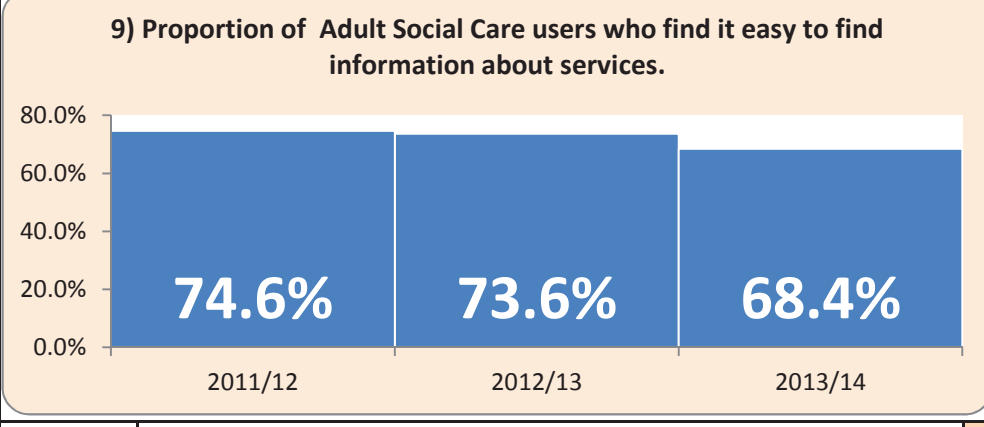
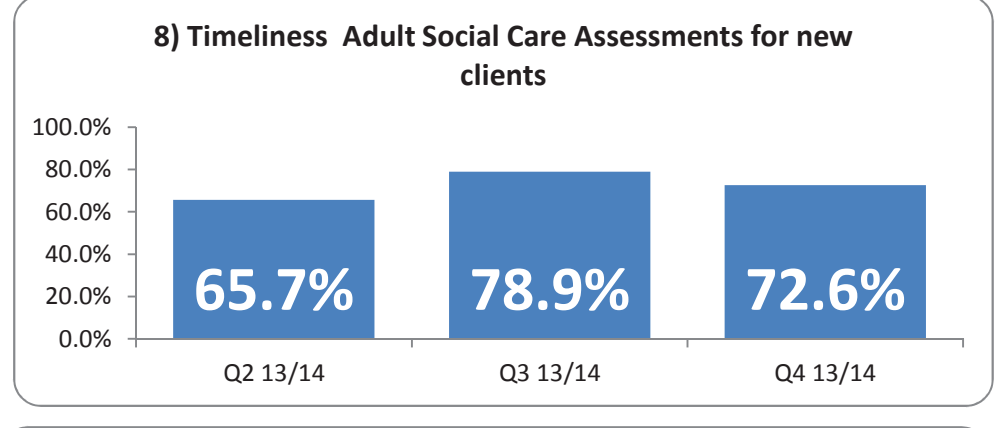
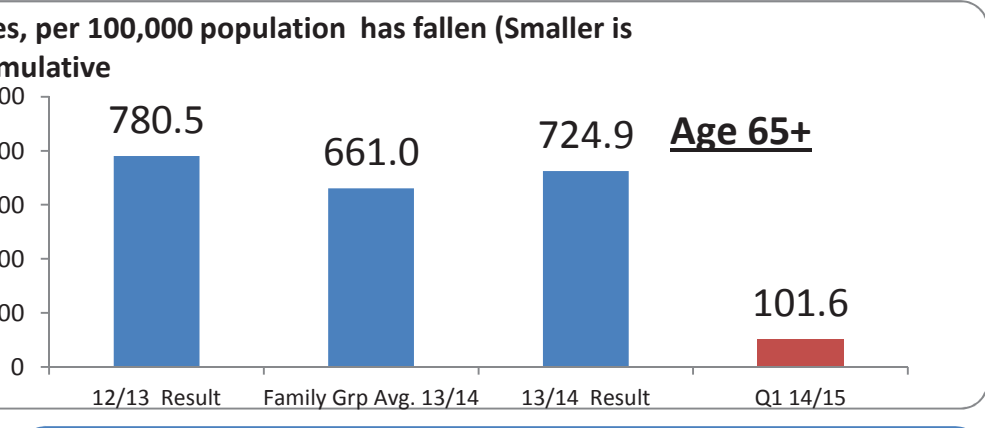
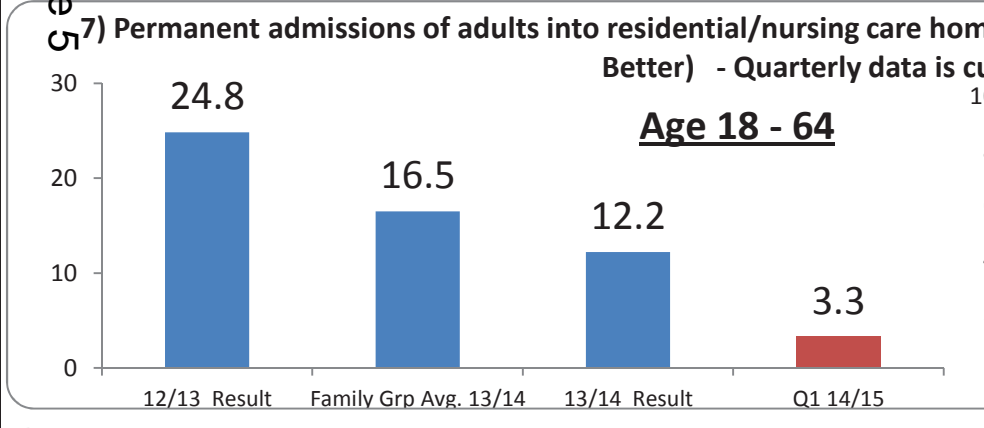
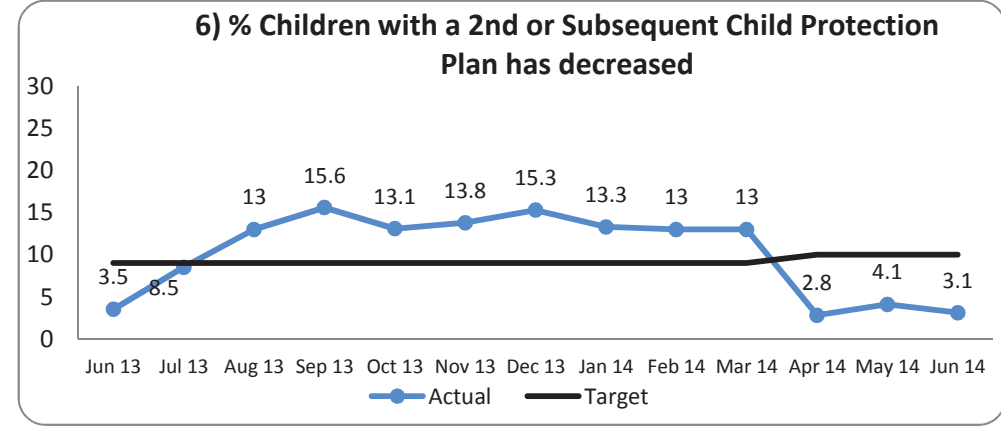
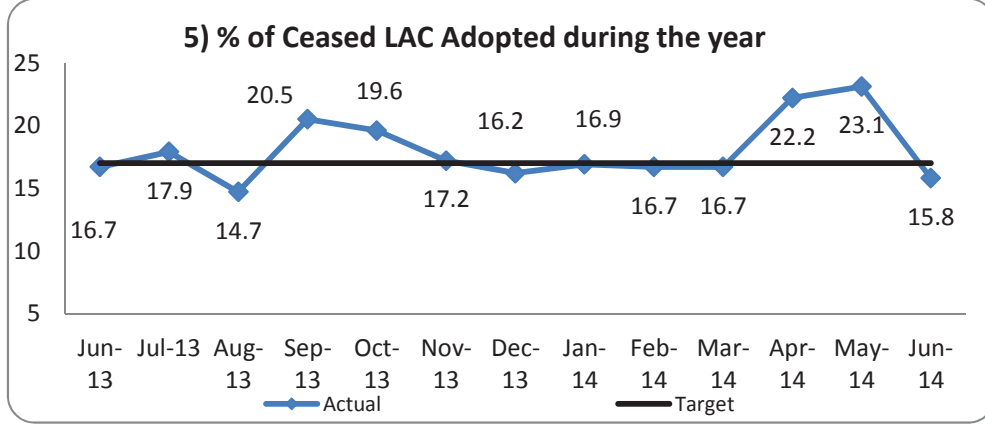
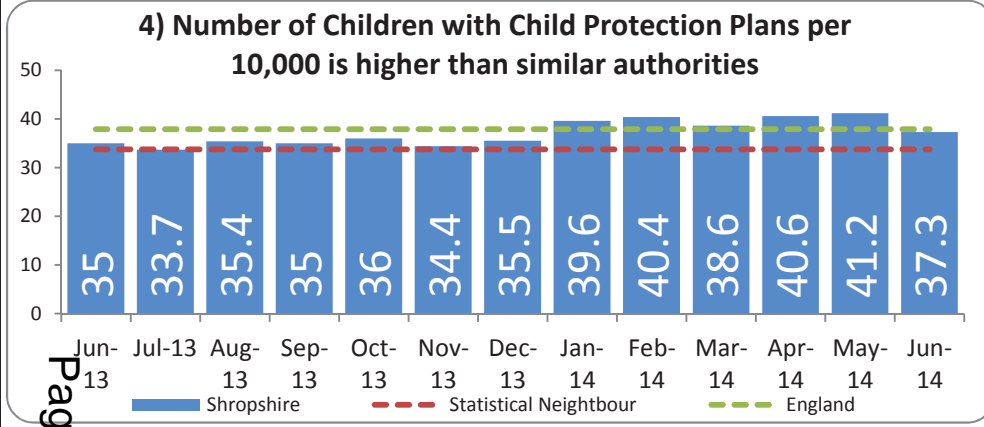
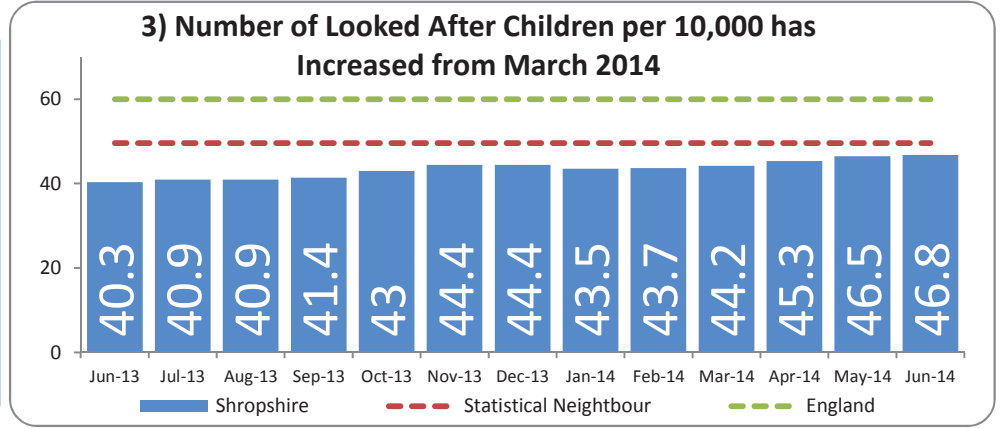
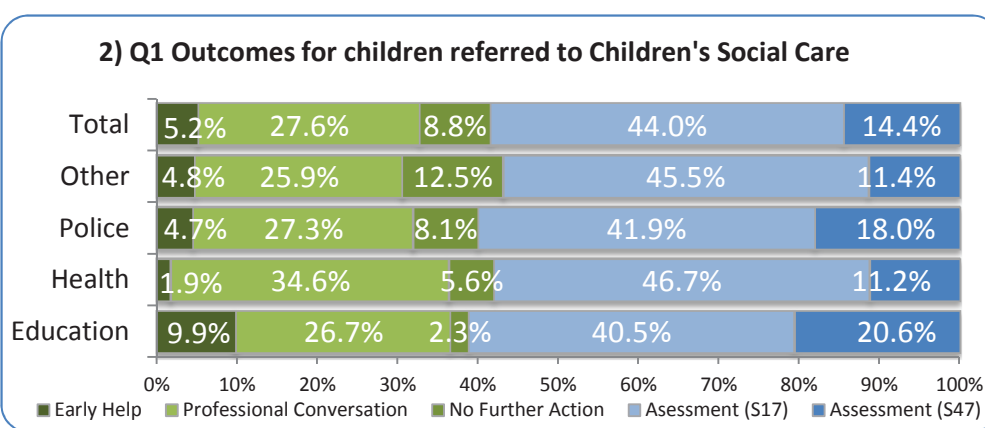
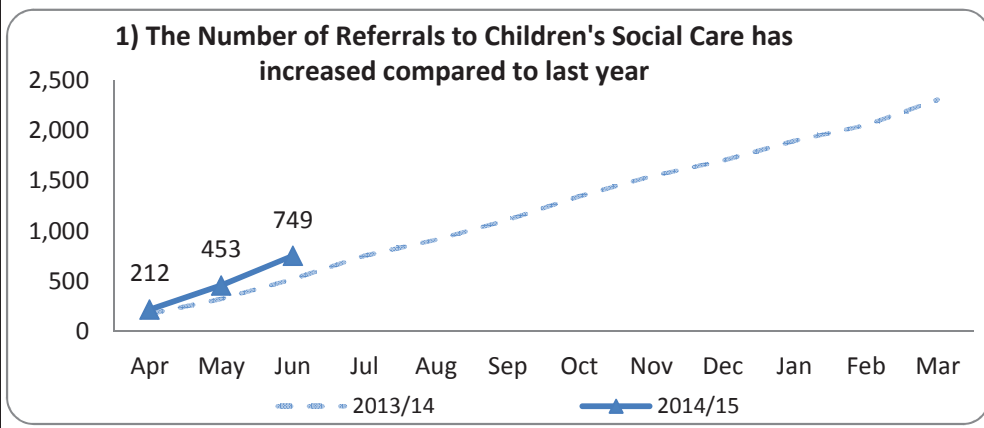
All

Appendices

Appendix C – 'Your life' Outcome ('Feel valued as an individual and to live my life,

with my choices respected and with as few compromises as possible')

Appendix D – 'Your health' Outcome ('Live a long, enjoyable and healthy life')

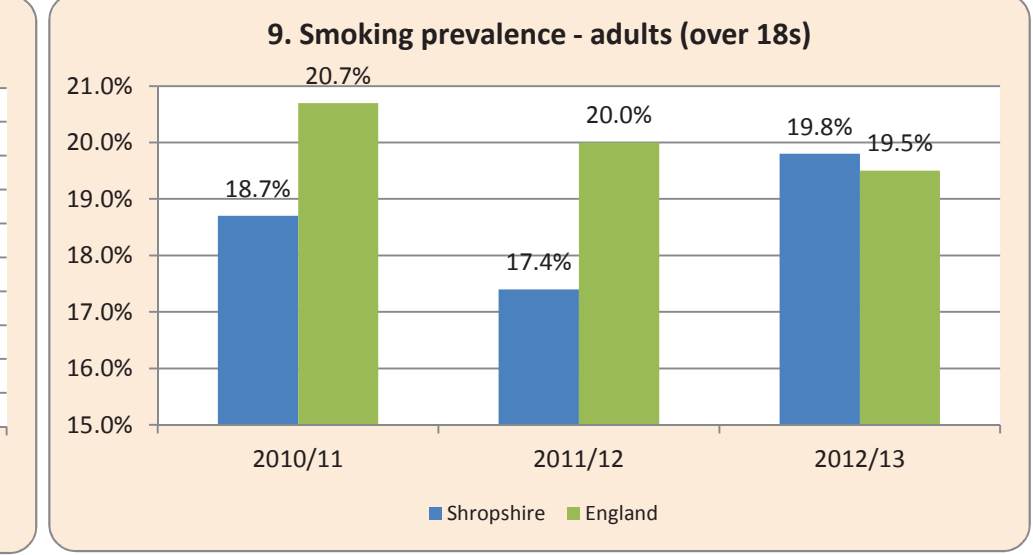
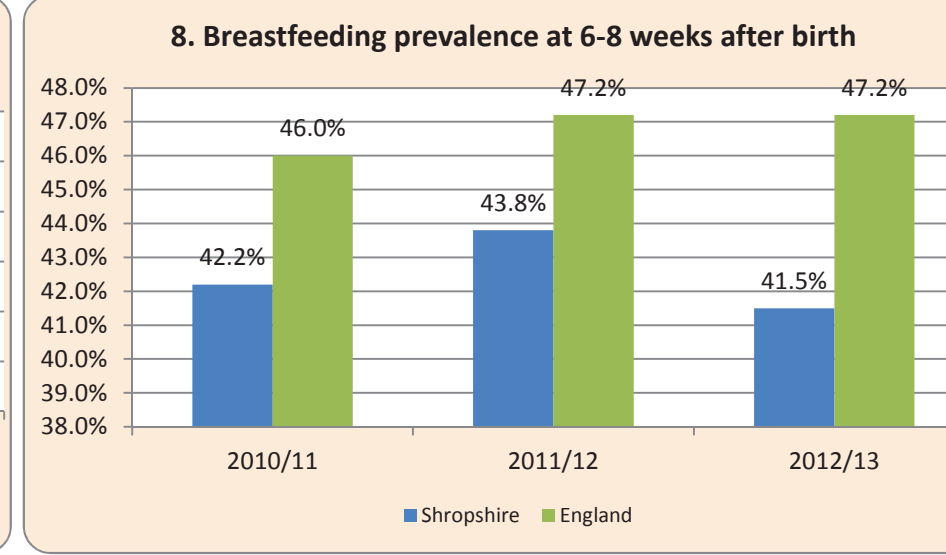
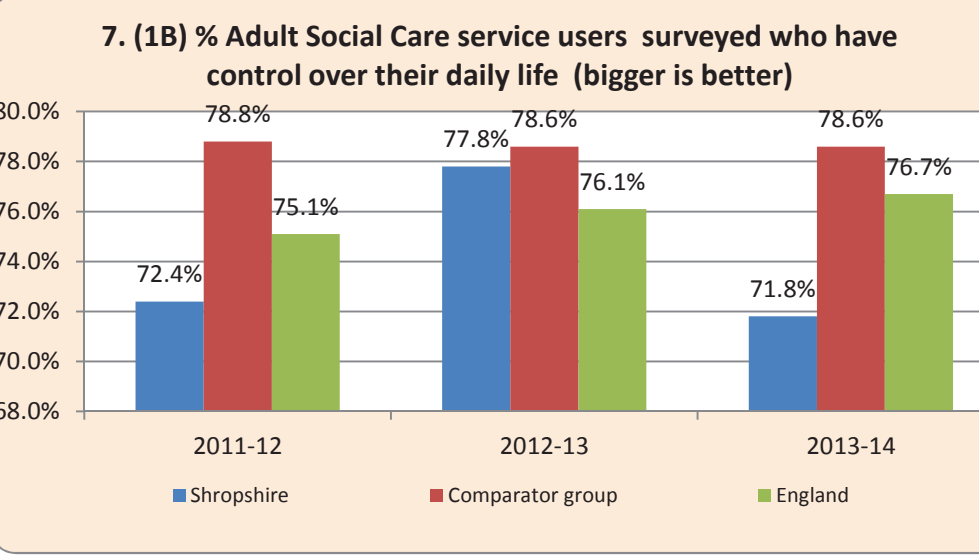
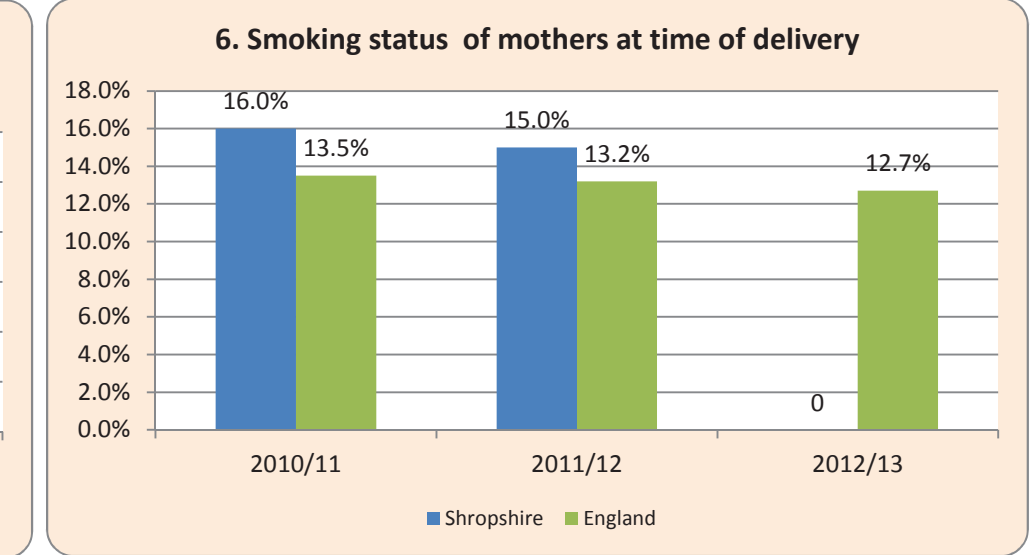
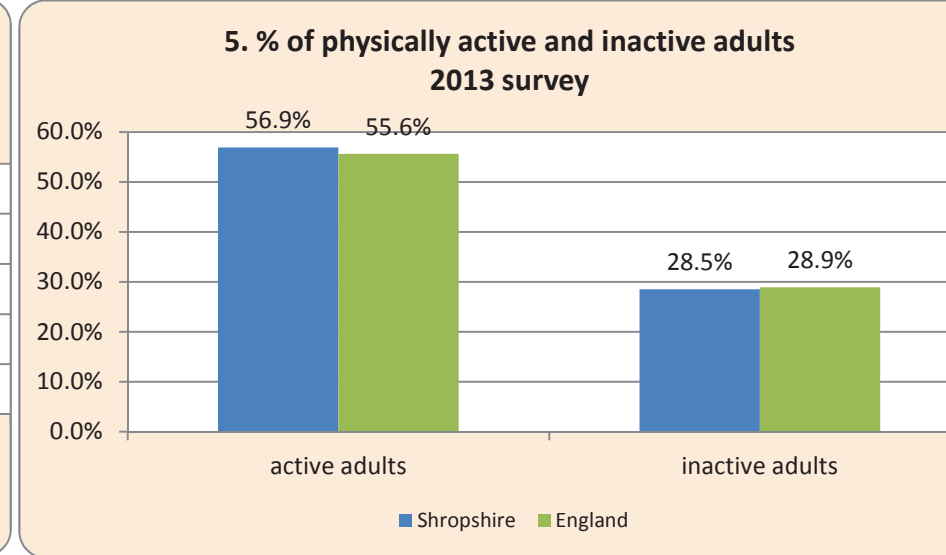
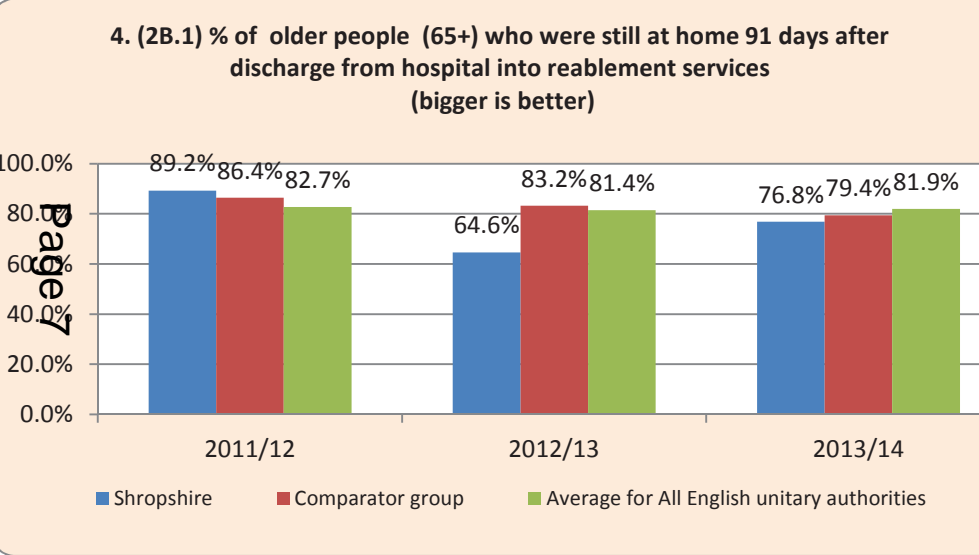
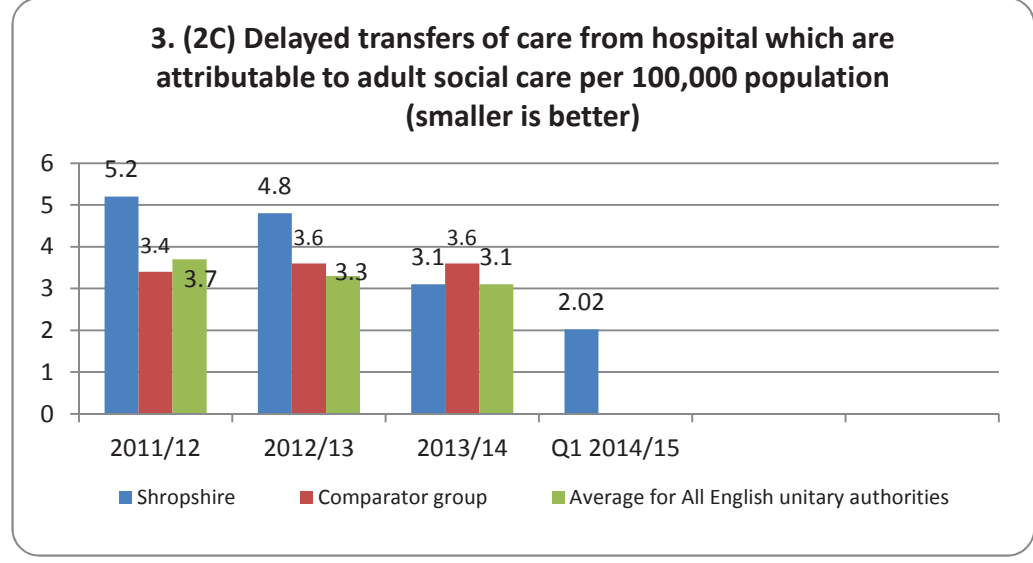
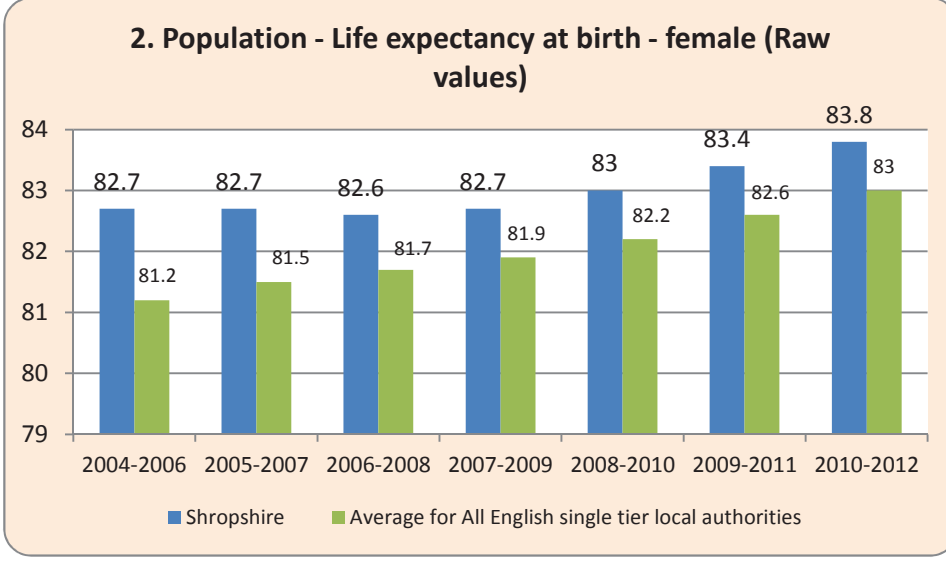
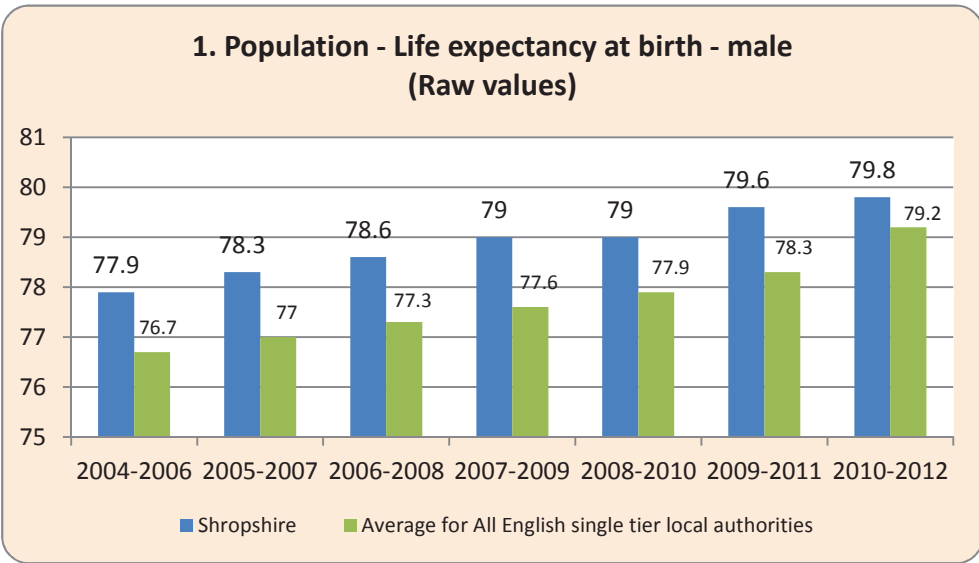


Charts for available indicators reported quarterly

Charts for available indicators reported less than quarterly

Charts for indicators not currently reported/available

Chart	Definition
1	Cumulative Referrals to Children's Social Care 2013/14
2	% Referrals Going to Initial Assessment
3	Number of Looked After Children per 10,000
4	Number of Children with Child Protection Plans per 10,000
5	% Of LAC Adopted of those Ceasing to be LAC
6	% Children with a 2nd or Subsequent Child Protection Plan (Within 2 Years of Previous CPP ending)
7	Adults Receiving Funded Social Care (Rate per 10,000)
8	% Of ASC Clients by Care Setting - RAP P1 forms.
9	New Measure - Check Source?
10	ASCOF 3D: Ease of finding info - Annual User/Carer Survey.
11	ASCOF 1A - Quality of Life - Annual User/Carer Survey.
12	ASCOF 1C - % of clients receiving SDS/Direct Payments as a proportion of people receiving community based services.

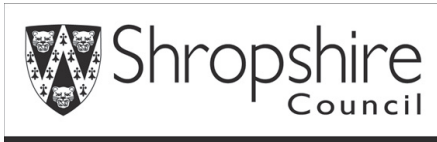


charts for available indicators reported quarterly

charts for available indicators reported less than quarterly

charts for indicators not currently reported/available

1. Population - Life expectancy at birth - male(Raw values)
2. Population - Life expectancy at birth - female(Raw values)
3. (2C) Delayed transfers of care from hospital which are attributable to adult social care per 100,000 population
4. (2B.1) % of over 65s who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation services (effectiveness of the service) (bigger is better)
5. Percentage of physically active and inactive adults 2012 survey
6. Smoking status of mothers at time of delivery
5. Percentage of physically active and inactive adults 2012 survey
6. Smoking status at time of delivery
7. (1B) % ASC service users surveyed who have control over their daily life (bigger is better) - as reported based on the annual survey
8. Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks after birth
9. Smoking prevalence - adults (over 18s)



<u>Committee and Date</u>
Cabinet 15 October 2014
12.30 pm

<u>Item</u>
9
<u>Public</u>

Quarter 1 Performance Report 2014/15

Responsible: Tom Dodds, Performance Manager
e-mail: tom.dodds@shropshire.gov.uk

01743 253068

1. Summary

- 1.1 The report is produced based on the new performance management framework and reporting methodology. This has been developed following work with the Portfolio Holders and Scrutiny members during the Performance Management Rapid Action Group in January - February 2014.
- 1.2 At the corporate level performance is monitored using an overall change infographic (See Appendix 1). The delivery of the outcomes for Shropshire stated in the Shropshire Council's Business Plan and Financial Strategy 2014 – 2017 is being monitored through a basket of indicators grouped in technical dashboards. The key intelligence from the 4 technical outcomes dashboards (signed off by Directors and considered by the relevant Scrutiny Committee) are not included with this report but are available on request. The intelligence is summarised in the outcomes infographics dashboards (Appendix 2).
- 1.3 This report summarises the latest measures of performance relating to the four outwards focusing outcomes for Shropshire Council:
 - **Your money** – 'Feel financially secure and to believe in a positive future for myself and my family'
 - **Your environment** – 'Live in an attractive, vibrant and safe environment, in a place that is right for me'
 - **Your life** – 'Feel valued as an individual and to live my life, with my choices respected and with as few compromises as possible'
 - **Your health** – 'Live a long, enjoyable and healthy life'
- 1.4 Information from the Change info graphic dashboard reflects the progress towards the fifth council outcome:
 - **Your council** – 'Feel confident that the council is doing the right thing with my money and that my needs are at the centre of any decisions taken about my life'
- 1.5 As part of developing and further refining what is measured to demonstrate progress and the impact of commissioning decisions and changes to services, work is taking place with Scrutiny Committees. A Task and Finish Group is

currently in operation with the Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee looking at measures appropriate to the new operating model for Adult Social Care. Alongside this, the Portfolio Holder for Performance has discussions with fellow Portfolio Holders to understand what actions and developments are planned and/or in place to respond to the issues and ensure outcomes are achieved.

2. Recommendations

Members are asked to

- A. Consider the key underlying and emerging issues in the reports and appendices.
- B. Identify any performance areas that they would like to consider in greater detail or refer to the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 Poor performance could have implications for vulnerable people (including children) who are supported by Council services and the economic growth in Shropshire. In turn, there may be significant financial, legal and reputational risk to the Council, Schools (and Academies), and partners from across the public and voluntary and independent care sectors.
- 3.2 Effective monitoring and follow-up against key measures of success provides the opportunity to manage risks and ensure that Children and Young People and vulnerable adults in Shropshire remain safe and achieve the desired outcomes. Increasingly, performance reporting will reflect the impact of commissioning decisions by the Council, linking directly with the management of contracts and building on the current approach of looking at how effective the Council is at delivering its outcomes.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 This report does not have any direct financial implications, but presents service and financial information to support decision making. Accountable officers and senior managers may use the information to inform actions or interventions for improving service performance and the prioritisation and use of resources.
- 4.2 Full financial details are presented as part of the Financial Reports.

5. High level Change Infographics dashboard

- 5.1 The high level graphic shows the four measures which are used to show the Council's performance in managing the budget, its staffing levels, its expenditure and residents satisfaction in the area they live.
- 5.2 The projected revenue forecast for the year, at Quarter 1, shows a potential overspend of £3.225m on a net budget of £223.45m for the full year. This is being monitored and will be revised each month. Full details are presented in the financial reports.

- 5.3 The number of non-school posts has reduced from 5096 (3,393 FTE equivalent) in July 2013 to 4524 (2855 FTE equivalent) in June 2014. The average number of layers of management between Chief Executive and staff has remained at 4.9 over the same period of time.
- 5.4 In Q1 2014/15, The Council spent 47.8% of its original gross revenue budget with external organisations (therefore excluding staffing costs, transfer payments and recharges). This is broadly in line with the profiled minimum standard 48.3% for the quarter and reflects progress of the Council's approach to the way services are being delivered.
- 5.5 The first quarterly survey to track satisfaction with local areas was launched in Quarter 1. When asked: "Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your local area as a place to live? By local area we mean within 15-20 minutes walking distance from your home." 73% of respondents (net score) reported being either very satisfied or fairly satisfied. The survey conducted through Shropshire Council's People's Panel will be repeated on a quarterly basis to reflect the residents' view overall about the impact of the outcomes delivered by Shropshire Council and its partner organisations.

6. Summary Outcomes Infographic Dashboard

- 6.1 The summary outcomes presents the key messages from the intelligence captured by the technical performance dashboards using infographic images – one for each outcome prioritised by the Council. The infographic has been developed as a result of responding to the Members' Task and Finish group work to enhance performance reporting and focus more on the key performance intelligence to inform decision making and scrutiny.
- 6.2 The latest published Office of National Statistics (ONS) data shows that the average life expectancy at birth in Shropshire (79.8 for males and 83.8 for females) is above the national average both for males and females. As contextual information Shropshire's results for healthy life expectancy is also better than England average.
- 6.3 The rate of Looked After Children (LAC) per 10k population has again risen but remains below the average level for statistical neighbours and England. The absolute number of LAC has been rising since August 2011 when it stood at 195. At the end of Q1 there were 286 LAC, representing a 47% increase over this period.
- 6.4 Children's Social Care Services are being re-designed with a focus to reduce the need for children to be looked after or the period of time that children are looked after in a safe way. More support is being provided to the children on the edge of care. For children deemed in need of permanency care due to significant harm, more focus is put on ensuring timely care planning. Early Help strategy developments included support from social workers for partner organisations to help manage risk at lower level or in case of significant harm to act promptly.
- 6.5 Data for the first quarter of this financial year shows an improvement in performance regarding the percentage of Children who are subject to a second or subsequent child protection plan within two years and only less than 1% of the active cases with a child protection plan that was started more than two years ago.

- 6.6 The level of reported crime for period ending March 2014 has shown a slight increase compared to previous quarter, the first increase from one quarter to another since Dec 2011. However, the overall trend shows a reduction since March 2010. The fear of crime survey shows there has been a reduction in the fear of crime from 32.9% for the 12 months to Dec 2013 to 25.8% for the 12 months to March 2014.
- 6.7 The amount of household waste that is re-used, recycled or sent for composting has increased when compared to the previous year.
- 6.8 Average house prices in Shropshire are now 7.32 times average earnings compared to 8.42 in 2008. Although this makes housing slightly more affordable the ratio of earnings to house prices remain above the West Midlands average.
- 6.9 Claimant numbers for the Job Seekers Allowance have continued to decrease during the year with numbers now at the lowest level since Oct 2008. The percentage of claimants remains below the average for England and the West Midlands region. Long-term claimant numbers are reducing, albeit at a slower rate, and remain above pre-recession levels.
- 6.10 Permanent admissions into residential care homes (as a rate per 100,000 population) reduced year on year for both 18 to 64 and 65+ age groups.
- 6.11 Delays in transfers from hospital due to social care have continued to reduce continuing the trend from the last two years. This is a continuation of the effective joint working arrangements with partner agencies to ensure support services are in place and that delays from hospital are kept to a minimum. The result for the end of 2013/14 financial year shows better performance compared to our family group and matched England average.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 This first performance report provides an update on the results achieved and the impact on delivering the five outcomes for Shropshire based on the methodology developed as part of the Members Rapid Action Group at the beginning of the calendar year.
- 7.2 Performance in the first quarter of 2014/15 has shown a number of improvements.
- Performance has improved in the recycling rates of household waste,
 - There are less delays in transfer from hospital and
 - Fewer children are subject to a second Child Protection Plan.

In addition to these improvements there are also challenges to be faced.

- Increasing numbers of Looked After Children, following the national trend
- An above average older population placing additional demand on social care provision

These additional demands are contributing to the early budget forecasts which show a potential overspend.

Measures and new ways of working are being developed and implemented to deliver services in different ways and continue to deliver the council's outcomes and priorities.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Business Plan and Financial Strategy 2014 – 2017

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Tim Barker

Local Member

All

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Change Infographic Dashboard

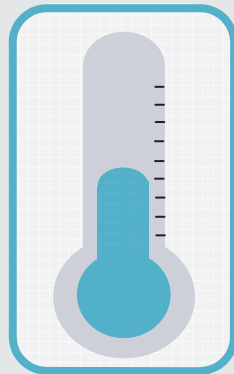
Appendix 2 – Outcome Summary Infographic Dashboard

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Your Council—Infographic Dashboard

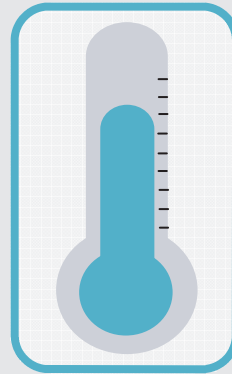
End of year budget

£223,445,000



Forecast outturn

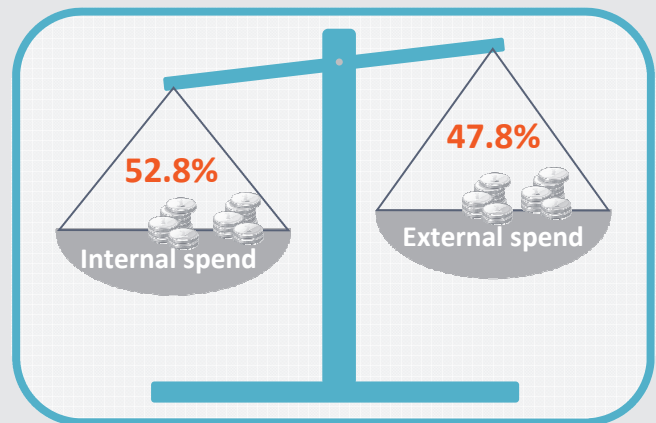
£226,670,000



£3.225m forecast overspend

47.8% of **gross revenue**
budget spent externally

Apr to Jun 2014



July 13



5,096

posts

June 14

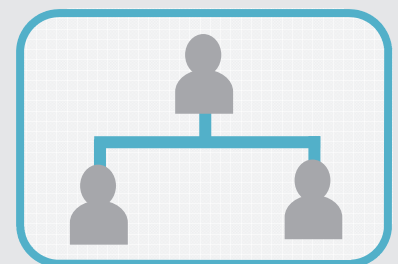


4,524

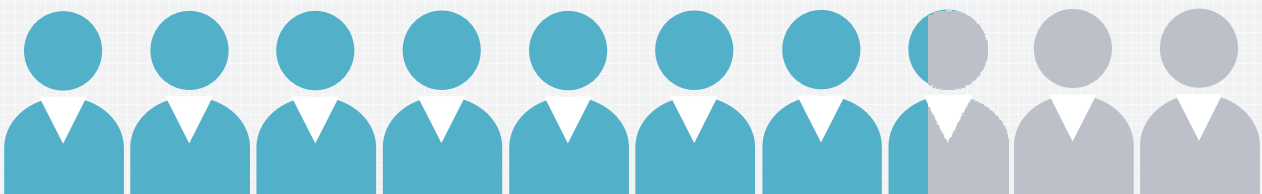
posts

The average
number of
**Council work-
force layers**

under the Chief Executive has
remained at 4.9



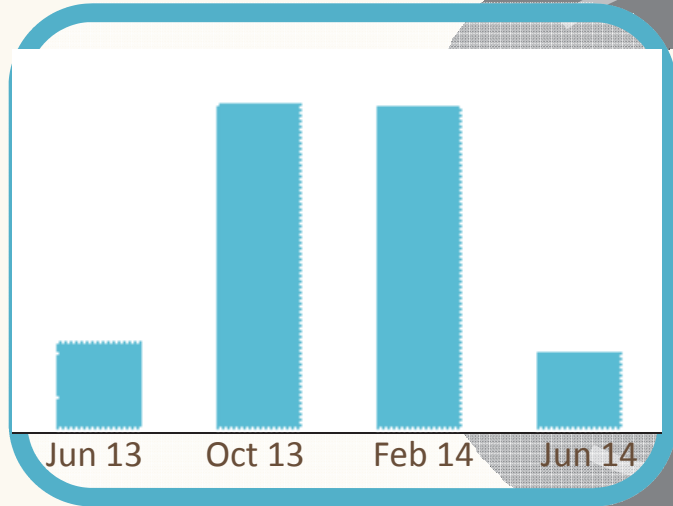
73% of **residents** surveyed are **satisfied** with their **local area**



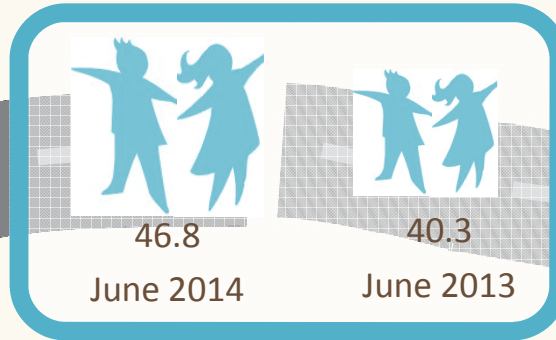
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Shropshire Outcomes

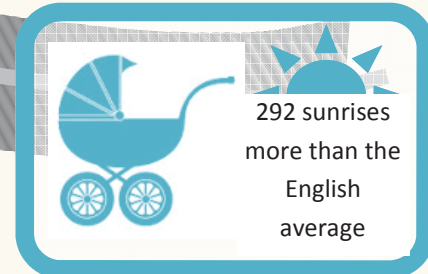
Children with a 2nd or subsequent **Child Protection Plan** has **decreased**



Number of **looked after children** per 10,000 has **increased**



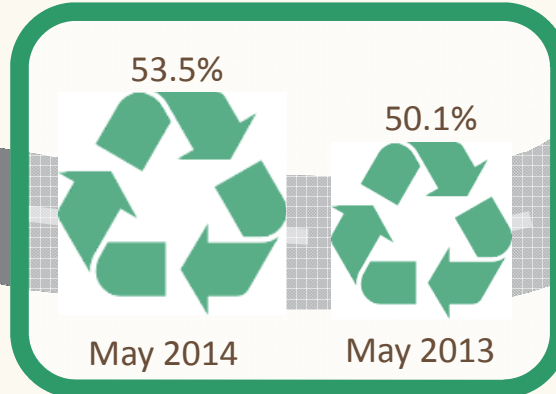
Your life outcome SC1
Welcome to Shropshire



Born in 2012, average **life expectancy** is **81.8 years**

Your environment outcome SC2
A Great Place To Live

Household waste sent for **recycling, re-use or composting** has **increased**

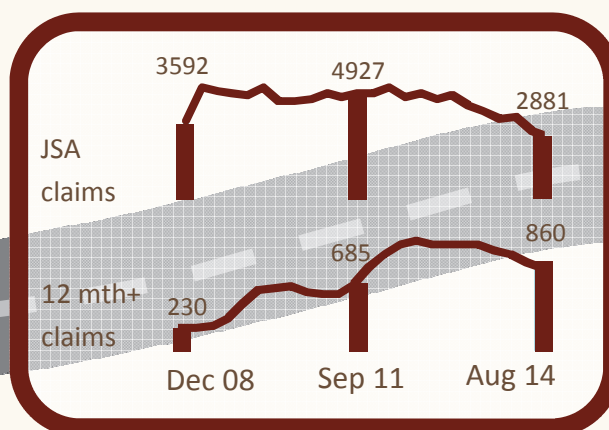


Fear of crime has **fallen** whilst **reported offences** has slightly **increased** in 3 months to Mar 14



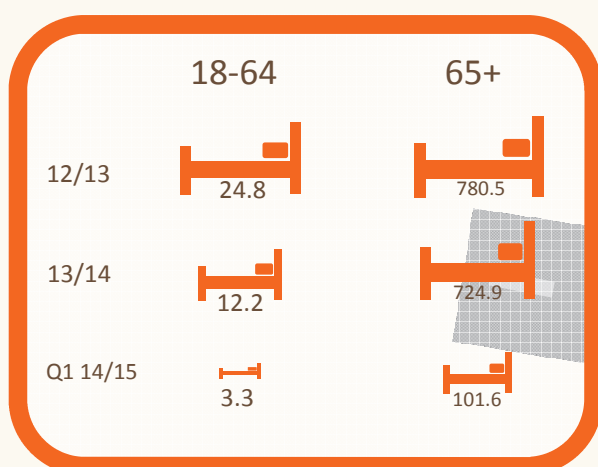
Your money outcome SC3
Floreat Salopia

House price v earnings ratio has **decreased**



Job Seekers Allowance claims **lowest** since Oct 2008... but **long term claimants** remain **high**

Your health outcome SC4
Please Drive Carefully



Reduced permanent admissions into residential care homes, per 100,000 population



Reduced delayed transfers of care from hospital, per 100,000 population aged 18+, due to Adult Social Care

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Date: Wednesday, 30 July 2014

Time: 12.30 pm

Venue: Shrewsbury Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire,
SY2 6ND

Contact: Penny Chamberlain, Principal Committee Officer
Tel: 01743 252729
Email: penny.chamberlain@shropshire.gov.uk

CABINET

COMPLETE COPY OF REPORT INCLUDING APPENDIX 2

7 Financial Strategy Report 1 (Pages 1 - 46)

Lead Member – Mr Mike Owen, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Support.

Report of the Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) is to follow.

Contact – James Walton (01743 255011)

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Committee and Date

Cabinet

30th July 2014
12:30pm

Item

7

Public

FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2015/16 – 2017/18

Responsible Officer James Walton

e-mail: james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 255011

1. Summary

This overview includes the latest estimates of the Council's revenue resources and expenditure. It is set in the context of the Council's other key strategic documents, in particular, the Treasury Management Strategy and the Capital Strategy which is now incorporated within the Business Plan.

The Council Business Plan and Financial Strategy 2014/15 to 2016/17 was agreed by Full Council on 27 February 2014. The Plan identified a funding gap of £80m over the 3 years 2014/15 to 2016/17 and sets out the Council's approach to redesigning services and delivering the required savings by making the best use of resources available. The Financial Strategy is a rolling plan which is revised throughout each financial year, usually quarterly, as more information becomes available about the level of resources, service pressures and service delivery changes. This report is the first Financial Strategy in 2014/15. The report will consider the information from current year monitoring reports and any implications of this for future year's budgets. It will also consider revised information for years 2 and 3, 2015/16 and 2016/17 of the current financial plan and outline initial projections for 2017/18.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that members:

- A. Note that the funding gap of £80m for the period 2014-17 identified in the Council Business Plan and Financial Strategy agreed by Council in February 2014 is retained for planning purposes.
- B. Note the initial funding gap identified for 2017/18, which will be refined before being built into the Council's next Medium Term Financial Plan
- C. Note that a further, updated report, is due to be presented to Council in September to reflect the financial implications of the planned university and Annual Business Plan for ip&e.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1. The development and delivery of the Council's Business Plan and Financial Strategy for the next three years is the key process in managing many of the Council's strategic risks. The opportunities and risks arising are assessed each time the document is refreshed for Cabinet consideration. The Council's Strategic Risks are reported separately, but the Business Plan and Financial Strategy makes specific reference to the significant financial uncertainty across Local Government in the Medium Term.

Financial Uncertainty

- 3.2. The 2014/15 funding settlement gave illustrative figures for 2015/16 only. There is a risk that these figures are further reduced when the provisional 2015/16 settlement is announced in December 2014. Also there is increased uncertainty around funding levels beyond the current parliamentary term. This increases uncertainty both in 2015/16 and future years as previously incoming governments have made in year as well as future year changes to local government departmental expenditure limits.
- 3.3. As government funding reduces, the Council becomes more reliant on locally retained business rates. As detailed in previous reports, a reduction in business rate income in any year would have to be around 10% before a safety net payment would be invoked. This drop is higher than the 7.5% indicated in the funding mechanism as the Council's budgeted business rate income is higher than the baseline level that the 7.5% drop would be measured against.
- 3.4. Locally retained business rates introduce uncertainty to the Council's in year available resources; previously the Council was informed of the amount of redistributed business rates it would receive before the start of the financial year, under the new system the resources the Council actually receives will only be estimated in advance and could vary significantly.
- 3.5. Variations from budgeted revenues for both Business Rates and Council Tax are dealt with through the relative collection fund account. The timing of the availability of the final figures means that adjustments required, i.e. deficits or surpluses on the collection fund, fall 2 years after the year in which they relate. To mitigate the risk of large variations in estimated Business Rates, monitoring of Business Rates income will be further developed and reported regularly, reducing risk as the level and quality of data is increased.

- 3.6. The funding mechanism does not reflect any service needs changes from year to year. It is proposed that the system will not be reset for 7 years i.e. until 2020/21.
- 3.7. By creating a Financial Strategy that continues to look beyond the next three years at the longer-term and is regularly updated to reflect new information, the Council is in a stronger position to approach future challenges proactively, rather than reactively.
- 3.8. While the Financial Strategy represents our approach to the mitigation of the financial uncertainty we are faced with, the tight and uncertain financial climate over the medium to long term still presents a high risk to the authority. In addition to the known uncertainties we have planned for, there remains potential for further, as yet unrecognised, risks. For this reason, a prudent approach to the level of reserves held by the Council remains sensible and necessary. As the new Business Rates Retention system becomes embedded this will mean the revision of newly introduced provisions for rating appeals and other fluctuations.
- 3.9. The Council has started the financial year 2014/15 with a reasonable level of general reserve to help mitigate against the risk of delay in implementation of the significant savings proposals. It is essential that this is kept under review both in the current year and with a view to future years and balancing the budget.

Other Risks and Opportunities

- 3.10. The Business Plan and Financial Strategy sets the resource parameters within which the Council can commission services to meet its priority outcomes. All risks and opportunities which have a material monetary value are considered within the strategy.
- 3.11. The Council's Business Plan and Financial Strategy recognises that there are risks and opportunities associated with ip&e as it is a wholly owned company of the Council. The development of the Council's future financial strategy will be clear about the financial expectations of ip&e and how this will impact on the Council's budget.
- 3.12. Setting the Financial Strategy and agreeing the detailed changes necessary to deliver the agreed budget for the next financial year, will take into account the requirements of the Human Rights Act, any necessary environmental appraisals and the need for Equalities Impact Needs Assessments and any necessary service user consultation.

4. The Current Year Budget, 2014/15

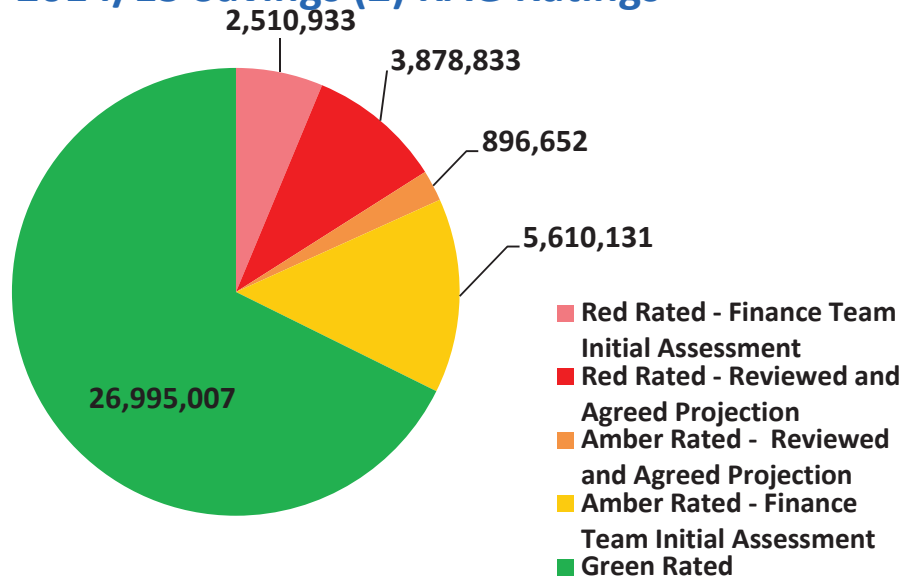
- 4.1. In February, Council agreed a savings target of £41.531m for 2014/15 and savings identified against this target of £39.892m. It was recognised that there was a shortfall on savings target of £1.639m in 2014/15 which would need to be identified from within 2014/15 budget.
- 4.2. The proposals put forward for 2014/15 were reviewed to consider risks associated with delivery within available timescales as follows:
 - Green – Saving identified, quantified and confirmed and achieved
 - Amber – Saving identified, quantified and confirmed but not yet achieved
 - Red, either – Saving identified but not quantified and confirmed or achieved, or – Saving unachievable
- 4.3. The report recognised that revision and re-phasing of growth proposals reflected an increase in, and addition to, the resources available to offset savings of £6.262m in 2014/15 on a one off basis. The first call on this is the shortfall on savings identified in 2014/15 of £1.639m. The remaining balance is available to address financial issues within 2014/15.
- 4.4. Following Council in February, work has been undertaken to review the RAG categorisation of savings, extend the categorisation to all 3 years of the financial strategy and identify any areas where the achievement of saving and/or redesign of service is at risk of being significantly delayed or unachievable. These areas have been referred to as Key Areas of Concern and have been the subject of heightened management action by Directors and Cabinet Members from 11 June 2014.
- 4.5. Table 1 below identifies the RAG rating for all 2014/15 proposals based on:
 - An initial assessment;
 - Review by the Finance Team based on financial evidence available; and finally
 - Overlay by Directors and Portfolioholders based on delivery of milestones and action being undertaken on the ground (in the absence of financial data to justify projections).

Table 1: Update on Delivery of 2014/15 Savings Proposals

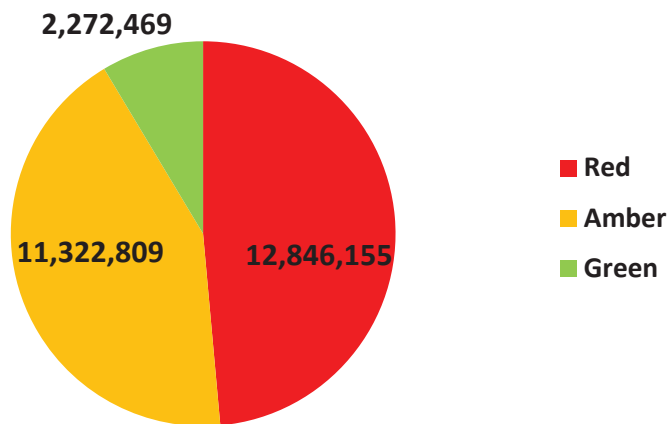
Service Area	Position as at 11 th June 2014 £'000	Finance Team Initial Assessment as at Period 3 £'000	Reviewed and Agreed Projection for Period 3 £'000
Red Savings			
Adult Services	1,304	2,511	0
Children's Services	2,922	1,908	1,908
Commissioning	1,287	1,287	1,287
Public Health	0	0	0
Resources & Support	684	684	684
Corporate	0	0	0
	6,197	6,390	3,879
Amber Savings			
Adult Services	5,781	4,812	0
Children's Services	999	569	0
Commissioning	774	774	774
Public Health	0	0	0
Resources & Support	352	352	123
Corporate	0	0	0
	7,906	6,507	897
Green Savings			
Adult Services	3,148	2,910	10,233
Children's Services	3,291	4,735	5,304
Commissioning	6,144	6,144	6,144
Public Health	55	55	55
Resources & Support	6,351	6,351	6,580
Corporate	6,800	6,800	6,800
	25,789	26,995	35,116
TOTAL SAVINGS	39,892	39,892	39,892

- 4.6. The most recent categorisation, as at Period 3, is shown in the pie charts below with detail by service area and change since the last reported position detailed in Appendix 1.

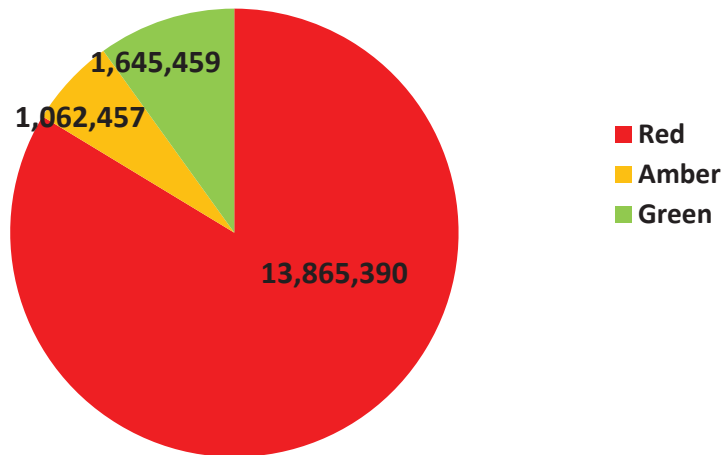
2014/15 Savings (£) RAG Ratings



2015/16 Savings (£) RAG Ratings



2016/17 Savings (£) RAG Ratings



4.7. The key areas of concern around achievement of savings and service redesign identified to date are:-

- Adults services – Contracts, Direct Payments, Purchasing and Transition
- Children's Services – Looked After Children, Learning and Skills (savings from Inspire To Learn Project)
- Commissioning Services – Environmental Maintenance, Waste Management
- Resources and Support – Property (rationalisation of assets)

4.8. Savings relating to these key areas of concern form a significant amount of red rated saving identified in 2014/15 and into future years and by identifying them as key areas early in the process, it is possible to provide greater resilience to the Medium Term Financial Plan. Where further review identifies areas where savings are delayed or not achievable in 2014/15, there is the possibility that they can be covered in 2014/15 by the use of one off savings/ grants/ reserves when the underlying saving still remains to be implemented. Where the on-going saving can be implemented, but over a longer timescale, this approach does not destabilise the Financial Strategy. Where a saving proves unachievable, for whatever reason, this will be reported back through the Financial Strategy and alternative approaches identified. This is discussed in more detail below.

- 4.9. A separate report to Cabinet on 30 July 2014 considers Period 3 Revenue Monitoring position. At this early stage in the year the projection is that the revenue budget for 2014/15 will be £3.225m overspent.
- 4.10. The monitoring report provides detail on the build up of this overspend projection, in terms of unachievable 2014/15 savings and other service pressures or funding.
- 4.11. For the Financial Strategy it is the impact of any 2014/15 monitoring issues in future years which is important. Often pressures arising within a year are dealt with on a one off basis within year and the ongoing pressure then needs to be addressed in the next financial year. This is true for both unachievable savings and new service pressures.
- 4.12. As we move into 2015/16 budget, the current assumption is that £41.531m of savings have been achieved and expenditure to be incurred in 2015/16 can be financed by the resources identified for 2015/16. Where information arising from 2014/15 monitoring makes this assumption incorrect it is important this is identified.
- 4.13. The tables below provide a summary by service area of budget issues identified in the current year monitoring projections which will impact on future years budgets

Table 2: Red and Amber rated Savings in 2014/15 which may have implications for future years

	Red Savings detailed in Projection £'000	Amber Savings detailed in Projection £'000	Total £'000
Adult Services	0	0	0
Children's Services	1,908	0	1,908
Commissioning	1,287	774	2,061
Public Health	0	0	0
Resources & Support	683	123	806
Corporate	0	0	0
TOTAL	3,878	897	4,775

Table 3: Pressures identified in 2014/15 which may have implications for future years

	Ongoing Monitoring Pressures Identified	Ongoing Savings Delivered	Ongoing Monitoring Savings Identified	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adult Services	2,846	0	-34	2,812
Children's Services	416	-3	-416	-3
Commissioning	2,542	-483	0	2,059
Public Health	0	0	0	0
Resources & Support	428	0	0	428
Corporate	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	6,232	-486	-450	5,296

- 4.14. At this stage in the financial year, the issues identified above are being actively monitored and regular meetings with Portfolio holders are being held to accelerate decision making to progress achievement of savings. It has been made clear that savings must be achieved or alternatives found. Any delay in implementation must be offset by one off savings.
- 4.15. The Period 3 Monitor identifies savings flagged as Red and Amber for which there is a degree of uncertainty over deliverability and also pressures within services that fall outside of savings proposals. The total proposals flagged Red and Amber sum to £4.775m (as shown in Table 2), although at this stage it is anticipated that these are deliverable in a longer timeframe or can be replaced by alternative proposals and as such do not destabilise the Financial Strategy. In addition, the Period 3 monitor has identified £4.727m of pressures that have arisen in-year, but have the potential to continue into future years, causing an issue that needs to be recognised and managed within the Medium Term Financial Plan. The current estimate of the net pressures requiring resolution in the longer term is £5.296m (as shown in Table 3). In the main this pressure consists of the ongoing pressure identified late in 2013/14 relating to the revenue and capital split in redesigned highways and environmental maintenance work, and growth in Adult Social Care placements currently appearing to exceed the modelled growth identified over the Medium Term Financial Plan period. These issues are not yet at a stage where financial implications can be built into the Financial Strategy, instead they are currently being flagged as issues for further investigation only.
- 4.16. The monitoring and balancing of the 2014/15 budget will continue to be reported throughout 2014/15 as part of the monitoring reports.

4.17. For 2014/15, any projected overspend would have to be financed by the general reserve which has a balance as at 1 April 2014 of £14.497m.

5. Resource and Expenditure Projections 2015/16 and 16/17

5.1. The Council Business Plan and Financial Strategy agreed by Council in February identified the expenditure and resource projections for 2015/16 and 2016/17.

5.2. The projections have been revised to reflect the latest information and also to include initial projections for 2017/18. The table below provides the information provided at Council and the updated information with further explanation of any changes detailed in the paragraphs below.

Table 3: Resource and Expenditure Projections 2015/16-2017/18

	2014/15 Feb 14 Council £'000	2015/16 Feb 14 Council £'000	2015/16 Revised £'000	2016/17 Feb 14 Council £'000	2016/17 Revised £'000	2017/18 Projection £'000
Resources		558,886	551,510	548,424	540,015	531,072
Expenditure Projections		579,022	572,125	586,893	578,678	582,483
Cumulative Savings Target				38,469	38,664	51,410
Achieved in Previous Year(s)	41,531			20,136	20,615	38,664
In Year Savings		20,136	20,615	18,333	18,048	12,746
Change (Cum)			479		194	

Resource Projections

5.3. Government funding to Shropshire includes Revenue Support Grant and, in Shropshire's case, top up grant. When the current Local Government Finance system was introduced in April 2013, approximately 50% of funding came from Revenue Support Grant and the remainder from locally retained Business Rates adjusted by top ups and tariffs. The government made

assumptions about the amount of locally retained business rates to calculate top up and tariff payments at the start of the system to ensure the new system did not inadvertently adjust any local authority's total government funding. The Assumed Locally Retained Business Rates, Top Up Payment and the Revenue Support Grant together are referred to as the Authority's Settlement Funding Assessment. The Assumed or Baseline Business Rates and Top Up figure are fixed in real terms and increased annually by RPI as part of the funding mechanism. Any change to the total government funding is therefore only implemented by a change in Revenue Support Grant as the other two funding components are fixed.

- 5.4. The Settlement Funding Assessment is important for the Authority as it is used not only to calculate % reductions going forward but also the Baseline Business Rates is used to calculate Shropshire's safety net. However, for resource projections Shropshire uses its own projections on locally retained Business Rates based on up to date local information which is also included in government returns.
- 5.5. The 2014/15 Local Government Finance Settlement in February 2014 provided illustrative figures for 2015/16. These showed a reduction in Settlement Funding Assessment of 14% and a consequence reduction in the Revenue Support Grant Element of 27.5% for 2015/16. Our current assumptions for 2016/17 assume a reduction of 11.5% in Settlement Funding Assessment and 25.5% in Revenue Support Grant. A recent survey carried out by the Society of County Treasurers Technical Team in Somerset indicates that other authorities are assuming reductions in funding between 8% and 14%.
- 5.6. In terms of Locally Retained Business Rates, projections for 2015/16 have been updated following the outturn position for 2013/14 and increased information about appeals, reliefs and adjustments between the collection and general fund. No growth has been built into Business Rates projections going forward. Although the business rates multiplier will increase by RPI each year (unless restricted), the rateable value projections are too volatile for any growth to be assumed at this stage. This assumption is in line with assumptions around future Business Rates levels made by other authorities who replied to the technical team survey referred to above.
- 5.7. Council tax income projections have been updated to increase the growth in council tax base projected from 0.2% to 0.5%. Council Tax has been frozen at 2014/15 levels going forward.
- 5.8. The Local Government Department Expenditure Limit (DEL) used in the calculation of illustrative 2015/16 funding calculations has been top sliced for several things such as new homes bonus, safety net payments and

capitalisation of transformation expenditure. The government policy on this top slicing is that any unused top sliced amounts will be returned to local authorities. The current projections include a returned amount for new homes bonus as indicated in the settlement details but no return for other items. In 2013/14, the Council received notification of £354k for return of unused capitalisation top slice on 27 March 2014. Further returns could be made in 2014/15 and future years providing an in year bonus.

- 5.9. Income from Specific Grants has been revised to reflect the latest information. Revised amounts for 2014/15 will be dealt with as part of revenue monitoring. In 2015/16 there has been a reduction from the initial projections of £6.8m. Of this, £3m, is a net adjustment for grant recoupment for academy status and additional funding for High Needs. Also within Children's services, Education Services Grant (ESG) has reduced significantly both in 2014/15 and further in 2015/16. In addition, a number of grants will cease in 2015/16 including Local Sustainable Transport Fund and Social Fund Grant. The current assumption is that reductions in specific grants will be offset by reductions in expenditure in the service areas. This assumption may need to be revisited as services continue to be reviewed throughout this year.
- 5.10. Assumptions on the payment of Council tax freeze grant are based on budget announcements and are as follows:
- 2011/12 was paid as specific grant in 2011/12 and was then rolled into the base funding
 - 2012/13 was paid for 1 year only
 - 2013/14 was paid as a grant in 2013/14 and then added to the Local Government Departmental Expenditure Limit (LG DEL) in 2014/15
 - 2014/15 will be paid as a grant in both 2014/15 and 2015/16 and will then be built into spending review baselines
 - 2015/16 will be paid as a grant in 2015/16 only
 - 2016/17 and future years – no announcement has been made regarding further grants in 2016/17 and beyond.
- 5.11. Included within specific grants are additional grants paid to the Council as a result of government policies on business rates which have reduced the Council's share of Business Rates income. Examples of these are the cap of 2% on the increase in the rateable value multiplier and the temporary extension of the doubling of small business rate relief scheme.

- 5.12. Income from fees and charges has been left at current levels in the projections. As savings are implemented and services are redesigned income from fees and charges will change however at this stage there is insufficient information to amend the current figures.
- 5.13. Detailed Resource projections are shown in Appendix 2

Expenditure Projections

- 5.14. The expenditure projections include growth for pay and prices, demography, use of New Homes Bonus funding and adjustments to reflect changes between years for grants.
- 5.15. A review of pay and prices inflation has resulted in small net adjustments in both 2015/16 and 2016/17 using the latest employee costs and contract information. It is clear that going forward there will be a change in the relative size of each of these expenditure groups. This will effect pay and prices calculations. The Council will need to ensure that as it moves to a commissioning council, it does not increase the financial risk of increased costs due to inflationary linked contracts.
- 5.16. Although a debt charge figure is shown in 2015/16 and 2016/17, this has been used as a saving. The current projections assume that the Council will not increase it's borrowing. A change in the capital strategy to borrow would mean that this saving could not be achieved and revenue growth for debt charges would need to be found.
- 5.17. The figures included for demographic growth for Adults and Children's were reviewed last Autumn. Both Adults and Children's services are monitoring the actual growth the services are encountering and further information on this will be provided in future financial strategies.
- 5.18. As detailed above in the Resource projections, changes in specific grants are assumed to change expenditure projections by the same amount. If reductions in specific grant funding can not be matched by a reduction in expenditure this would increase savings requirements.
- 5.19. There are a number of grants currently being received which the Council has no budgeted expenditure against. These include the s31 grants for Business Rates, Council Tax freeze Grant and any return of top sliced amounts. In 2013/14, growth of £2.277m was built in for a provision for business rates appeals. This figure was required on a one off basis in 2013/14 and it is anticipated that future appeals liabilities will be dealt with through the Business Rates Collection Fund.

- 5.20. The current expenditure projections do not include any new base budget commitments which may arise as the Council develops its plans towards a University for Shropshire. This is considered later in section 7.
- 5.21. At this stage the revised resource and expenditure projections change the 2015/16 position by less than £0.5m and in 2016/17 the change is reduced to less than £0.2m. On this basis the savings target within the Council Plan and Financial Strategy agreed by Council on 27 February 2014 of £80m over 3 years will not be revised. As we continually refine and update the financial strategy this target will remain under review.
- 5.22. Detailed Expenditure projections are shown in Appendix 3

6. 2017/18 Initial Projections

- 6.1. Resource projections for 2017/18 indicate a further reduction in revenue support grant of £9.5m. This reduction in resources is offset slightly by growth in Council tax base which is estimated to increase the income from Council Tax by £0.6m. In addition to this reduction in resources, current projections for inflationary growth are £4.1m. The Council is therefore facing a shortfall in resources of at least £13m in 2017/18. Services pressures including demography or increased borrowing would add to this funding shortfall.
- 6.2. Service pressures identified to date which would impact on 2017/18 budget include auto enrolment. Auto enrolment was introduced in April 2013. The scheme means that employees not currently opted into the pensions scheme would be periodically opted in and would have to physically request to be left out. It is therefore envisaged that more employees will become scheme Members. This comes at a cost to Shropshire Council by way of having to make pension contributions for those employees newly opted in. Shropshire Council has been able to defer the staging date for the scheme so that it does not commence until April 2017 therefore no extra pension cost will be incurred until the financial year 2017/18. It is difficult to estimate the financial implications of this as it will depend on the employees who decide to remain opted in. It has previously been estimated that on the basis of a worst case scenario costs could be in excess of £1m.
- 6.3. In addition a major pressure facing Adult Social Services is the introduction of the Care Act 2014. Members were provided with a briefing note on the Dilnot Report – Implications for Shropshire Council as part of the Financial Strategy report considered by Cabinet on 15 January 2014. In May 2014, the Care Bill received royal assent and the Act introduces legislative changes based on the findings and recommendations in the

Dilnot Report. Changes arising from the Act are phased with some changes around assessments coming in from 1 April 2015 the financial implications of which are currently uncertain. Changes around thresholds and the cap will be introduced from 1 April 2016 which will create additional funding pressures in 2016/17 which will increase in 2017/18 as client contributions reach the cap. The government has indicated that additional funding will be made available to local authorities to fund additional costs including implementation costs. The financial implications of the Act are currently being modelled and further information will be provided later in this financial year.

7. University of Shropshire

- 7.1. Council received a report on 17 July 2014 outlining plans for a University for Shropshire and approved a project budget of up to £1m to allow the development of plans including pre contract/construction activity and any costs associated with decanting staff from buildings. This funding is within existing budgets previously earmarked for transformation.
- 7.2. Council will receive a further report on a developed Business Case for the University at its meeting on 25 September 2014. The financial implications of any proposals will be included in an updated Council Business Plan and Financial Strategy which will be taken to the same meeting for approval.

8. The impact on the Council's budget of Transfers to the Council's wholly owned company i,p&e

- 8.1. There have been two areas of service which have transferred to ip&e to date, Media Services known as ThreeSixty Communications and the Project Management Office and the Business Design team, known at the time as 'Change for the Best'. The estimated budget available to commission these services is shown below:

Table 3: Budgets identified to commission services from ip&e

	2015/16 - Estimate	2016/17 - Estimate
	£	£
Programme Management Office	315,160	186,660 (TBC)
Business Design Team	209,160	166,260
"Change for the Best" sub total	524,320	352,920
ThreeSixty Communications	272,680	242,980

Total	797,000	595,900
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- 8.2. As reported in February to Council, the budget for “Change for the Best” for 2016/17 has still to be agreed. It can be seen that a substantial reduction has been made to the budgets available to commission services. It is envisaged that the services within ip&e will strive to generate external income to offset the reductions in council spending. Alternatively, savings will need to be found from expenditure budgets.
- 8.3. Other services which have currently been agreed for consideration to transfer to ip&e include Public Health Services – ‘Help to Change’, School Support Services - ‘Inspire to Learn’ and Regulatory and Business Support Services - ‘Fulcrum’.
- 8.4. ip&e are currently preparing it's Annual Business Plan which has been held back while the potential for the above services and implications of the University proposal are given due consideration. Once available, the ip&e Annual Business Plan will allow costings to be included In the Council’s financial Strategy over a three year period.
- 8.5. As further services are considered for transfer to ip&e, full consideration will be given to the budget available both in the current year and future years for the council to commission transferring services. Services transferring will be clear about future savings to be made by the council from the budget available to commission services from ip&e.

9. Longer Term Financial Outlook

- 9.1. The longer term financial outlook as detailed in the Council’s Business Plan and Financial Strategy agreed by Council in February 2014 is continually being updated and refined. Details of how the Council is working differently now and how this will develop over the coming years will be set out in more detail over the coming months, ahead of a refresh of the Council’s Business Plan and Financial Strategy for the next Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 to 2018/19.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Council Business Plan and Financial Strategy 2014-17 – Council 27 February 2014

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Keith Barrow – Leader

Local Member

All

Appendices

Appendix 1 2014-17 Savings RAG Rated

Appendix 2 Resource Projections 2015/16 – 2017/18

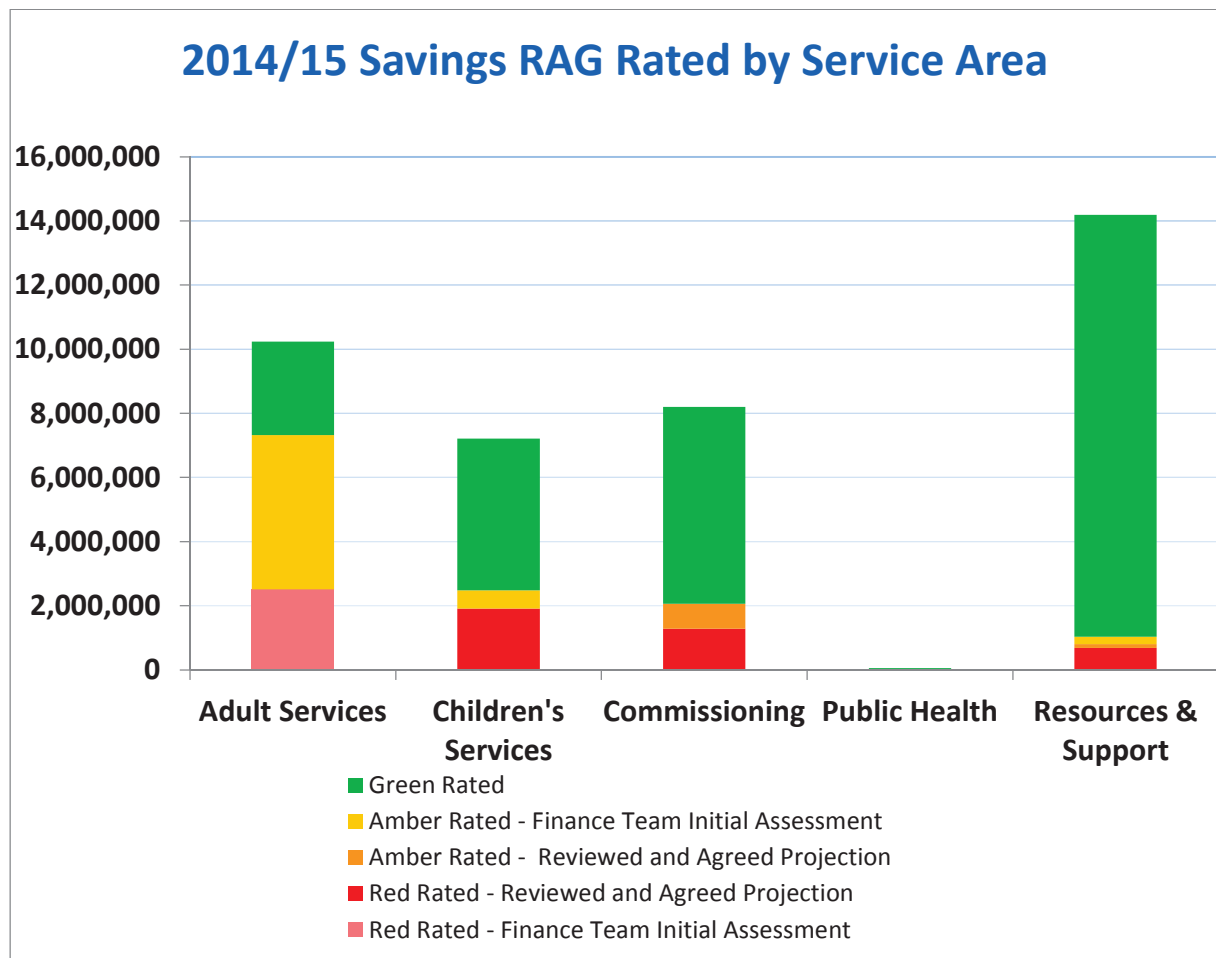
Appendix 3 Expenditure Projections 2015/16 – 2017/18

APPENDIX 1

2014/15, 2015/16 AND 2016/17 SAVINGS RAG RATED

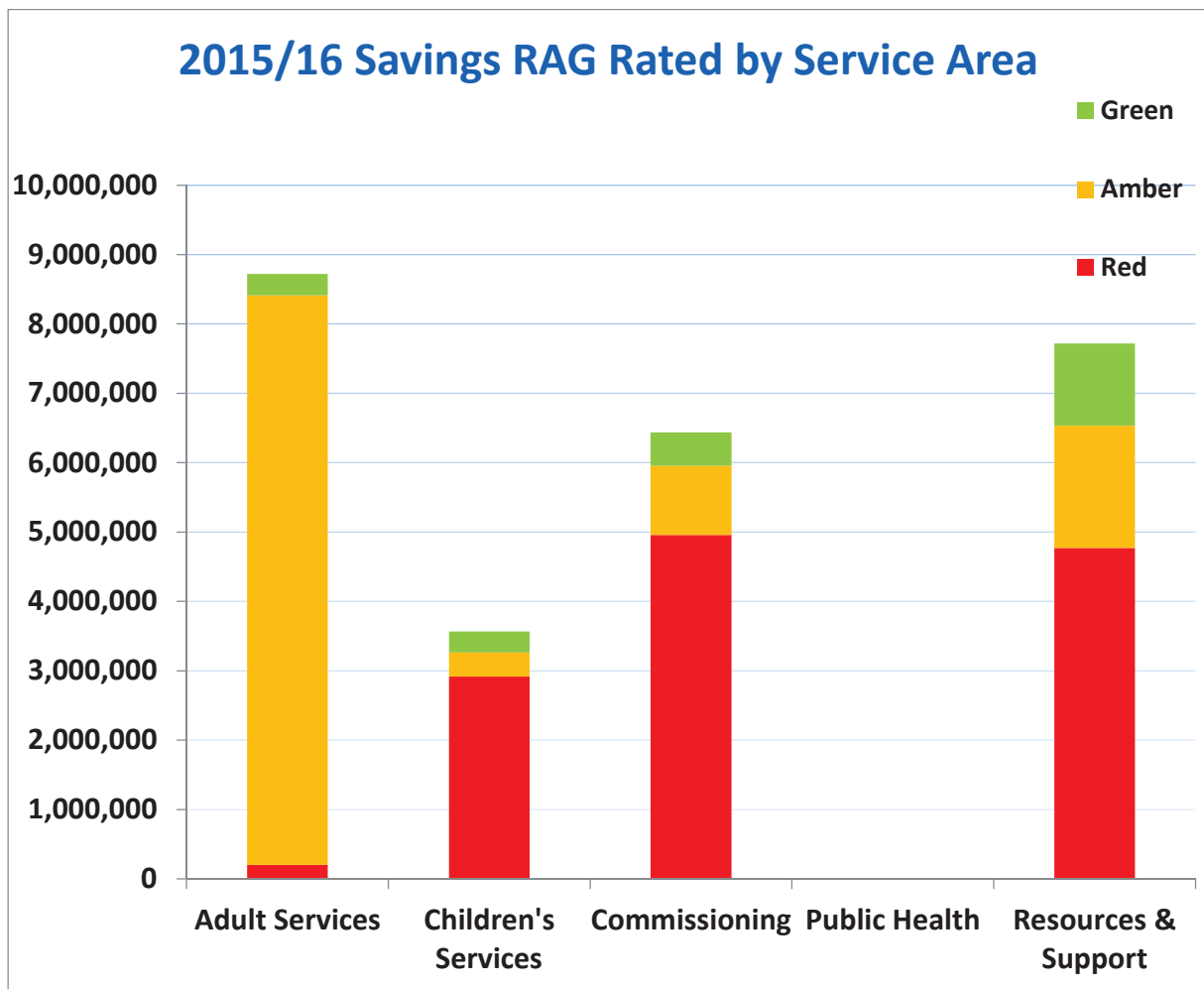
2014/15 Savings RAG Ratings			
Red £	Amber £	Green £	Total £

Adult Services	0	0	10,233,360	10,233,360
Children's Services	1,908,329	0	5,303,671	7,212,000
Commissioning	1,287,072	773,757	6,144,378	8,205,207
Public Health	0	0	54,727	54,727
Resources & Support	683,432	123,000	13,379,830	14,186,262
Council	3,878,833	896,757	35,115,966	39,891,556



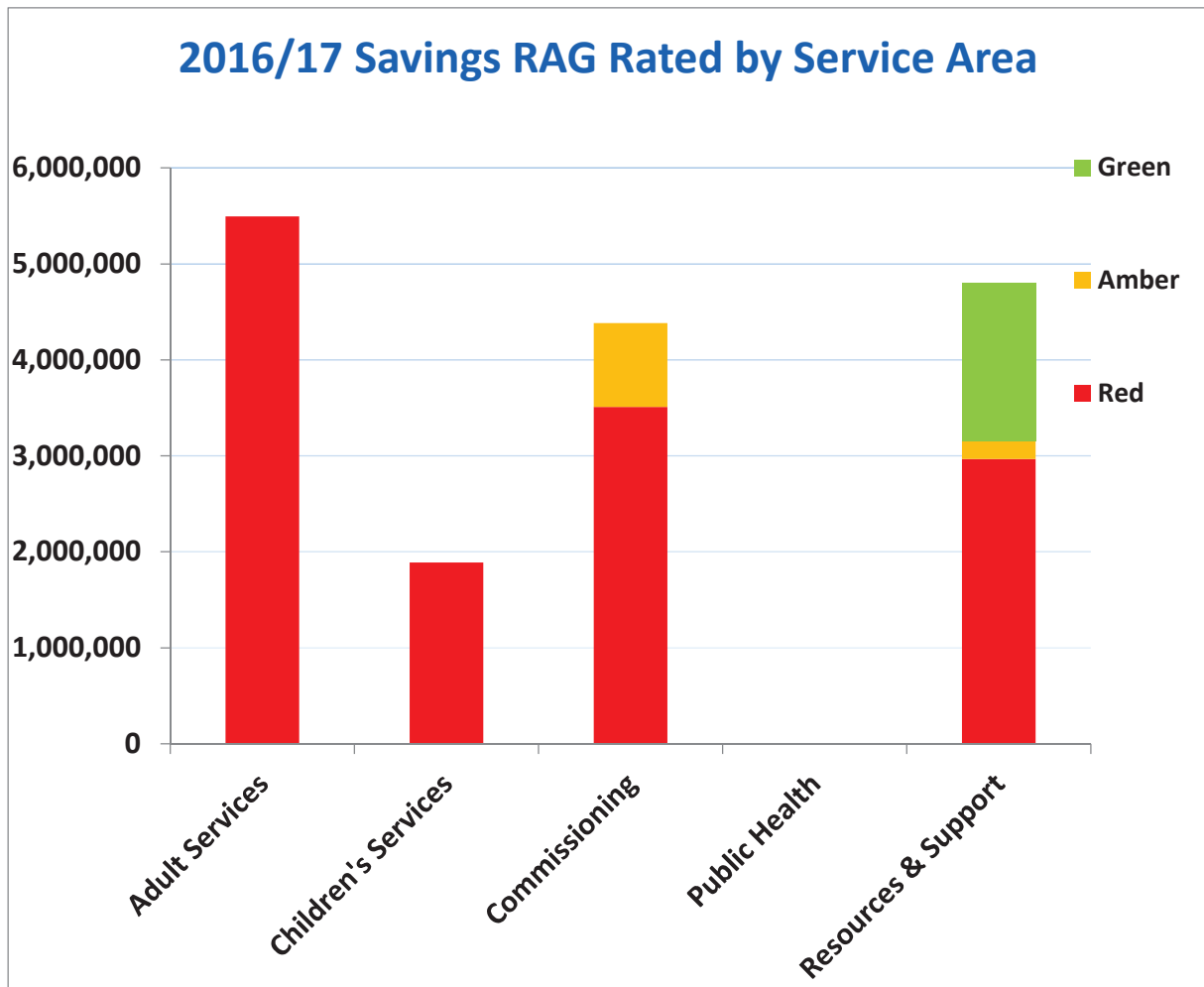
APPENDIX 1 (CONTINUED)

	2015/16 Savings RAG Ratings			
	Red £	Amber £	Green £	Total £
Adult Services	200,000	8,214,237	306,500	8,720,737
Children's Services	2,915,000	350,000	300,000	3,565,000
Commissioning	4,958,574	997,387	481,618	6,437,579
Public Health	0	0	0	0
Resources & Support	4,772,581	1,761,185	1,184,351	7,718,117
Council	12,846,155	11,322,809	2,272,469	26,441,433



APPENDIX 1 (CONTINUED)

	2016/17 Savings RAG Ratings			
	Red £	Amber £	Green £	Total £
Adult Services	5,496,246	0	0	5,496,246
Children's Services	1,890,000	0	0	1,890,000
Commissioning	3,511,238	871,609	0	4,382,847
Public Health	0	0	0	0
Resources & Support	2,967,906	190,848	1,645,459	4,804,213
Council	13,865,390	1,062,457	1,645,459	16,573,306



	Total Council Savings 2014/15 To 2016/17			
	Red	Amber	Green	Total
	£	£	£	£
Adult Services	8,207,179	13,026,408	3,216,756	24,450,343
Children's Services	5,814,329	918,960	5,933,711	12,667,000
Commissioning	10,144,459	2,255,178	6,625,996	19,025,633
Public Health	0	0	54,727	54,727
Resources & Support	8,423,919	2,303,928	15,980,745	26,708,592
Council	32,589,886	18,504,474	31,811,935	82,906,295

					APPENDIX 3
SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL - FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2015/16 to 2017/18					
	2015/16	2015/16	2016/17	2016/17	2017/18
	27 Feb 2014	30 July 2014	27 Feb 2014	30 July 2014	30 July 2014
	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure					
<i>Original Gross Budget Requirement</i>	572,138,661	572,138,661	579,022,206	572,125,394	578,678,441
Current Year Monitoring Issues with ongoing implications					
- Asset Sales - Removal of income stream	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	0
- As identified as at P3- no growth included as at P3		0		0	0
2014/15 - New Budget Growth					
Inflation					
- Prices	2,852,381	2,796,947	3,006,053	2,921,147	3,058,689
- Pav 1% award	885,196	710,957	839,083	723,654	734,834
- Pav Increment	496,988	637,769	281,097	480,607	332,950
- Pension Costs	0	0	3,500,000	3,500,000	0
- Auto Enrolment (impacts 2017/18)-ESTIMATE	0		0		TBC
Committed Growth					
- Debt Charges (Reduced as part of Savings)	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
New Growth					
- Demography: Adults	1,758,000	1,758,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	0
- Demography: Childrens services	1,183,000	1,183,000	1,183,000	1,183,000	0
New Service Pressures					
New Investment funding- One year only	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)			
Repaying for borrowing for Redundancies			2,000,000	2,000,000	0
Care Act implications					TBC
Changes to Expenditure Reflected in Resources					
Specific Grant Changes from Previous Year Including New Responsibilities	2,724,070	(4,083,850)	0	(1,317,000)	(321,980)
Offsetting Budget Adjustments					
Use of NHB Smoothing	(1,609,000)	(1,609,000)	(1,909,000)	(1,909,000)	0
Reallocation of Business Rates Appeals Base Budget		(2,277,816)			
Additional Contribution to offset Delay in Savings Achievement		2,277,816			
Contributions to Savings for changes in Projections					
- Net Growth Change	2,167,600	2,167,600	(3,749,700)	(3,749,700)	
- Net Resources Change-14/15 one year only	-2,454,351	-2,454,351			
- Net Resources Change-15/16 one year only	(170,339)	(170,339)	170,339	170,339	
Gross Budget Requirement (Excluding Internal Market)	579,022,206	572,125,394	586,893,078	578,678,441	582,482,934



<u>Committee and Date</u>	<u>Item</u>
Cabinet	
30 th July 2014 12:30pm	7
	<u>Public</u>

FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2015/16 – 2017/18

Responsible Officer James Walton
 e-mail: james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 255011

1. Summary

This overview includes the latest estimates of the Council's revenue resources and expenditure. It is set in the context of the Council's other key strategic documents, in particular, the Treasury Management Strategy and the Capital Strategy which is now incorporated within the Business Plan.

The Council Business Plan and Financial Strategy 2014/15 to 2016/17 was agreed by Full Council on 27 February 2014. The Plan identified a funding gap of £80m over the 3 years 2014/15 to 2016/17 and sets out the Council's approach to redesigning services and delivering the required savings by making the best use of resources available. The Financial Strategy is a rolling plan which is revised throughout each financial year, usually quarterly, as more information becomes available about the level of resources, service pressures and service delivery changes. This report is the first Financial Strategy in 2014/15. The report will consider the information from current year monitoring reports and any implications of this for future year's budgets. It will also consider revised information for years 2 and 3, 2015/16 and 2016/17 of the current financial plan and outline initial projections for 2017/18.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that members:

- A. Note that the funding gap of £80m for the period 2014-17 identified in the Council Business Plan and Financial Strategy agreed by Council in February 2014 is retained for planning purposes.
- B. Note the initial funding gap identified for 2017/18, which will be refined before being built into the Council's next Medium Term Financial Plan

- C. Note that a further, updated report, is due to be presented to Council in September to reflect the financial implications of the planned university and Annual Business Plan for ip&e.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1. The development and delivery of the Council's Business Plan and Financial Strategy for the next three years is the key process in managing many of the Council's strategic risks. The opportunities and risks arising are assessed each time the document is refreshed for Cabinet consideration. The Council's Strategic Risks are reported separately, but the Business Plan and Financial Strategy makes specific reference to the significant financial uncertainty across Local Government in the Medium Term.

Financial Uncertainty

- 3.2. The 2014/15 funding settlement gave illustrative figures for 2015/16 only. There is a risk that these figures are further reduced when the provisional 2015/16 settlement is announced in December 2014. Also there is increased uncertainty around funding levels beyond the current parliamentary term. This increases uncertainty both in 2015/16 and future years as previously incoming governments have made in year as well as future year changes to local government departmental expenditure limits.
- 3.3. As government funding reduces, the Council becomes more reliant on locally retained business rates. As detailed in previous reports, a reduction in business rate income in any year would have to be around 10% before a safety net payment would be invoked. This drop is higher than the 7.5% indicated in the funding mechanism as the Council's budgeted business rate income is higher than the baseline level that the 7.5% drop would be measured against.
- 3.4. Locally retained business rates introduce uncertainty to the Council's in year available resources; previously the Council was informed of the amount of redistributed business rates it would receive before the start of the financial year, under the new system the resources the Council actually receives will only be estimated in advance and could vary significantly.
- 3.5. Variations from budgeted revenues for both Business Rates and Council Tax are dealt with through the relative collection fund account. The timing of the availability of the final figures means that adjustments required, i.e. deficits or surpluses on the collection fund, fall 2 years after the year in which they relate. To mitigate the risk of large variations in estimated Business Rates, monitoring of Business Rates income will be further

developed and reported regularly, reducing risk as the level and quality of data is increased.

- 3.6. The funding mechanism does not reflect any service needs changes from year to year. It is proposed that the system will not be reset for 7 years i.e. until 2020/21.
- 3.7. By creating a Financial Strategy that continues to look beyond the next three years at the longer-term and is regularly updated to reflect new information, the Council is in a stronger position to approach future challenges proactively, rather than reactively.
- 3.8. While the Financial Strategy represents our approach to the mitigation of the financial uncertainty we are faced with, the tight and uncertain financial climate over the medium to long term still presents a high risk to the authority. In addition to the known uncertainties we have planned for, there remains potential for further, as yet unrecognised, risks. For this reason, a prudent approach to the level of reserves held by the Council remains sensible and necessary. As the new Business Rates Retention system becomes embedded this will mean the revision of newly introduced provisions for rating appeals and other fluctuations.
- 3.9. The Council has started the financial year 2014/15 with a reasonable level of general reserve to help mitigate against the risk of delay in implementation of the significant savings proposals. It is essential that this is kept under review both in the current year and with a view to future years and balancing the budget.

Other Risks and Opportunities

- 3.10. The Business Plan and Financial Strategy sets the resource parameters within which the Council can commission services to meet its priority outcomes. All risks and opportunities which have a material monetary value are considered within the strategy.
- 3.11. The Council's Business Plan and Financial Strategy recognises that there are risks and opportunities associated with ip&e as it is a wholly owned company of the Council. The development of the Council's future financial strategy will be clear about the financial expectations of ip&e and how this will impact on the Council's budget.
- 3.12. Setting the Financial Strategy and agreeing the detailed changes necessary to deliver the agreed budget for the next financial year, will take into account the requirements of the Human Rights Act, any necessary environmental appraisals and the need for Equalities Impact Needs Assessments and any necessary service user consultation.

4. The Current Year Budget, 2014/15

- 4.1. In February, Council agreed a savings target of £41.531m for 2014/15 and savings identified against this target of £39.892m. It was recognised that there was a shortfall on savings target of £1.639m in 2014/15 which would need to be identified from within 2014/15 budget.
- 4.2. The proposals put forward for 2014/15 were reviewed to consider risks associated with delivery within available timescales as follows:

Green – Saving identified, quantified and confirmed and achieved

Amber – Saving identified, quantified and confirmed but not yet achieved

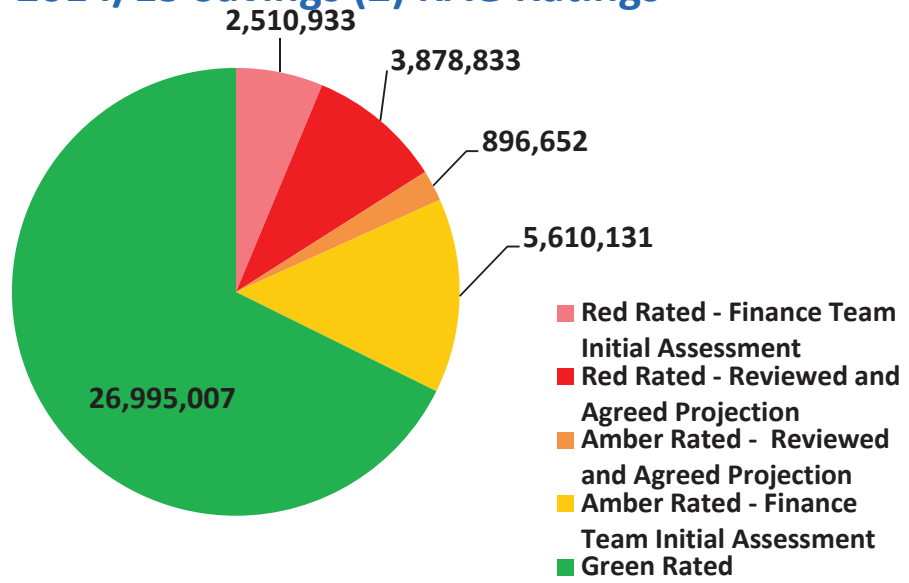
Red, either – Saving identified but not quantified and confirmed or achieved, or – Saving unachievable
- 4.3. The report recognised that revision and re-phasing of growth proposals reflected an increase in, and addition to, the resources available to offset savings of £6.262m in 2014/15 on a one off basis. The first call on this is the shortfall on savings identified in 2014/15 of £1.639m. The remaining balance is available to address financial issues within 2014/15.
- 4.4. Following Council in February, work has been undertaken to review the RAG categorisation of savings, extend the categorisation to all 3 years of the financial strategy and identify any areas where the achievement of saving and/or redesign of service is at risk of being significantly delayed or unachievable. These areas have been referred to as Key Areas of Concern and have been the subject of heightened management action by Directors and Cabinet Members from 11 June 2014.
- 4.5. Table 1 below identifies the RAG rating for all 2014/15 proposals based on:
 - An initial assessment;
 - Review by the Finance Team based on financial evidence available; and finally
 - Overlay by Directors and Portfolioholders based on delivery of milestones and action being undertaken on the ground (in the absence of financial data to justify projections).

Table 1: Update on Delivery of 2014/15 Savings Proposals

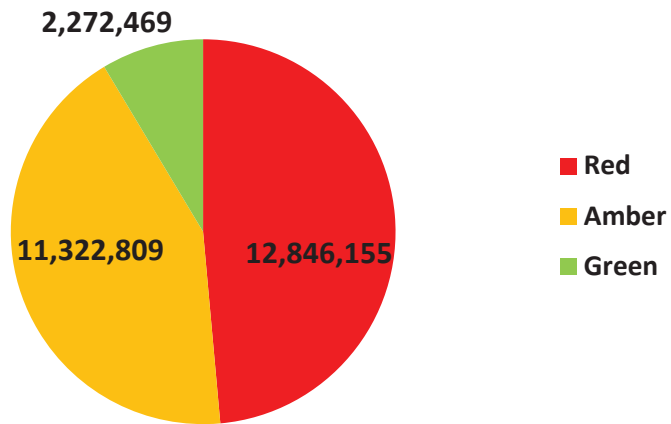
Service Area	Position as at 11 th June 2014 £'000	Finance Team Initial Assessment as at Period 3 £'000	Reviewed and Agreed Projection for Period 3 £'000
Red Savings			
Adult Services	1,304	2,511	0
Children's Services	2,922	1,908	1,908
Commissioning	1,287	1,287	1,287
Public Health	0	0	0
Resources & Support	684	684	684
Corporate	0	0	0
	6,197	6,390	3,879
Amber Savings			
Adult Services	5,781	4,812	0
Children's Services	999	569	0
Commissioning	774	774	774
Public Health	0	0	0
Resources & Support	352	352	123
Corporate	0	0	0
	7,906	6,507	897
Green Savings			
Adult Services	3,148	2,910	10,233
Children's Services	3,291	4,735	5,304
Commissioning	6,144	6,144	6,144
Public Health	55	55	55
Resources & Support	6,351	6,351	6,580
Corporate	6,800	6,800	6,800
	25,789	26,995	35,116
TOTAL SAVINGS	39,892	39,892	39,892

- 4.6. The most recent categorisation, as at Period 3, is shown in the pie charts below with detail by service area and change since the last reported position detailed in Appendix 1.

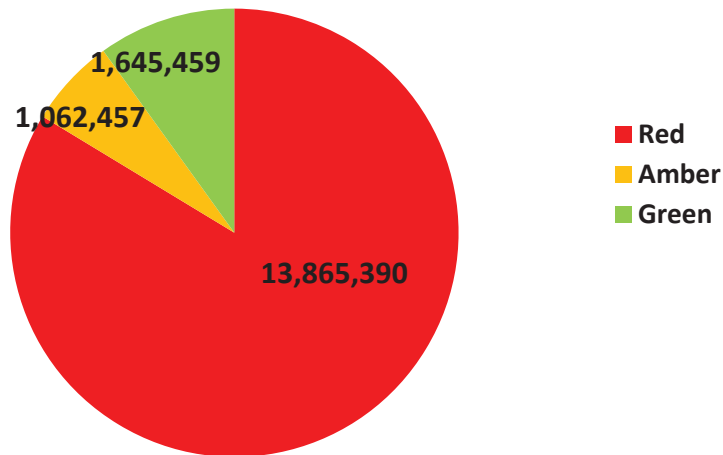
2014/15 Savings (£) RAG Ratings



2015/16 Savings (£) RAG Ratings



2016/17 Savings (£) RAG Ratings



4.7. The key areas of concern around achievement of savings and service redesign identified to date are:-

- Adults services – Contracts, Direct Payments, Purchasing and Transition
- Children's Services – Looked After Children, Learning and Skills (savings from Inspire To Learn Project)
- Commissioning Services – Environmental Maintenance, Waste Management
- Resources and Support – Property (rationalisation of assets)

4.8. Savings relating to these key areas of concern form a significant amount of red rated saving identified in 2014/15 and into future years and by identifying them as key areas early in the process, it is possible to provide greater resilience to the Medium Term Financial Plan. Where further review identifies areas where savings are delayed or not achievable in 2014/15, there is the possibility that they can be covered in 2014/15 by the use of one off savings/ grants/ reserves when the underlying saving still remains to be implemented. Where the on-going saving can be implemented, but over a longer timescale, this approach does not destabilise the Financial Strategy. Where a saving proves unachievable, for whatever reason, this will be reported back through the Financial Strategy and alternative approaches identified. This is discussed in more detail below.

- 4.9. A separate report to Cabinet on 30 July 2014 considers Period 3 Revenue Monitoring position. At this early stage in the year the projection is that the revenue budget for 2014/15 will be £3.225m overspent.
- 4.10. The monitoring report provides detail on the build up of this overspend projection, in terms of unachievable 2014/15 savings and other service pressures or funding.
- 4.11. For the Financial Strategy it is the impact of any 2014/15 monitoring issues in future years which is important. Often pressures arising within a year are dealt with on a one off basis within year and the ongoing pressure then needs to be addressed in the next financial year. This is true for both unachievable savings and new service pressures.
- 4.12. As we move into 2015/16 budget, the current assumption is that £41.531m of savings have been achieved and expenditure to be incurred in 2015/16 can be financed by the resources identified for 2015/16. Where information arising from 2014/15 monitoring makes this assumption incorrect it is important this is identified.
- 4.13. The tables below provide a summary by service area of budget issues identified in the current year monitoring projections which will impact on future years budgets

Table 2: Red and Amber rated Savings in 2014/15 which may have implications for future years

	Red Savings detailed in Projection £'000	Amber Savings detailed in Projection £'000	Total £'000
Adult Services	0	0	0
Children's Services	1,908	0	1,908
Commissioning	1,287	774	2,061
Public Health	0	0	0
Resources & Support	683	123	806
Corporate	0	0	0
TOTAL	3,878	897	4,775

Table 3: Pressures identified in 2014/15 which may have implications for future years

	Ongoing Monitoring Pressures Identified	Ongoing Savings Delivered	Ongoing Monitoring Savings Identified	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adult Services	2,846	0	-34	2,812
Children's Services	416	-3	-416	-3
Commissioning	2,542	-483	0	2,059
Public Health	0	0	0	0
Resources & Support	428	0	0	428
Corporate	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	6,232	-486	-450	5,296

- 4.14. At this stage in the financial year, the issues identified above are being actively monitored and regular meetings with Portfolio holders are being held to accelerate decision making to progress achievement of savings. It has been made clear that savings must be achieved or alternatives found. Any delay in implementation must be offset by one off savings.
- 4.15. The Period 3 Monitor identifies savings flagged as Red and Amber for which there is a degree of uncertainty over deliverability and also pressures within services that fall outside of savings proposals. The total proposals flagged Red and Amber sum to £4.775m (as shown in Table 2), although at this stage it is anticipated that these are deliverable in a longer timeframe or can be replaced by alternative proposals and as such do not destabilise the Financial Strategy. In addition, the Period 3 monitor has identified £4.727m of pressures that have arisen in-year, but have the potential to continue into future years, causing an issue that needs to be recognised and managed within the Medium Term Financial Plan. The current estimate of the net pressures requiring resolution in the longer term is £5.296m (as shown in Table 3). In the main this pressure consists of the ongoing pressure identified late in 2013/14 relating to the revenue and capital split in redesigned highways and environmental maintenance work, and growth in Adult Social Care placements currently appearing to exceed the modelled growth identified over the Medium Term Financial Plan period. These issues are not yet at a stage where financial implications can be built into the Financial Strategy, instead they are currently being flagged as issues for further investigation only.
- 4.16. The monitoring and balancing of the 2014/15 budget will continue to be reported throughout 2014/15 as part of the monitoring reports.

4.17. For 2014/15, any projected overspend would have to be financed by the general reserve which has a balance as at 1 April 2014 of £14.497m.

5. Resource and Expenditure Projections 2015/16 and 16/17

5.1. The Council Business Plan and Financial Strategy agreed by Council in February identified the expenditure and resource projections for 2015/16 and 2016/17.

5.2. The projections have been revised to reflect the latest information and also to include initial projections for 2017/18. The table below provides the information provided at Council and the updated information with further explanation of any changes detailed in the paragraphs below.

Table 3: Resource and Expenditure Projections 2015/16-2017/18

	2014/15 Feb 14 Council £'000	2015/16 Feb 14 Council £'000	2015/16 Revised £'000	2016/17 Feb 14 Council £'000	2016/17 Revised £'000	2017/18 Projection £'000
Resources		558,886	551,510	548,424	540,015	531,072
Expenditure Projections		579,022	572,125	586,893	578,678	582,483
Cumulative Savings Target				38,469	38,664	51,410
Achieved in Previous Year(s)	41,531			20,136	20,615	38,664
In Year Savings		20,136	20,615	18,333	18,048	12,746
Change (Cum)			479		194	

Resource Projections

5.3. Government funding to Shropshire includes Revenue Support Grant and, in Shropshire's case, top up grant. When the current Local Government Finance system was introduced in April 2013, approximately 50% of funding came from Revenue Support Grant and the remainder from locally retained Business Rates adjusted by top ups and tariffs. The government made

assumptions about the amount of locally retained business rates to calculate top up and tariff payments at the start of the system to ensure the new system did not inadvertently adjust any local authority's total government funding. The Assumed Locally Retained Business Rates, Top Up Payment and the Revenue Support Grant together are referred to as the Authority's Settlement Funding Assessment. The Assumed or Baseline Business Rates and Top Up figure are fixed in real terms and increased annually by RPI as part of the funding mechanism. Any change to the total government funding is therefore only implemented by a change in Revenue Support Grant as the other two funding components are fixed.

- 5.4. The Settlement Funding Assessment is important for the Authority as it is used not only to calculate % reductions going forward but also the Baseline Business Rates is used to calculate Shropshire's safety net. However, for resource projections Shropshire uses its own projections on locally retained Business Rates based on up to date local information which is also included in government returns.
- 5.5. The 2014/15 Local Government Finance Settlement in February 2014 provided illustrative figures for 2015/16. These showed a reduction in Settlement Funding Assessment of 14% and a consequence reduction in the Revenue Support Grant Element of 27.5% for 2015/16. Our current assumptions for 2016/17 assume a reduction of 11.5% in Settlement Funding Assessment and 25.5% in Revenue Support Grant. A recent survey carried out by the Society of County Treasurers Technical Team in Somerset indicates that other authorities are assuming reductions in funding between 8% and 14%.
- 5.6. In terms of Locally Retained Business Rates, projections for 2015/16 have been updated following the outturn position for 2013/14 and increased information about appeals, reliefs and adjustments between the collection and general fund. No growth has been built into Business Rates projections going forward. Although the business rates multiplier will increase by RPI each year (unless restricted), the rateable value projections are too volatile for any growth to be assumed at this stage. This assumption is in line with assumptions around future Business Rates levels made by other authorities who replied to the technical team survey referred to above.
- 5.7. Council tax income projections have been updated to increase the growth in council tax base projected from 0.2% to 0.5%. Council Tax has been frozen at 2014/15 levels going forward.
- 5.8. The Local Government Department Expenditure Limit (DEL) used in the calculation of illustrative 2015/16 funding calculations has been top sliced for several things such as new homes bonus, safety net payments and

capitalisation of transformation expenditure. The government policy on this top slicing is that any unused top sliced amounts will be returned to local authorities. The current projections include a returned amount for new homes bonus as indicated in the settlement details but no return for other items. In 2013/14, the Council received notification of £354k for return of unused capitalisation top slice on 27 March 2014. Further returns could be made in 2014/15 and future years providing an in year bonus.

- 5.9. Income from Specific Grants has been revised to reflect the latest information. Revised amounts for 2014/15 will be dealt with as part of revenue monitoring. In 2015/16 there has been a reduction from the initial projections of £6.8m. Of this, £3m, is a net adjustment for grant recoupment for academy status and additional funding for High Needs. Also within Children's services, Education Services Grant (ESG) has reduced significantly both in 2014/15 and further in 2015/16. In addition, a number of grants will cease in 2015/16 including Local Sustainable Transport Fund and Social Fund Grant. The current assumption is that reductions in specific grants will be offset by reductions in expenditure in the service areas. This assumption may need to be revisited as services continue to be reviewed throughout this year.
- 5.10. Assumptions on the payment of Council tax freeze grant are based on budget announcements and are as follows:
- 2011/12 was paid as specific grant in 2011/12 and was then rolled into the base funding
 - 2012/13 was paid for 1 year only
 - 2013/14 was paid as a grant in 2013/14 and then added to the Local Government Departmental Expenditure Limit (LG DEL) in 2014/15
 - 2014/15 will be paid as a grant in both 2014/15 and 2015/16 and will then be built into spending review baselines
 - 2015/16 will be paid as a grant in 2015/16 only
 - 2016/17 and future years – no announcement has been made regarding further grants in 2016/17 and beyond.
- 5.11. Included within specific grants are additional grants paid to the Council as a result of government policies on business rates which have reduced the Council's share of Business Rates income. Examples of these are the cap of 2% on the increase in the rateable value multiplier and the temporary extension of the doubling of small business rate relief scheme.

- 5.12. Income from fees and charges has been left at current levels in the projections. As savings are implemented and services are redesigned income from fees and charges will change however at this stage there is insufficient information to amend the current figures.
- 5.13. Detailed Resource projections are shown in Appendix 2

Expenditure Projections

- 5.14. The expenditure projections include growth for pay and prices, demography, use of New Homes Bonus funding and adjustments to reflect changes between years for grants.
- 5.15. A review of pay and prices inflation has resulted in small net adjustments in both 2015/16 and 2016/17 using the latest employee costs and contract information. It is clear that going forward there will be a change in the relative size of each of these expenditure groups. This will effect pay and prices calculations. The Council will need to ensure that as it moves to a commissioning council, it does not increase the financial risk of increased costs due to inflationary linked contracts.
- 5.16. Although a debt charge figure is shown in 2015/16 and 2016/17, this has been used as a saving. The current projections assume that the Council will not increase it's borrowing. A change in the capital strategy to borrow would mean that this saving could not be achieved and revenue growth for debt charges would need to be found.
- 5.17. The figures included for demographic growth for Adults and Children's were reviewed last Autumn. Both Adults and Children's services are monitoring the actual growth the services are encountering and further information on this will be provided in future financial strategies.
- 5.18. As detailed above in the Resource projections, changes in specific grants are assumed to change expenditure projections by the same amount. If reductions in specific grant funding can not be matched by a reduction in expenditure this would increase savings requirements.
- 5.19. There are a number of grants currently being received which the Council has no budgeted expenditure against. These include the s31 grants for Business Rates, Council Tax freeze Grant and any return of top sliced amounts. In 2013/14, growth of £2.277m was built in for a provision for business rates appeals. This figure was required on a one off basis in 2013/14 and it is anticipated that future appeals liabilities will be dealt with through the Business Rates Collection Fund.

- 5.20. The current expenditure projections do not include any new base budget commitments which may arise as the Council develops its plans towards a University for Shropshire. This is considered later in section 7.
- 5.21. At this stage the revised resource and expenditure projections change the 2015/16 position by less than £0.5m and in 2016/17 the change is reduced to less than £0.2m. On this basis the savings target within the Council Plan and Financial Strategy agreed by Council on 27 February 2014 of £80m over 3 years will not be revised. As we continually refine and update the financial strategy this target will remain under review.
- 5.22. Detailed Expenditure projections are shown in Appendix 3

6. 2017/18 Initial Projections

- 6.1. Resource projections for 2017/18 indicate a further reduction in revenue support grant of £9.5m. This reduction in resources is offset slightly by growth in Council tax base which is estimated to increase the income from Council Tax by £0.6m. In addition to this reduction in resources, current projections for inflationary growth are £4.1m. The Council is therefore facing a shortfall in resources of at least £13m in 2017/18. Services pressures including demography or increased borrowing would add to this funding shortfall.
- 6.2. Service pressures identified to date which would impact on 2017/18 budget include auto enrolment. Auto enrolment was introduced in April 2013. The scheme means that employees not currently opted into the pensions scheme would be periodically opted in and would have to physically request to be left out. It is therefore envisaged that more employees will become scheme Members. This comes at a cost to Shropshire Council by way of having to make pension contributions for those employees newly opted in. Shropshire Council has been able to defer the staging date for the scheme so that it does not commence until April 2017 therefore no extra pension cost will be incurred until the financial year 2017/18. It is difficult to estimate the financial implications of this as it will depend on the employees who decide to remain opted in. It has previously been estimated that on the basis of a worst case scenario costs could be in excess of £1m.
- 6.3. In addition a major pressure facing Adult Social Services is the introduction of the Care Act 2014. Members were provided with a briefing note on the Dilnot Report – Implications for Shropshire Council as part of the Financial Strategy report considered by Cabinet on 15 January 2014. In May 2014, the Care Bill received royal assent and the Act introduces legislative changes based on the findings and recommendations in the

Dilnot Report. Changes arising from the Act are phased with some changes around assessments coming in from 1 April 2015 the financial implications of which are currently uncertain. Changes around thresholds and the cap will be introduced from 1 April 2016 which will create additional funding pressures in 2016/17 which will increase in 2017/18 as client contributions reach the cap. The government has indicated that additional funding will be made available to local authorities to fund additional costs including implementation costs. The financial implications of the Act are currently being modelled and further information will be provided later in this financial year.

7. University of Shropshire

- 7.1. Council received a report on 17 July 2014 outlining plans for a University for Shropshire and approved a project budget of up to £1m to allow the development of plans including pre contract/construction activity and any costs associated with decanting staff from buildings. This funding is within existing budgets previously earmarked for transformation.
- 7.2. Council will receive a further report on a developed Business Case for the University at its meeting on 25 September 2014. The financial implications of any proposals will be included in an updated Council Business Plan and Financial Strategy which will be taken to the same meeting for approval.

8. The impact on the Council's budget of Transfers to the Council's wholly owned company i,p&e

- 8.1. There have been two areas of service which have transferred to ip&e to date, Media Services known as ThreeSixty Communications and the Project Management Office and the Business Design team, known at the time as 'Change for the Best'. The estimated budget available to commission these services is shown below:

Table 3: Budgets identified to commission services from ip&e

	2015/16 - Estimate	2016/17 - Estimate
	£	£
Programme Management Office	315,160	186,660 (TBC)
Business Design Team	209,160	166,260
"Change for the Best" sub total	524,320	352,920
ThreeSixty Communications	272,680	242,980

Total	797,000	595,900
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- 8.2. As reported in February to Council, the budget for “Change for the Best” for 2016/17 has still to be agreed. It can be seen that a substantial reduction has been made to the budgets available to commission services. It is envisaged that the services within ip&e will strive to generate external income to offset the reductions in council spending. Alternatively, savings will need to be found from expenditure budgets.
- 8.3. Other services which have currently been agreed for consideration to transfer to ip&e include Public Health Services – ‘Help to Change’, School Support Services - ‘Inspire to Learn’ and Regulatory and Business Support Services - ‘Fulcrum’.
- 8.4. ip&e are currently preparing it's Annual Business Plan which has been held back while the potential for the above services and implications of the University proposal are given due consideration. Once available, the ip&e Annual Business Plan will allow costings to be included In the Council’s financial Strategy over a three year period.
- 8.5. As further services are considered for transfer to ip&e, full consideration will be given to the budget available both in the current year and future years for the council to commission transferring services. Services transferring will be clear about future savings to be made by the council from the budget available to commission services from ip&e.

9. Longer Term Financial Outlook

- 9.1. The longer term financial outlook as detailed in the Council’s Business Plan and Financial Strategy agreed by Council in February 2014 is continually being updated and refined. Details of how the Council is working differently now and how this will develop over the coming years will be set out in more detail over the coming months, ahead of a refresh of the Council’s Business Plan and Financial Strategy for the next Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 to 2018/19.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Council Business Plan and Financial Strategy 2014-17 – Council 27 February 2014

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Keith Barrow – Leader

Local Member

All

Appendices

Appendix 1 2014-17 Savings RAG Rated

Appendix 2 Resource Projections 2015/16 – 2017/18

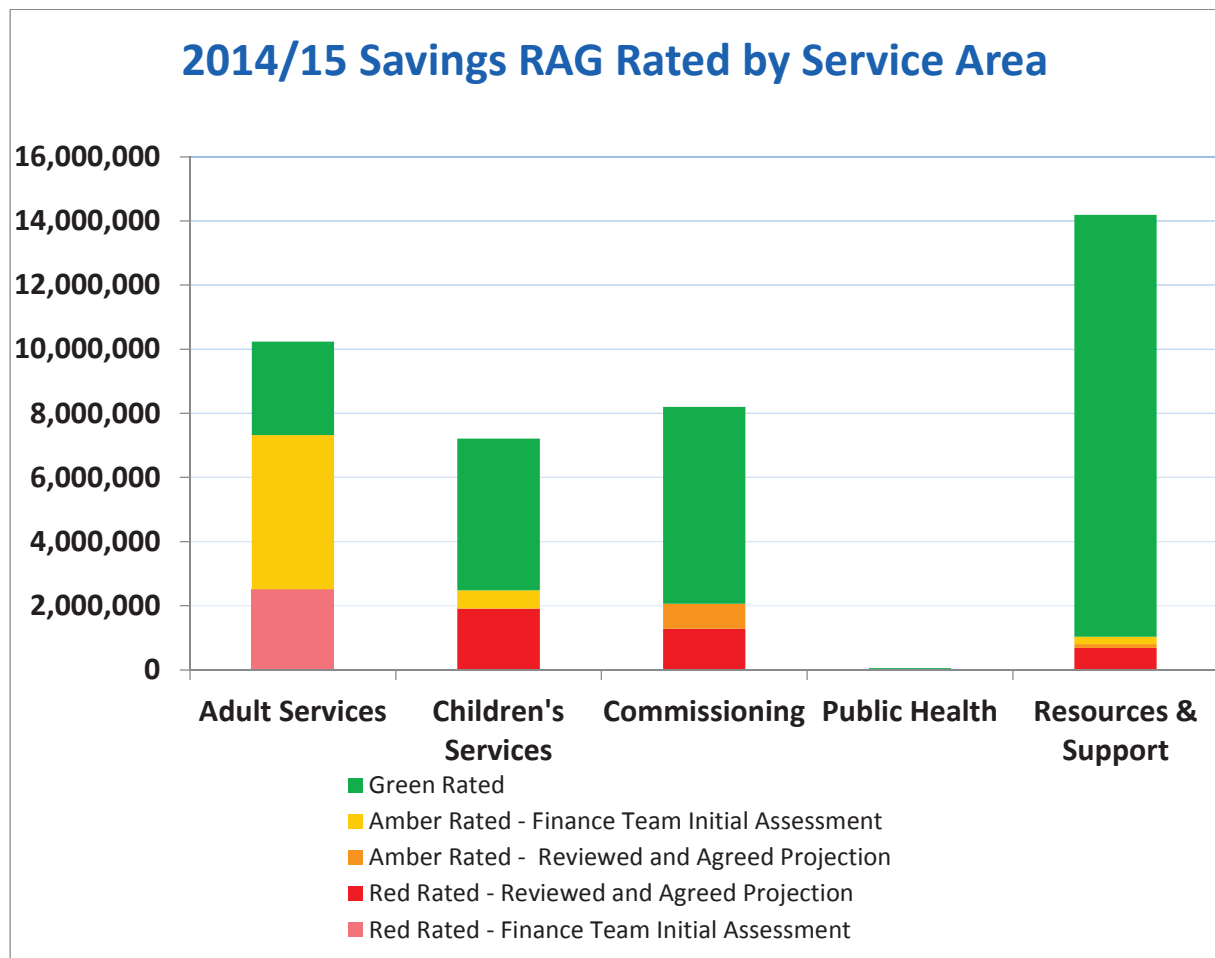
Appendix 3 Expenditure Projections 2015/16 – 2017/18

APPENDIX 1

2014/15, 2015/16 AND 2016/17 SAVINGS RAG RATED

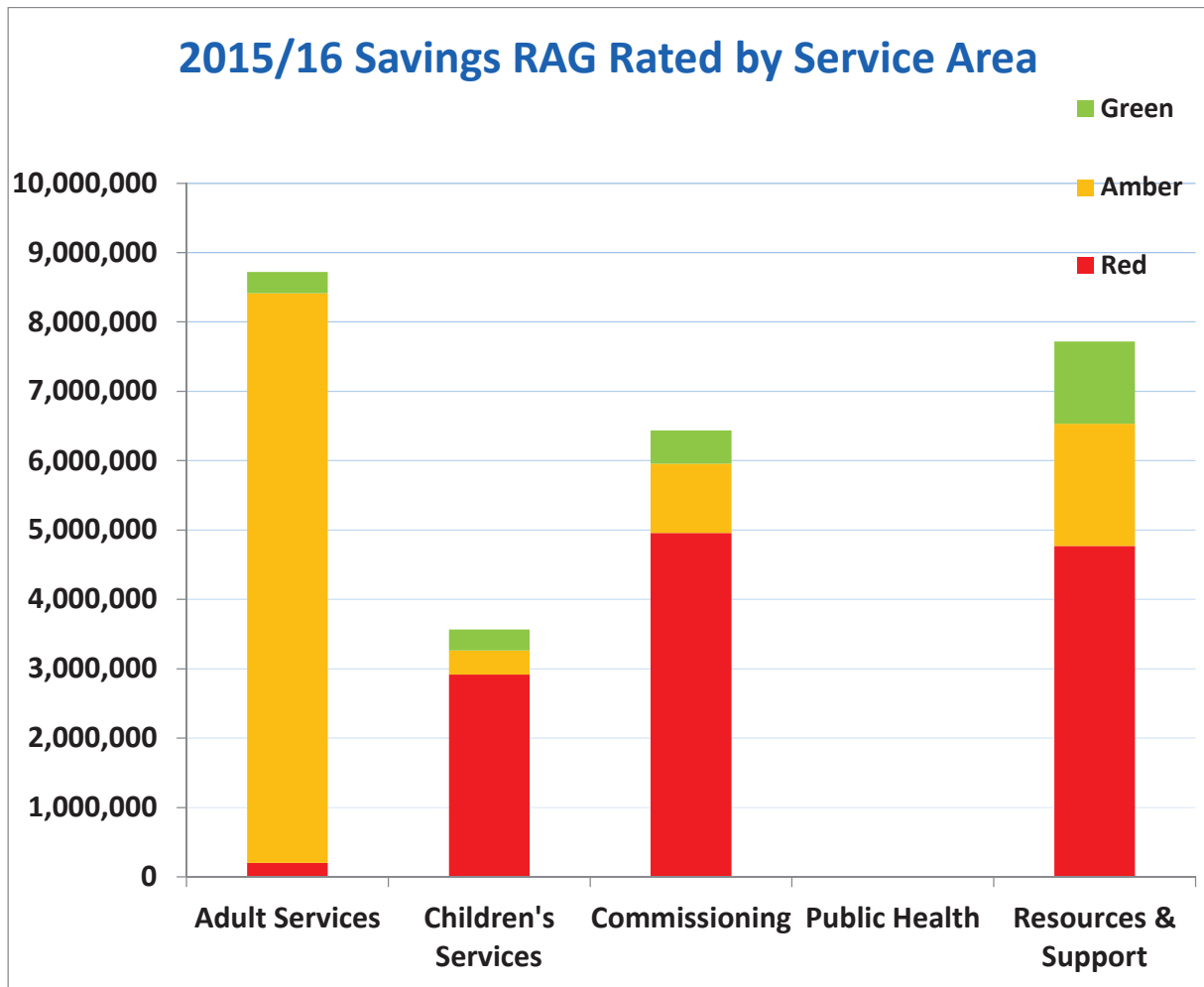
2014/15 Savings RAG Ratings			
Red £	Amber £	Green £	Total £

Adult Services	0	0	10,233,360	10,233,360
Children's Services	1,908,329	0	5,303,671	7,212,000
Commissioning	1,287,072	773,757	6,144,378	8,205,207
Public Health	0	0	54,727	54,727
Resources & Support	683,432	123,000	13,379,830	14,186,262
Council	3,878,833	896,757	35,115,966	39,891,556



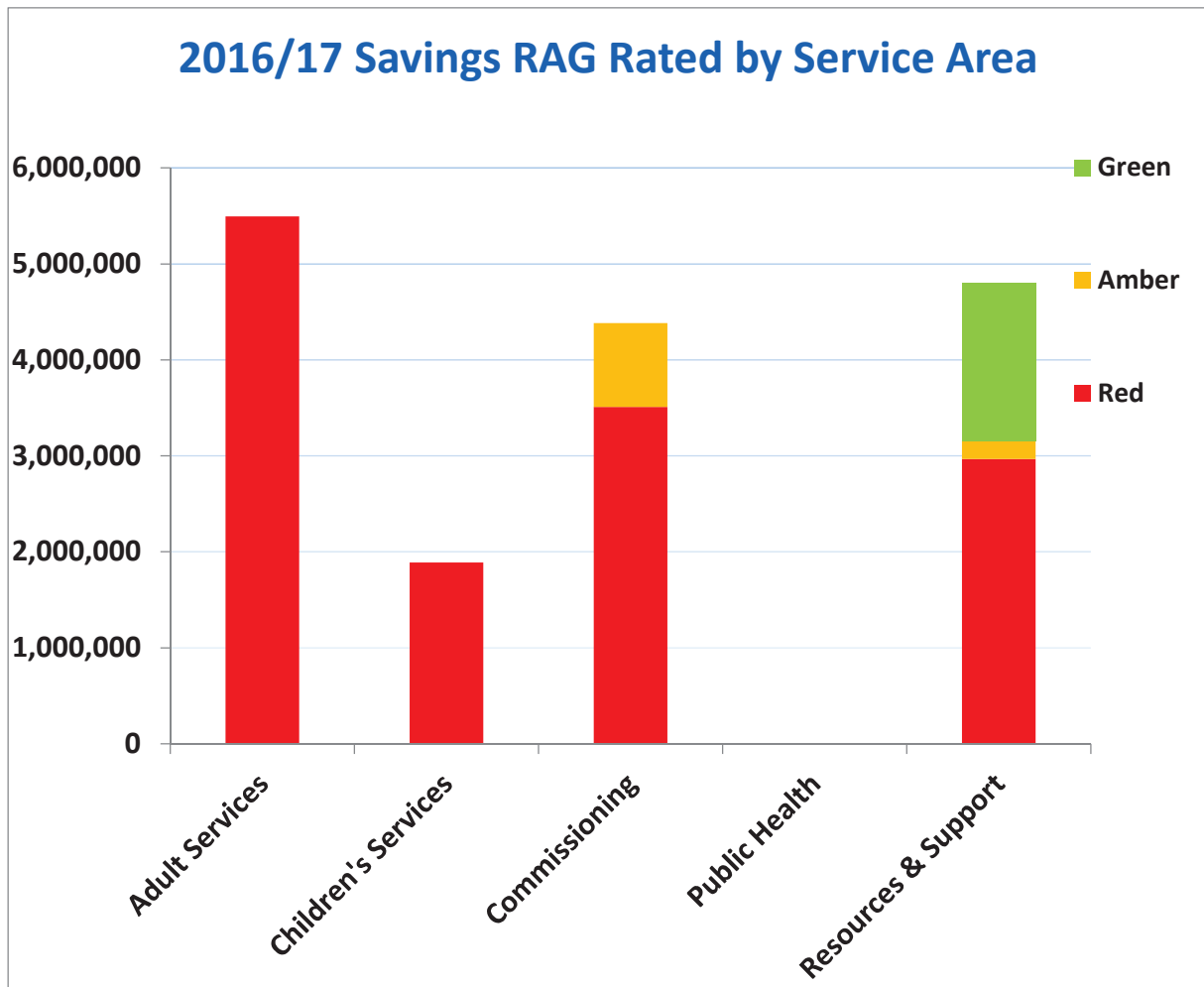
APPENDIX 1 (CONTINUED)

	2015/16 Savings RAG Ratings			
	Red £	Amber £	Green £	Total £
Adult Services	200,000	8,214,237	306,500	8,720,737
Children's Services	2,915,000	350,000	300,000	3,565,000
Commissioning	4,958,574	997,387	481,618	6,437,579
Public Health	0	0	0	0
Resources & Support	4,772,581	1,761,185	1,184,351	7,718,117
Council	12,846,155	11,322,809	2,272,469	26,441,433



APPENDIX 1 (CONTINUED)

	2016/17 Savings RAG Ratings			
	Red £	Amber £	Green £	Total £
Adult Services	5,496,246	0	0	5,496,246
Children's Services	1,890,000	0	0	1,890,000
Commissioning	3,511,238	871,609	0	4,382,847
Public Health	0	0	0	0
Resources & Support	2,967,906	190,848	1,645,459	4,804,213
Council	13,865,390	1,062,457	1,645,459	16,573,306



	Total Council Savings 2014/15 To 2016/17			
	Red	Amber	Green	Total
	£	£	£	£
Adult Services	8,207,179	13,026,408	3,216,756	24,450,343
Children's Services	5,814,329	918,960	5,933,711	12,667,000
Commissioning	10,144,459	2,255,178	6,625,996	19,025,633
Public Health	0	0	54,727	54,727
Resources & Support	8,423,919	2,303,928	15,980,745	26,708,592
Council	32,589,886	18,504,474	31,811,935	82,906,295

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL - NET AND GROSS RESOURCES PROJECTIONS SUMMARY 2015/16 to 2017/18							Appendix 2		
	2014/15 FINAL Cabinet 12th Feb. 2014	2015/16 Original Cabinet 12th Feb. 2014	2015/16 Revised Cabinet 30 July 2014	2015/16 & Beyond Notes & Assumptions	2016/17 ORIGINAL Cabinet 19th Feb. 2014	2016/17 REVISED Cabinet 30 July 2014	2017/18 ORIGINAL Cabinet 30 July 2014		
RSG	57,058,059	41,368,409	41,368,409	Figures as published on 5 February 2014 for the Local Government Final Finance Settlement 2014/15 and Provisional 2015/16. 2016/17 estimates adjusted for Council tax freeze grant only.	31,230,562	30,794,514	21,377,294		
Business Rates Retention Allocation:									
NNDR (as raised and then retained locally) including appeals provision	38,325,286	38,325,286	37,406,389	NNDR1 2014-15 figure. The deficit on the collection fund from the previous year, shown below, is netted off.	38,325,286	37,406,389	37,406,389		
Top Up	9,848,092	10,119,908	10,119,908	Figure as per CLG 2014/15 Final Local Government Finance Settlement. Assume 2% RPI increase	9,956,192	10,322,306	10,528,752		
Safety Net Payments									
NDR Surplus/Deficit on Collection Fund									
Prior year adjustments (e.g. correction to safety net payments)									
TOTAL START UP FUNDING RECEIPT:	105,231,437	89,813,603	88,894,706		79,512,040	78,523,210	69,312,435		
Return of amounts topsliced from RSG/BRRRA Allocation									
Share of £2bn unused New Homes Bonus topslice	154,558	394,940	394,940	Final Local Government Finance Settlement	0	0	0		
Share of returned damping (unused safety net held back)		0	0	This may be an in year bonus. More information	0	0	0		
TOTAL FUNDING FROM CENTRAL/LOCAL SHARE	105,385,995	90,208,543	89,289,646		79,512,040	78,523,210	69,312,435		
<i>Movement on previous year's funding</i>									
Taxbase	100,475	100,475	100,978	Actual taxbase for 2014/15 and increase in Council Tax Taxbase assumed in 2015/16 and 2016/17 increased to 0.5% from 0.2%	100,877	101,482	101,990		
Council Tax Income	117,025,463	117,259,514	117,610,591	Council tax freeze assumed	117,494,033	118,198,644	118,789,637		
Collection Fund Surplus- Council Tax	2,018,834		500,000	Based on Previous years		500,000	500,000		
Business Rates Collection fund	-985,341		-500,000	Based on previous years		-500,000	-500,000		
TOTAL NET RESOURCES - 2013-14 onwards	223,444,951	207,468,057	206,900,237		197,006,073	196,721,853	188,102,072		
			(567,821)			(284,220)	(8,619,782)		
	2014/15 REVISED Cabinet 12th Feb. 2014	2015/16 REVISED Cabinet 12th Feb. 2014	2015/16 Revised Cabinet 30 July 2014	2014/15 Notes & Assumptions	2016/17 ORIGINAL Cabinet 19th Feb. 2014	2016/17 REVISED Cabinet 30 July 2014	2017/18 ORIGINAL Cabinet 30 July 2014		
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	255,976,900	258,700,970	251,893,050	Latest Information on Specific Grants	258,700,970	250,576,050	250,254,070		
OTHER GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS	28,425,620	28,425,620	28,425,620	Left unchanged at this stage	28,425,620	28,425,620	28,425,620		
FEES & CHARGES	57,137,050	57,137,050	57,137,050	Left unchanged at this stage	57,137,050	57,137,050	57,137,050		
INTERNAL MARKET & INTERNAL RECHARGES									
Internal Recharges only	7,154,140	7,154,140	7,154,140	Left unchanged at this stage	7,154,140	7,154,140	7,154,140		
Total Income outside of Net	348,693,710								
TOTAL GROSS RESOURCES - 2013-14 onwards, after income Savings	572,138,661	558,885,837	551,510,097		548,423,853	540,014,713	531,072,952		

					APPENDIX 3
SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL - FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2015/16 to 2017/18					
	2015/16	2015/16	2016/17	2016/17	2017/18
	27 Feb 2014	30 July 2014	27 Feb 2014	30 July 2014	30 July 2014
	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure					
<i>Original Gross Budget Requirement</i>	572,138,661	572,138,661	579,022,206	572,125,394	578,678,441
Current Year Monitoring Issues with ongoing implications					
- Asset Sales - Removal of income stream	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	0
- As identified as at P3- no growth included as at P3		0		0	0
2014/15 - New Budget Growth					
Inflation					
- Prices	2,852,381	2,796,947	3,006,053	2,921,147	3,058,689
- Pav 1% award	885,196	710,957	839,083	723,654	734,834
- Pav Increment	496,988	637,769	281,097	480,607	332,950
- Pension Costs	0	0	3,500,000	3,500,000	0
- Auto Enrolment (impacts 2017/18)-ESTIMATE	0		0		TBC
Committed Growth					
- Debt Charges (Reduced as part of Savings)	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
New Growth					
- Demography: Adults	1,758,000	1,758,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	0
- Demography: Childrens services	1,183,000	1,183,000	1,183,000	1,183,000	0
New Service Pressures					
New Investment funding- One year only	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)			
Repaying for borrowing for Redundancies			2,000,000	2,000,000	0
Care Act implications					TBC
Changes to Expenditure Reflected in Resources					
Specific Grant Changes from Previous Year Including New Responsibilities	2,724,070	(4,083,850)	0	(1,317,000)	(321,980)
Offsetting Budget Adjustments					
Use of NHB Smoothing	(1,609,000)	(1,609,000)	(1,909,000)	(1,909,000)	0
Reallocation of Business Rates Appeals Base Budget		(2,277,816)			
Additional Contribution to offset Delay in Savings Achievement		2,277,816			
Contributions to Savings for changes in Projections					
- Net Growth Change	2,167,600	2,167,600	(3,749,700)	(3,749,700)	
- Net Resources Change-14/15 one year only	-2,454,351	-2,454,351			
- Net Resources Change-15/16 one year only	(170,339)	(170,339)	170,339	170,339	
Gross Budget Requirement (Excluding Internal Market)	579,022,206	572,125,394	586,893,078	578,678,441	582,482,934

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Committee and date
Cabinet
15 October 2014
12.30 pm

Item
7
Public

REVENUE MONITORING REPORT – QUARTER 2 2014/15

Responsible Officer James Walton

Email: james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: (01743) 255011

1. Summary

The report sets out the Revenue forecast for 2014/15 as at Quarter 2 and identifies the current projections on delivery of savings included within the forecast.

To aid reporting of savings delivery the Council uses a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) rating to identify a rating for the delivery of savings proposals (more details provided in the report below). As at Quarter 2, evidence currently suggests that of the £39.9m of proposals to be delivered in 2014/15, £37.2m are rated as Green – with a high degree of certainty of being delivered.

The Quarter 2 position indicates that £2.2m of the £39.9m savings planned are categorised as red, and further work is required within service areas to ensure that the total value of savings proposals are fully deliverable within the financial year. Furthermore a number of additional service pressures of £8.2m are already being highlighted, which services will need to address alongside delivering their savings targets. These pressures have been offset by the identification of a number of one off sources of funding that have not been committed and will instead be held to partially address the service pressures identified in year, however service areas will need to identify ongoing solutions to these pressures.

The key issues highlighted by this report are that:

- The projected outturn is an overspend of £1.603m which has improved since Quarter One by £1.622m.
- The projected General Fund Balance as at 31 March 2015 is £13.303m.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that Members:

- A. Note that at the end of Quarter Two (29 August 2014), the full year forecast is a potential overspend of £1.603m;
- B. Consider the impact of this on the Council's General Fund Balance.
- C. Approve that credit notes for £113,425 and £162,000 be raised against sales ledger account S1/00587 in order to correct duplicate and incorrect debts within the account for care costs.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1. Details of the potential risks affecting the balances and financial health of the Council are detailed within the report. Each projection is also RAG rated to confirm the level of risk to the Council's balances.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. This report considers the projected outturn position for the 2014/15 revenue budget and the implications on the level of general fund balances of any overspends or spending pressures.

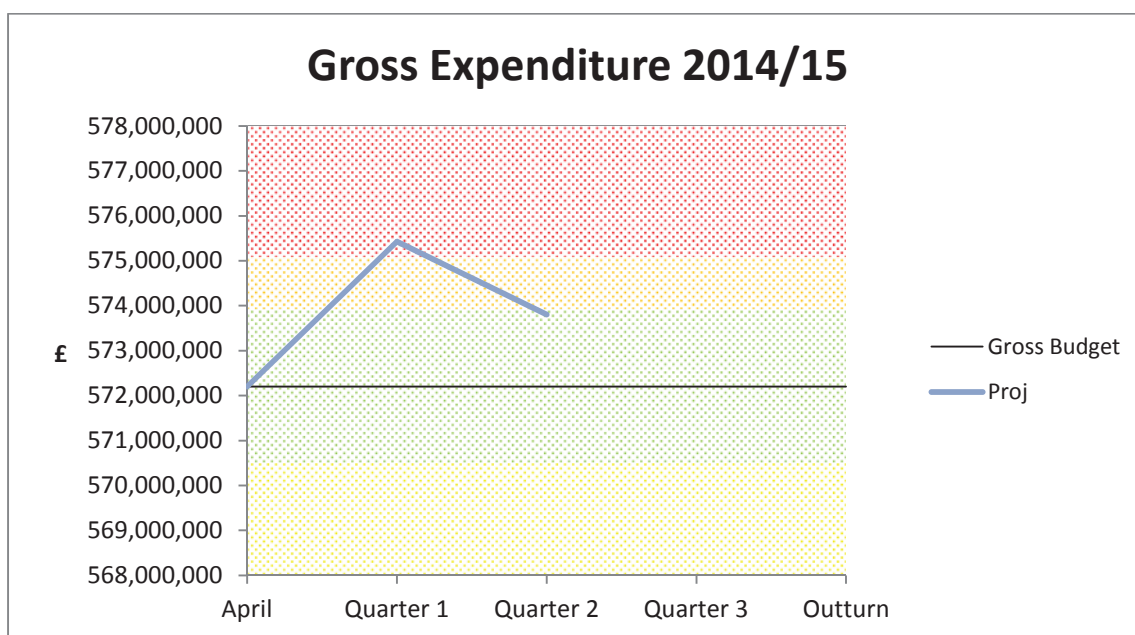
5. Background

- 5.1 Revenue budget monitors are produced to report on the period from June (Period 2) to February (Period 11) of each financial year and show the anticipated year end projection.
- 5.2 The reports track progress against the agreed budget decisions, forecast any significant variances to the budget, and enables corrective action to be taken to ensure a balanced budget at year end.
- 5.3 Variances are reported on an exceptions basis depending on the total variance from budget, and the percentage change in projection in any one period.

Green	Variance +/- 1% (or £0.05m if budget less than £5m)
Amber	Overspend between 1%-2% (or £0.05m-£0.1m if budget less than £5m)
Red	Variance over 2% (or £0.1m if budget less than £5m)
Yellow	Underspend more than 1% (or £0.05m if budget less than £5m)

6. Monitoring 2014/15 Budget - Overall Position

- 6.1 The projected revenue forecast for the year, at Quarter 2, shows a potential overspend of £1.603m (0.28%) on a gross budget of £572.2m (net £223.4m) for the full year. The forecast year end position for the whole council will be revised each month and reported using the graph below. The area of the graph banded green shows the extent of variance from the budget that would be seen as reasonable given the size and complexity of the Council's budget. At Quarter 2 the projected year end overspend of £1.603m is falling within the green banding which has improved since Quarter One. The net reduction of £1.622m is predominantly due to the capping of Environmental Maintenance budgets within Commissioning, thereby removing the previously reported budgetary pressure.



- 6.2 The projected overspend of £1.603m for 2014/15 is presented below and analysed in more detail at Appendix 1.

Table 1: 2014/15 Projected Budget Variations Analysed by Service Area

Service Area	Revised Budget £'000	Forecast Outturn £'000	(Under) / Overspend £'000	RAGY Classification
Adult Services	64,685	66,740	2,055	R
Children's Services	56,185	57,178	993	A
Commissioning	90,170	90,705	535	G
Public Health	1,470	1,446	(24)	Y
Resources & Support	9,371	10,102	731	R
Corporate	1,564	(1,123)	(2,687)	Y
TOTAL	223,445	225,048	1,603	G

7. Update on Savings Delivery

- 7.1 The savings projections for 2014/15 have been RAG rated in order to establish the deliverability of the savings and any potential impact on the outturn projection for the 2014/15 financial year. The RAG ratings are updated monthly to determine progress on delivery. Since the Quarter 1 position reported to Cabinet a further assessment has been undertaken by the Finance Team to determine the ongoing delivery of the savings within the budget and also the in year delivery of the savings in line with delivery milestones by Directors and Portfolio Holders to be built into the Quarter 2 projections. For transparency, each of these assessments are detailed for each service area in Table 2.

Table 2: Update on Delivery of 2014/15 Savings Proposals

Service Area	Quarter 1 Projection of 2014/15 Delivery of Savings £'000	Finance Team Assessment of Ongoing Delivery of Savings as at Quarter 2 £'000	Projection of 2014/15 Delivery of Savings as at Quarter 2 £'000
Red Savings			
Adult Services	0	2,639	0
Children's Services	1,908	1,897	1,249
Commissioning	1,287	1,734	575
Public Health	0	0	0
Resources & Support	684	566	245
Corporate	0	0	0
	3,879	6,836	2,069
Amber Savings			
Adult Services	0	5,248	0
Children's Services	0	300	275
Commissioning	774	283	12
Public Health	0	0	0
Resources & Support	123	372	317
Corporate	0	0	0
	897	6,203	604
Green Savings			
Adult Services	10,233	2,347	10,233
Children's Services	5,304	5,015	5,688
Commissioning	6,144	6,188	7,618
Public Health	55	55	55
Resources & Support	6,580	6,448	6,825
Corporate	6,800	6,800	6,800
	35,116	26,853	37,219
TOTAL SAVINGS	39,892	39,892	39,892

- 7.2 The figures presented above demonstrate a healthy analysis of the Council's current financial position, with 93% of the 2014/15 savings target flagged as green. It should be recognized that the delivery of these savings targets has been delivered through the identification of a number of one off savings in 2014/15. The ongoing delivery as shown in the middle column suggests that 67% of the Council's £39.9m savings target can be demonstrated as green rated.
- 7.3 Further tracking of the movement in savings each month is shown in Appendix 2, which details any significant movements in RAG ratings that have occurred during the last quarter. Appendix 2 also includes a number of charts which maps the delivery of the red, amber and green savings over each period. As demonstrated within the Adults, Children's and Resources & Support graphs, the level of red and amber savings is higher when considering the ongoing delivery compared to the in-year delivery projection, demonstrating the use of one off savings in 2014/15. It is anticipated that as service areas identify plans for ongoing delivery of these or alternatives savings proposals during the course

of the year, these two lines will converge together and the level of green savings will move towards the target savings for each service area.

8. Analysis of Outturn Projections including Delivery of Savings

8.1 The monitoring position detailed in Table 1 includes the current position on delivery of savings proposals for 2014/15 in addition to new monitoring pressures identified and one off solutions to reduce the projected overspend. Table 3 provides further analysis of the projected overspends for each service area.

Table 3: Reconciliation of Monitoring Projections to Savings Delivery

	Quarter 2 Projection £'000	Red Savings detailed in Projection £'000	Amber Savings detailed in Projection £'000	One Off Savings Delivered to offset Reds and Ambers £'000	Ongoing Savings Delivered to offset Reds and Ambers £'000	Director Commitment to Address Reds and Ambers £000	One Off Monitoring Pressures Identified £'000	Ongoing Monitoring Pressures Identified £'000	One Off Monitoring Savings Identified £'000	Ongoing Monitoring Savings Identified £'000
Social Care Operations	2,125	1,831	0	(1,596)	0	(130)	26	2,534	(541)	0
Social Care Efficiency & Approval	143	807	0	(619)	0	0	138	468	(652)	0
Adult Services Management	(213)	0	0	(294)	0	0	133	0	(52)	0
Adult Services	2,055	2,638	0	(2,509)	0	(130)	298	3,002	(1,245)	0
Learning & Skills	518	915	0	(398)	0	0	0	417	0	(416)
Children's Safeguarding	475	982	300	(275)	0	0	0	0	(533)	0
Children's Services	993	1,897	300	(673)	0	0	0	417	(533)	(416)
Director of Commissioning	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Local Commissioning	(50)	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	(52)	0
Area Commissioning North	586	1,191	71	(711)	19	0	0	30	(13)	0
Area Commissioning South	468	448	150	(598)	0	0	277	3,235	(3,044)	0
Public Protection & Enforcement	0	0	178	(121)	(57)	0	97	0	(97)	0
Business Growth & Prosperity	(471)	83	22	0	(88)	0	60	0	(549)	0
Commissioning	535	1,722	422	(1,430)	(127)	0	438	3,265	(3,754)	0
Public Health	(25)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(25)	0
Public Health	(25)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(25)	0
Commercial Services	250	367	68	(182)	60	0	97	428	(160)	(428)
Customer Involvement	661	139	276	(193)	0	0	764	717	(931)	(110)
Finance, Governance & Assurance	47	0	28	0	0	0	0	207	(188)	0
Human Resources	28	0	0	0	0	0	87	56	(116)	0
Legal, Democratic & Strategy	(195)	0	0	0	0	0	0	114	(280)	(30)
SMB	(60)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(60)	0
Resources & Support	731	506	372	(376)	60	0	948	1,522	(1,734)	(568)

	Quarter 2 Projection £'000	Red Savings detailed in Projection £'000	Amber Savings detailed in Projection £'000	One Off Savings Delivered to offset Reds and Ambers £'000	Ongoing Savings Delivered to offset Reds and Ambers £'000	Director Commitment to Address Reds and Ambers £000	One Off Monitoring Pressures Identified £'000	Ongoing Monitoring Pressures Identified £'000	One Off Monitoring Savings Identified £'000	Ongoing Monitoring Savings Identified £'000
Corporate	(2,686)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(2,686)	0
Corporate	(2,686)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(2,686)	0
TOTAL	1,603	6,764	1,094	(4,987)	(67)	(130)	1,684	8,206	(9,976)	(984)

8.2 Adult Services – The savings categorised as red include transport savings (£0.437m); voluntary community sector savings (£0.231m); QICS PFI contract savings (£0.250m); day services transformation (£0.046m); outsourcing of Community Living and Shared Lives (£0.74m), commissioning Mental Health Services under the new Partnership Arrangement (£0.150m), tender and contract savings (£0.467m); children’s transition to Adult Services (£0.500m) and direct payments base cost adjustment (£0.483m). Since Quarter One, one off savings of £2.509m have been identified within the monitoring projections to offset these red savings. There is a further commitment from management that the remaining £0.130m will be delivered as service redesign work continues within the Adults Services. Additional ongoing budget pressures have been identified within the purchasing budget however additional S256 income is partially offsetting this pressure in 2014/15 .

Children’s Services – Savings proposals rated red include transport savings (£0.915m), Reduction of numbers entering the care system (£0.497m) and the closure of children’s homes (£0.485m). One off grant monies and earmarked reserves have been released to partially offset the red and amber savings, and further work will be undertaken within Children’s Services to find additional compensatory one-off and ongoing savings to reduce the projected overspend.

Commissioning – Red rated savings proposals include contract savings to be delivered against the Veolia, Ringway and Shropshire Community Leisure Trust contracts of £1.606m, and £0.122m for Libraries. A proportion of amber rated savings of £0.422m have been included to reflect that plans for delivery have been formulated within service areas but these have either not yet been formally agreed, or the level of saving that can be delivered in year is not yet confirmed and agreed. Commissioning have identified a number of alternative ongoing savings proposals which will help to mitigate the delivery of red rated savings in 2014/15 and future years. The most significant ongoing budgetary pressure identified relate to Environmental Maintenance budgets required to correctly align revenue and capital costs for highways improvements and street scene works. In 2014/15 this pressure has been offset by contributions from reserves, and the budgets have been capped to contain any budgetary pressure.

Resources & Support – The savings proposals rated red include £0.139m for the Customer Service Centre and £0.367m relating to Property Savings linked to the asset management strategy implementation. This saving will be difficult to deliver in 2014/15 and hence will continue to cause a budgetary pressure

until final decisions are made on which corporate accommodation and assets will be in use in the future.

Corporate – A number of corporate budgets are held by the Council relating to non-apportionable costs and income such as council-wide grants, debt charges and treasury management costs and income. Assumptions are made and revised each year within the Financial Strategy to ensure that these budgets are adequate and do not impact negatively on services due to, for example, potential volatility in unconfirmed grant income or interest rates. The Council's Medium Term Financial Plan took account of a number of assumptions in Council Tax Freeze Grant, Section 31 grants (relating to, for example, compensation for small business relief) and Business Rate appeals provision. While the longer term implications of these elements remain uncertain (for example whether they will be rolled transparently into future RSG allocations) an assessment over the first 5 months of the year has identified that £2.686m has been budgeted for, but can be assumed to be uncommitted in 2014/15 with a reasonable degree of certainty. It is too early to assess the implications of these provisions beyond the current year, but as a one-off this underspend can now be declared, offsetting a large proportion of the in-year pressures identified in Table 3 above.

9. General Fund Balance

- 9.1. The effect on the Council's Reserves of the forecast is detailed below. The Council's policy on balances is to have a general fund balance (excluding schools balances) of between 0.5% and 2% of the gross revenue budget. For 2014/15 the minimum balance required is £2.861m. The Financial Strategy, agreed by Council on 27 February 2014, anticipates a level of reserves by year end of £11.3m. Based on the current monitoring position, the General Fund Balance will be significantly below this target and the below the Council's policy on balances, as shown in Table 3 below:

Table 3: Projected General Fund Balance As At 31 March 2015

	(£'000)
General Fund Balances as at 31 March 2014	14,497
Budgeted contribution to General Fund Balance	409
This report – projected outturn (overspend)	(1,603)
Projected Balance at 31 March 2015	13,303

- 9.2 The projected balance of £13.303m falls above the Council's policy level on balances, however is significantly below the risk based target for 2014/15 which was calculated at £18.513m. The projected balance is considered appropriate given the significant level of savings required in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan. Further work is required to deliver the savings targets for the year and mitigate any additional budget pressures identified for each service area to ensure that the Council's budget Strategy is not compromised.

10. Credit Notes Required to Write off Debtor Accounts

- 10.1 During the second quarter of 2014/15 it has been identified that two credit notes are required to clear debts that had been raised for incorrect amounts and in duplicate for care costs. The two credit notes required are detailed in the table below, and the costs of these credit notes will be funded from the Adult Services Bad Debt Provision.

Debt Amount	Ledger No	Reason
£113,425.09	61/00587	Correction of incorrect values raised
£162,000.00	61/00587	Duplicate invoices

In accordance with Financial Rules, approval to raise these credit notes to write off the debt is sought from Cabinet.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Revenue & Capital Budget 2014/15
Financial Rules

Appendices

- 1 - Service Area Pressures and Actions 2014/15
- 2 - Tracking of Delivery of 2014/15 Savings Proposals
- 3 - Amendments to Original Budget 2014/15

Service Area Pressures and Actions 2014/15Summary

	Full year			RAGY
	Budget	Forecast	Variance	
	£	£	£	
Adult Services	64,684,990	66,740,290	2,055,300	R
Children Services	56,184,930	57,177,543	992,613	A
Commissioning	90,170,450	90,705,530	535,080	G
Public Health	1,470,140	1,445,591	(24,549)	Y
Resources & Support	9,370,810	10,101,597	730,787	R
Corporate	1,563,630	(1,122,587)	(2,686,217)	Y
Total	223,444,950	225,047,964	1,603,014	G

Detail

ADULT SERVICES	Full year			RAGY
	Budget	Forecast	Variance	
	£	£	£	
Total	64,684,990	66,740,290	2,055,300	R

Social Care Operations	Portfolio Holder Adult Services and Local Commissioning (South)	50,382,790	52,507,615	2,124,825	R
There remains a significant pressure within purchasing budgets which accounts for the overall overspend in this area (offset by income projection reductions as estimates have been refined). It is encouraging to see that base contract expenditure analysis shows a reduction in trend compared to previous periods. The reported position for quarter two compares favourably to the quarter one position, as reported by finance, in that we are prudently assuming for quarter two that no red savings will be delivered. This position will continue to be monitored closely and updated accordingly.					
Social Care Efficiency & Approval	Portfolio Holder Adult Services and Local Commissioning (South)	11,882,300	12,025,452	143,152	A
Overspends in purchasing in this area are offset by underspends including some Day Services as a result of early achievement of savings.					
Adult Services Management	Portfolio Holder Adult Services and Local Commissioning (South)	2,419,900	2,207,223	(212,677)	Y
Early achievement of 2015/16 savings related to Voluntary Redundancy.					

CHILDRENS SERVICES	Full year			RAGY
	Budget	Forecast	Variance	
	£	£	£	
Total	52,071,380	53,063,993	992,613	A

Learning & Skills	Deputy Leader of the Council; Portfolio Holder Children's Services, Transformation and Safeguarding	27,769,120	28,287,115	517,995	R
The overspend represents transport savings still to be achieved in 14/15. It should be noted that in order to achieve this position, one off funding of £1.398m has been applied.					
Children's Safeguarding	Deputy Leader of the Council; Portfolio Holder Children's Services, Transformation and Safeguarding	28,415,810	28,890,428	474,618	A
The overspend of £0.474m within placements has been achieved after applying one-off funding of £0.367m which will be added to the 15/16 savings target. Some assumptions have been made in relation to savings that will not become fully apparent until the Autumn when the service restructure will be complete.					

COMMISSIONING	Full year			RAGY
	Budget	Forecast	Variance	
	£	£	£	
Total	90,170,450	90,705,530	535,080	G

Director of Commissioning	Portfolio Holder Leisure, Libraries and Culture	653,350	655,071	1,721	G
Minor variation from budget projected as at Quarter 2.					
Director of Commissioner Total		653,350	655,071	1,721	G

Local Commissioning	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	430,130	431,744	1,614	G
Minor variation from budget projected as at Quarter 2.					
Community Action	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	805,090	753,307	(51,783)	Y
Vacancy management and efficiency savings, plus specific budget for redundancies not required.					
Commissioning Group Total		1,235,220	1,185,051	(50,169)	Y

Area Commissioner North – Positive Activities	Portfolio Holder Leisure, Libraries and Culture	1,081,270	1,078,846	(2,424)	Y
Minor variation from budget projected as at Quarter 2.					

COMMISSIONING		Full year			RAGY
		Budget	Forecast	Variance	
		£	£	£	
Area Commissioner North - Libraries	Portfolio Holder Leisure, Libraries and Culture	3,815,720	3,937,552	121,832	R
A delay to the consultation on Libraries and community hubs means that some proposed savings, such as reduction in opening hours, will not take place this year. There are also projected variances on employee and premises costs.					
Area Commissioner North - Markets	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	67,470	97,401	29,931	G
Very little budget for buildings costs, but significant expenditure has been incurred on repairs and maintenance and fixtures and fittings.					
Area Commissioner North - Waste	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	26,726,550	27,174,097	447,547	A
Reflects red RAG rating, less projections of excess budget against contract subjectives for ancillary services and annual reconciliation.					
Area Commissioner North – Shrewsbury BID		0	(10,300)	(10,300)	Y
Repayment of 2013/14 year-end grant, not budgeted for.					
Area Commissioner North	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	239,550	239,065	(485)	Y
Minor variation from budget projected as at Quarter 2.					
Area Commissioner North Total		31,930,560	32,516,661	586,101	A
Area Commissioner South – Environmental Maintenance	Portfolio Holder Highways & Transport	26,410,220	26,609,690	199,470	G
The overspend pressure within Environmental Maintenance has been contained within the service by capping revenue budgets across all areas of the service and commitments made by management that they will contain spend to these revised budgets. An additional pressure has been identified from a number of 'final accounts' costs for professional fees for 'non-current' capital projects.					
Area Commissioner South – Highways & Transport	Portfolio Holder Highways & Transport	5,168,020	5,335,424	167,404	R
A condition survey at 'Raven Meadows Carpark' and a Revenue Contribution to Capital.					
Area Commissioner South – Passenger Transport	Portfolio Holder Highways & Transport	788,200	788,028	(172)	Y
Minor variation from budget projected as at Quarter 2. This area is subject to a major service review. Current and future year savings will be realised and will result in lower recharges to front line services, hence savings will be reflected in these areas.					
Area Commissioner South – Leisure	Portfolio Holder Leisure, Libraries and Culture	3,979,540	4,079,869	100,329	R
Reflects Shropshire Community Leisure Trust saving that has not been achieved, plus part of a one-off payment to transfer a facility to an educational establishment, the rest of which is offset by small efficiency savings across the portfolio.					
Area Commissioner South	Portfolio Holder Adult Services and Commissioning (South)	316,550	317,948	1,398	G
Minor variation from budget projected as at Quarter 2.					
Area Commissioner South Total		36,662,530	37,130,959	468,429	A

COMMISSIONING		Full year			RAGY
		Budget	Forecast	Variance	
		£	£	£	
Public Protection & Enforcement – Healthier People & Communities	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	1,335,620	1,280,408	(55,212)	Y
Underspend relates to restructure of service within Public Protection & Enforcement, and is offset by overspends elsewhere within the service. The budgets will be aligned during the next period to match expenditure.					
Public Protection & Enforcement – Healthier & Sustainable Environment	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	1,221,790	1,180,173	(41,617)	Y
Underspend relates to restructure of service within Public Protection & Enforcement, and is offset by overspends elsewhere within the service. The budgets will be aligned during the next period to match expenditure.					
Public Protection & Enforcement – Safer & Stronger Communities	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	303,240	354,269	51,029	A
Overspend relates to restructure of service within Public Protection & Enforcement, and is offset by underspends elsewhere within the service. The budgets will be aligned during the next period to match expenditure.					
Public Protection & Enforcement – Public Protection Management	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	1,313,070	1,359,065	45,995	G
Overspend relates to restructure of service within Public Protection within Public Protection & Enforcement, and is offset by underspends elsewhere within the service. The, budgets will be aligned during the next period to match expenditure.					
Public Protection – Housing Health	Portfolio Holder Planning, Housing and Commissioning (Central)	6,041,570	6,041,570	0	G
No variation from budget projected as at Quarter 2.					
Public Protection & Enforcement Total		10,215,290	10,215,485	195	G
Business Growth & Prosperity – Arts	Portfolio Holder Leisure, Libraries and Culture	219,040	217,007	(2,033)	Y
Minor variation from budget projected as at Quarter 2.					
Business Growth & Prosperity - Enterprise & Business	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	1,059,920	1,047,178	(12,742)	Y
Deliberate savings in this area (essentially staffing), to offset challenges in 'Infrastructure and Growth' (as below).					
Business Growth & Prosperity - Visitor Economy	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	1,853,280	1,918,886	65,606	A
There is significant transformation of 'Visitor Economy' in 2014/15, in line with the 'Black Radley' review, that includes consolidation and commercialisation of the service. A number of costs to achieve this transformation have been identified, two of the more significant include:- costs to achieve the 'Community Asset Transfer' of the Discovery Centre and move the library to the community centre and actual Business rates at the Music Hall have been evaluated at a much higher level than anticipated.					
Business Growth & Prosperity - Outdoor Recreation	Portfolio Holder Leisure, Libraries and Culture	2,433,350	2,379,118	(54,232)	Y
Minor variation from budget projected as at Quarter 2.					

COMMISSIONING		Full year			RAGY
		Budget	Forecast	Variance	
		£	£	£	
Business Growth & Prosperity - Theatre Severn	Portfolio Holder Leisure, Libraries and Culture	556,650	568,588	11,938	G
One of the additional income streams for 2014/15 (cultural VAT exemption) is still awaiting a court decision, so alternatives are being explored, however, the degree of success is difficult to reliably predict at this stage.					
Business Growth & Prosperity - Infrastructure & Growth	Portfolio Holder Business Growth, ip&e and Commissioning (North)	14,800	(7,141)	(21,941)	Y
Income from lettings remains challenging, mitigated by savings in 'Enterprise and Business' (above).					
Business Growth & Prosperity - Development Management	Portfolio Holder Planning, Housing and Commissioning (Central)	2,622,260	2,164,677	(457,583)	Y
This service has significant income from 'Fees and Charges' and 'Applications'. Recent history indicates that levels of income are extremely difficult to predict, 2013/14 was an exceptional year, however, it is thought that this may change dramatically following the submission of the SAMDev plan potentially reducing the current high levels of speculative planning applications. Current indications suggest an underspend, however, monthly monitoring of income will be required throughout the year.					
Business Growth & Prosperity – Management	Portfolio Holder Planning, Housing and Commissioning (Central)	714,200	713,990	(210)	Y
Minor variation from budget projected as at Quarter 2.					
Business Growth & Prosperity Total		9,473,500	9,121,361	(352,139)	Y

PUBLIC HEALTH		Full year			RAGY
		Budget	Forecast	Variance	
		£	£	£	
Total		1,470,140	1,445,591	(24,549)	Y

Public Health	Portfolio Holder Health	1,470,140	1,445,591	(24,549)	Y
Public Health covered by the Public Health Grant is projecting on budget with savings achieved. The underspends are projected in areas not offset by the Public Health grant, LINKS EPU and Coroners.					

RESOURCES & SUPPORT		Full year			RAGY
		Budget	Forecast	Variance	
		£	£	£	
Total		9,370,810	10,101,597	730,787	R
Commercial Services	Portfolio Holder Resources, Finance, and Support	4,057,530	4,307,678	250,148	R
<p>Commercial Services (excluding Shire Services) is projected to be £0.250m overspent by year end. Income generation by the Design Team has been flagged previously as a financial pressure which has partially been addressed by voluntary redundancy within the team. This and other measures have now reduced the shortfall to a minimum level (£0.428m) but no further reductions are achievable and this has been resolved by a virement from corporate resources. The costs of dilapidations across premises that are due to reach the end of their lease in this financial year are estimated to result in a one-off cost of £0.200m, these have now been negotiated down to £0.1m, work continues to be undertaken to manage this cost down further. A total overspend of £0.537m is forecast in relation to property savings. These are identified as Red and Amber flagged savings targets in the current financial year, and can only be realised on disposal of assets, which is beyond our control and necessarily subject to market forces. Additional efficiencies have been identified of £0.182m to offset these savings pressures, and a temporary freeze has been placed on non-essential repair and maintenance of buildings in order to deliver additional in year savings if possible.</p>					
Customer Involvement	Portfolio Holder Resources, Finance, and Support	1,491,940	2,153,379	661,439	R
<p>The Wide Area Network contract has been retendered to deliver a saving of £1.9m over the next three years. In the short term, an element of dual running of the contracts is required in 2014/15 to ensure operational resilience over the transition period, and this one-off cost is now quantified and reflected in current projections, with work on-going to identify alternative one-off savings to mitigate this necessary cost. The cost of £0.490m will be spread over the three years of the new WAN contract and is covered in 2014/15 only by a temporary virement from corporate resources, to be repaid in 2015/16 and 2016/17. Additionally, during this period, IT will continue to support the schools broadband charge at a maximum cost of £0.250m for 2014/15 only. Additional budget pressures have been identified in relation to the costs for software, and delays in the rollout of Lync, There are unachievable savings targets of £0.139m for the Customer Service Centre and Face to Face proposals in 2014/15 which have been flagged as Red and relate to the current delays in implementation which are due to be resolved imminently. The Print unit also continues to experience a budget pressure on income generation, and the structure of the service is being reviewed. Savings from staffing in other areas are currently off setting some of the identified budget pressures.</p>					
Finance, Governance & Assurance	Portfolio Holder Resources, Finance, and Support	1,459,520	1,506,612	47,092	G
<p>The current overspend in Finance is in relation to the Schools Finance Team and is the result of a combination of reducing the staffing in the team to an unsustainable level and this has resulted in the need to recruit to an additional post as at a cost of £0.030m. There has also been reduced buy back from schools resulting in an income shortfall in the current year of £0.018m. Work is being undertaken to review how the team operates and to increase income opportunities in the future.</p>					
Human Resources & Development	Portfolio Holder Resources, Finance, and Support	209,150	236,673	27,523	G
<p>A one-off budget pressure has occurred resulting from two invoices paid to Teacher Pensions Association for Employer Pensions Contributions arrears with compound interest. The Payroll Team are seeking to mitigate the risk of future invoices by going through systems to ensure all teachers that should have been opted in have been dealt with correctly. Additional pressures have also been identified from reduced income relating to service buy back and first aid training, although these have largely been offset by in-year vacancy management savings.</p>					

RESOURCES & SUPPORT		Full year			RAGY
		Budget	Forecast	Variance	
		£	£	£	
Legal, Democratic & Strategy	Portfolio Holder Resources, Finance, and Support	1,152,670	957,348	(195,322)	Y
<p>Savings across Committee Services and Members allowances/support services have been identified of £0.123m. Savings of £0.014m in relation to election services postage costs. A further saving of £0.023m has been identified in relation to subscription requirements. Additional income generation and savings on staffing have been identified with in Legal services to the value of £0.151m, and this is offsetting other budget pressures of £0.114m within Child Care legal costs. The large spend on legal fees in relation to child care costs continues to be high and this needs to be closely monitored as current spend remains high, the overspend may increase later in the year.</p>					
Strategic Management Board	Portfolio Holder Resources, Finance, and Support	1,000,000	939,907	(60,093)	Y
<p>Savings of £0.051m in relation to PA vacancies not being filled, with a number of additional savings within subscription and travel budgets. Additional funding of £1m has been allocated to this budget to fund a number of activities relating to the development of a new university in Shropshire, as approved by Council.</p>					

CORPORATE		Full year			RAGY
		Budget	Forecast	Variance	
		£	£	£	
Total		1,563,630	(1,122,587)	(2,686,217)	Y

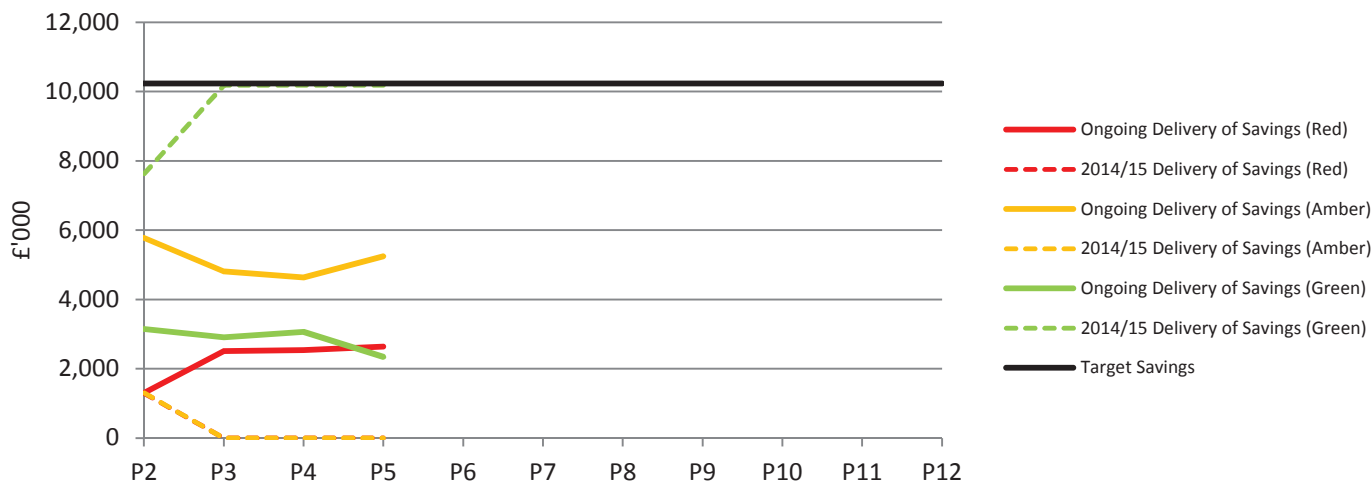
Corporate Budgets	Portfolio Holder Resources, Finance, and Support	1,563,630	(1,122,587)	(2,686,217)	Y
<p>Additional Non-distributable costs and added years pensions costs are forecast at £28.5k over budget. However, other savings have been identified from various budgets to offset additional costs in 2014/15. The Council's Medium Term Financial Plan took account of a number of assumptions in Council Tax Freeze Grant, Section 31 grants (relating to, for example small business rate relief) and Business Rate appeals provision. While the longer term implications of these elements remain uncertain (for example whether they will be rolled transparently into future RSG allocations) an assessment over the first 3 months of the year has identified that £2.471m has been budgeted for, but can be assumed to be uncommitted in 2014/15 with a reasonable degree of certainty. It is too early to assess the implications of these provisions beyond the current year, but as a one-off this underspend can now be declared, offsetting a large proportion of the in-year pressures identified in Table 3 of the report.</p>					

Tracking of Delivery of 2014/15 Savings Proposals

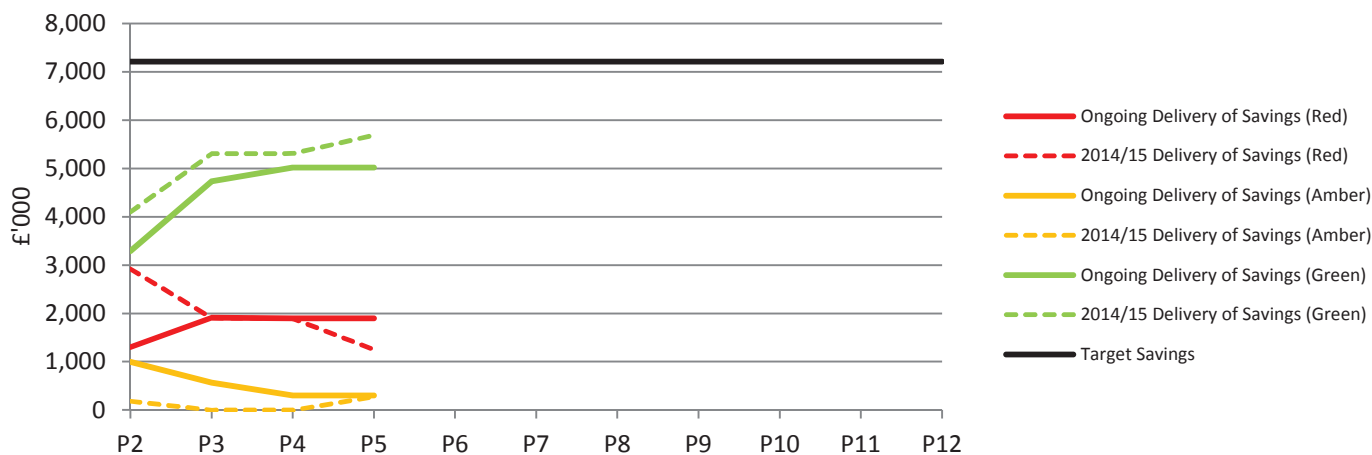
Service Area	Position as at 11 th June 2014 £'000	Finance Team Assessment of Ongoing Delivery of Savings as at Quarter 1 £'000	Projection of 2014/15 Delivery of Savings as at Quarter 1 £'000	Finance Team Assessment of Ongoing Delivery of Savings as at Quarter 2 £'000	Projection of 2014/15 Delivery of Savings as at Quarter 2 £'000	Significant Changes to Last Quarter's Projections
Red Savings						
Adult Services	1,304	2,511	0	2,639	0	50% of the Bethpage contract saving (total £0.253m) now categorised as red.
Children's Services	2,922	1,908	1,908	1,897	1,249	One off grants and reserve balances been identified to offset the savings in 2014/15 only.
Commissioning	1,287	1,287	1,287	1,734	575	Waste saving of £0.569m categorised as red and met by one off savings in 2014/15 only.
Public Health	0	0	0	0	0	
Resources & Support	684	684	684	566	245	Savings relating to CSC now planned for delivery and re-categorisation of savings from property disposals. One off savings have been identified across Commercial Services to reduce the impact in 2014/15.
Corporate	0	0	0	0	0	
	6,197	6,390	3,879	6,836	2,069	
Amber Savings						
Adult Services	5,781	4,812	0	5,248	0	Increase relates to the day services transformation saving which has now considered to be amber in terms of delivery rather than green as originally projected.
Children's Services	999	569	0	300	275	Restructuring savings are now considered to be green and hence has reduced the level of amber savings since Quarter 1.
Commissioning	774	774	774	283	12	Partial delivery of housing redesign savings.
Public Health	0	0	0	0	0	
Resources & Support	352	352	123	372	317	
Corporate	0	0	0	0	0	
	7,906	6,507	897	6,203	604	
Green Savings						
Adult Services	3,148	2,910	10,233	2,347	10,233	
Children's Services	3,291	4,735	5,304	5,015	5,688	
Commissioning	6,144	6,144	6,144	6,188	7,618	
Public Health	55	55	55	55	55	
Resources & Support	6,351	6,351	6,580	6,448	6,825	
Corporate	6,800	6,800	6,800	6,800	6,800	
	25,789	26,995	35,116	26,853	37,219	
TOTAL SAVINGS	39,892	39,892	39,892	39,892	39,892	

Tracking of 2014/15 RAG Ratings by Service Area

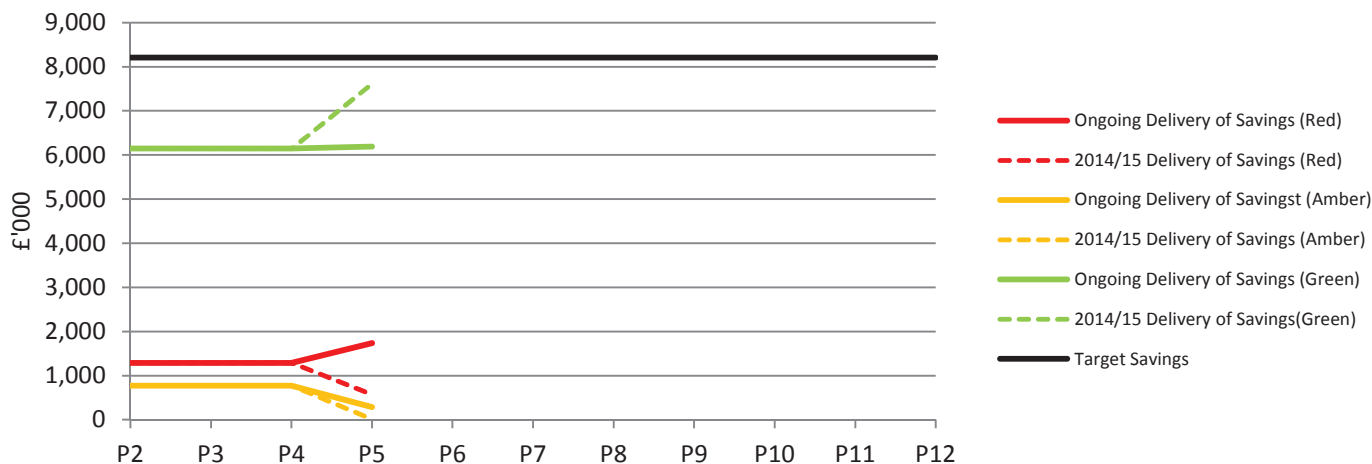
Adults RAG Projections Tracking 2014/15



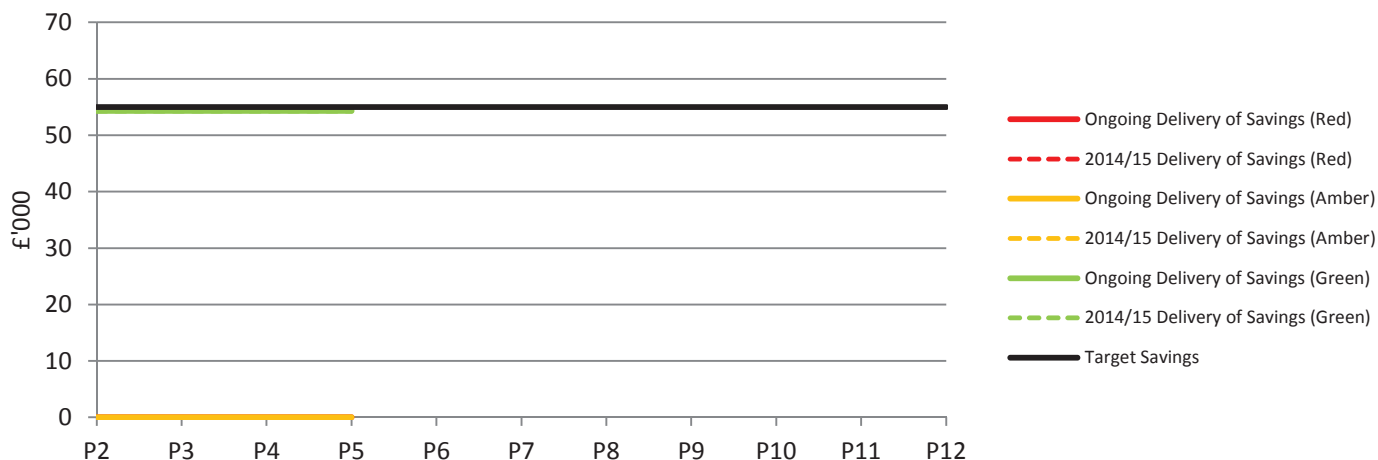
Children's RAG Projections Tracking 2014/15



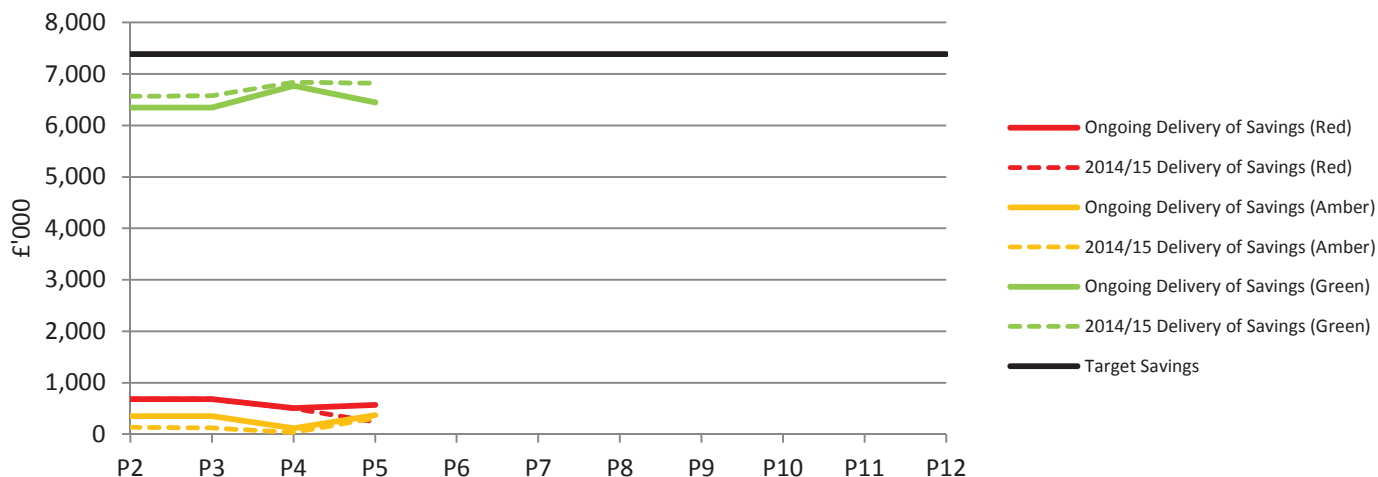
Commissioning RAG Projections Tracking 2014/15



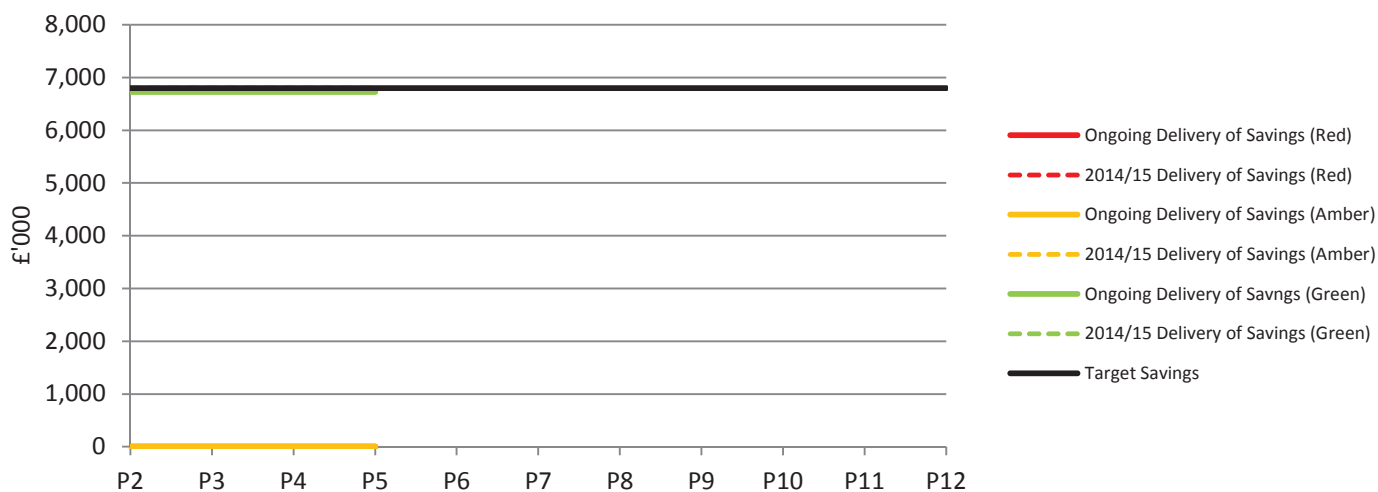
Public Health RAG Projections Tracking 2014/15



Resources & Support RAG Projections Tracking 2014/15



Corporate RAG Projections Tracking 2014/15



Appendix 2

Amendments to Original Budget 2014/15

	Total £'000	Adult Services £'000	Children's Services £'000	Commiss ioning £'000	Public Health £'000	Resources & Support £'000	Corporate £'000
Original Budget as agreed by Council	223,445	64,555	55,902	90,356	1,470	5,127	6,035
<u>Quarter 1</u>							
Professional Development Unit transferred from Children's Services to Adult Services	0	130	(130)	0	0	0	0
Grant funding re shortfall in ESG	0	0	416	0	0	0	(416)
Funding to Develop University Plans	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	(1,000)
Cost of dual running of the WAN contract	0	0	0	0	0	490	(490)
Financial pressures within the Property Services Design Team	0	0	0	0	0	428	(428)
<u>Quarter 2</u>							
Minor budget variations			(3)	(1)		4	
Structure change				(22)		22	
Sustainability transfer				(163)		163	
Restructure of IT budgets held corporately						337	(337)
Transfer of corporate funding for redesign projects in Resources & Support:							
- Mail room						300	(300)
- Printing						200	(200)
- EDRMS						412	(412)
- CSC						250	(250)
- Mobile working						280	(280)
- Revs & Bens						238	(238)
- Business Design						120	(120)
Revised Budget	223,445	64,685	56,185	90,170	1,470	9,371	1,564

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Shropshire

Unitary Authority



This profile was produced on 12 August 2014

Health Profile 2014

Health in summary

The health of people in Shropshire is generally better than the England average. Deprivation is lower than average, however about 13.6% (6,700) children live in poverty. Life expectancy for both men and women is higher than the England average.

Living longer

Life expectancy is 5.3 years lower for men and 3.2 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Shropshire than in the least deprived areas.

Child health

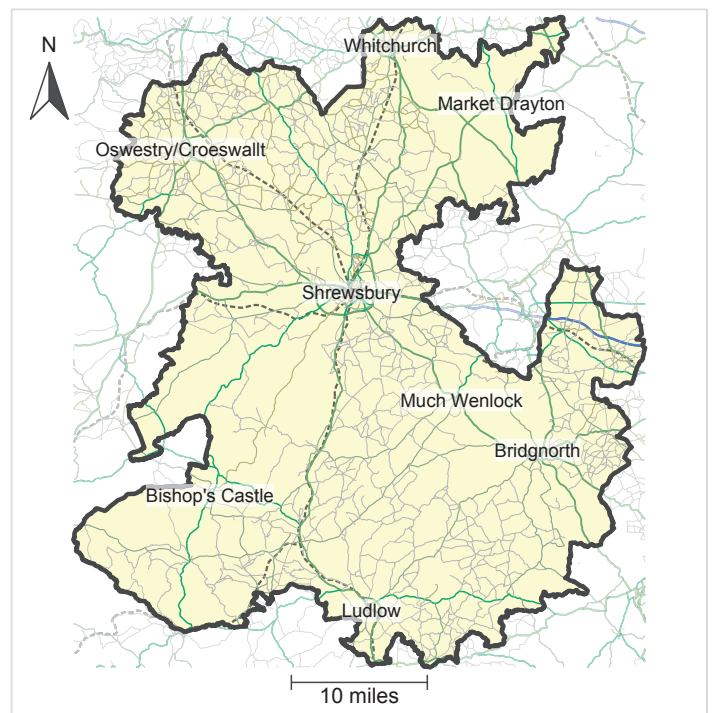
In Year 6, 19.2% (489) of children are classified as obese. The rate of alcohol-specific hospital stays among those under 18 was 41.1*. This represents 25 stays per year.

Adult health

In 2012, 23.4% of adults are classified as obese. The rate of alcohol related harm hospital stays was 568*, better than the average for England. This represents 1,810 stays per year. The rate of self-harm hospital stays was 150.7*, better than the average for England. This represents 441 stays per year. The rate of smoking related deaths was 269*, better than the average for England. This represents 534 deaths per year. Rates of hip fractures, sexually transmitted infections and TB are better than average. Rates of statutory homelessness, violent crime, long term unemployment, drug misuse, early deaths from cardiovascular diseases and early deaths from cancer are better than average.

Local priorities

Priorities in Shropshire include 'starting well' through a healthy child programme, 'living well' by tackling obesity and health inequalities, and 'ageing well' by prevention of long term conditions. For more information see shropshire.gov.uk



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OpenStreetMap contributors ODbL

Population: 308,000

Mid-2012 population estimate. Source: Office for National Statistics.

This profile gives a picture of people's health in Shropshire. It is designed to help local government and health services understand their community's needs, so that they can work to improve people's health and reduce health inequalities.

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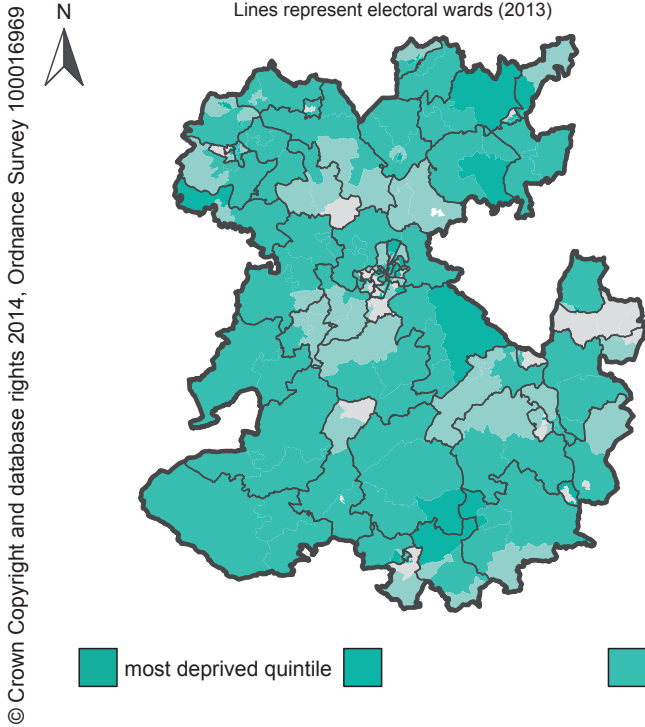


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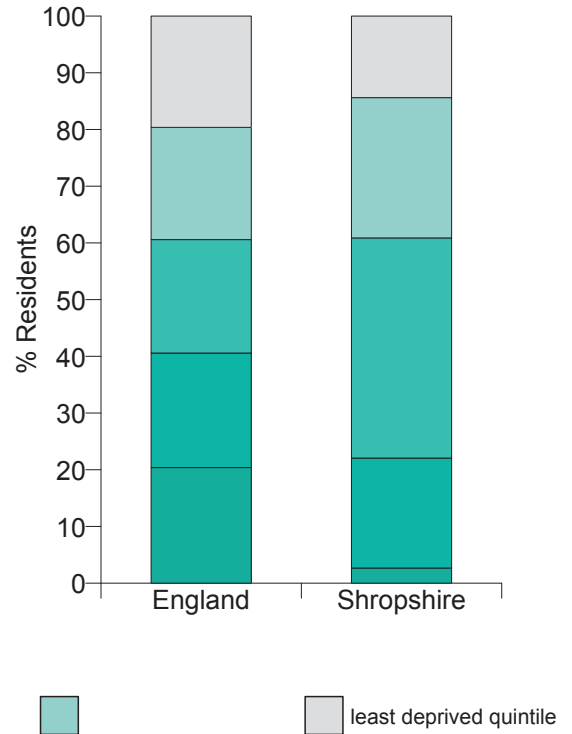
* rate per 100,000 population

Deprivation: a national view

The map shows differences in deprivation levels in this area based on national quintiles (fifths) of the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010 by Lower Super Output Area. The darkest coloured areas are some of the most deprived areas in England.



This chart shows the percentage of the population in England and this area who live in each of these quintiles.



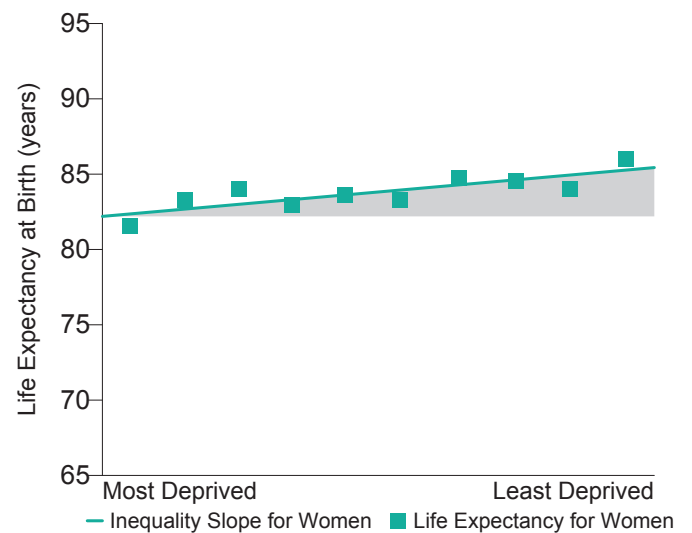
Life Expectancy: inequalities in this local authority

The charts below show life expectancy for men and women in this local authority for 2010-2012. Each chart is divided into deciles (tenths) by deprivation, from the most deprived decile on the left of the chart to the least deprived decile on the right. The steepness of the slope represents the inequality in life expectancy that is related to deprivation in this local area. If there were no inequality in life expectancy as a result of deprivation, the line would be horizontal.

Life Expectancy Gap for Men: 5.3 years

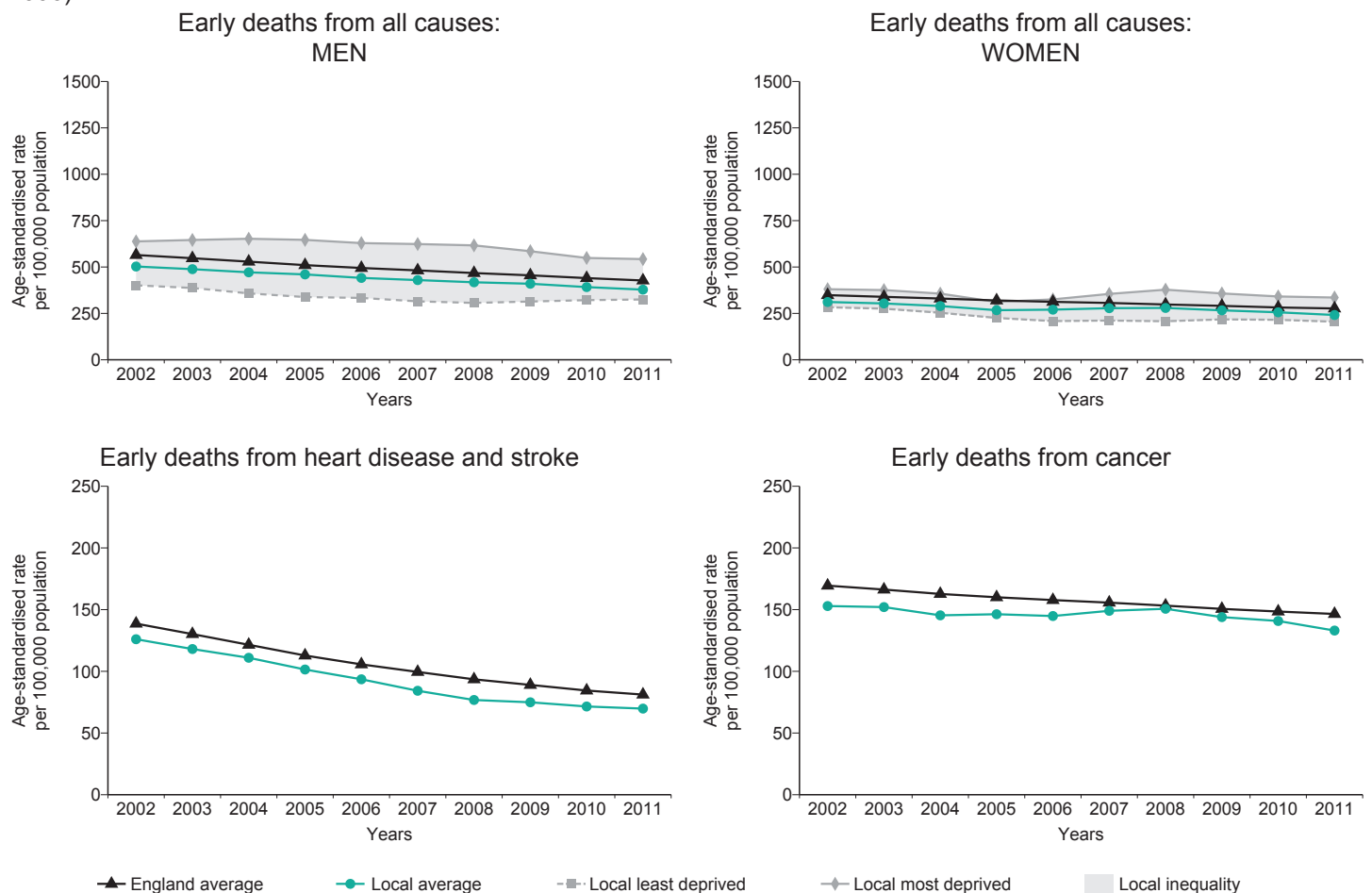


Life Expectancy Gap for Women: 3.2 years



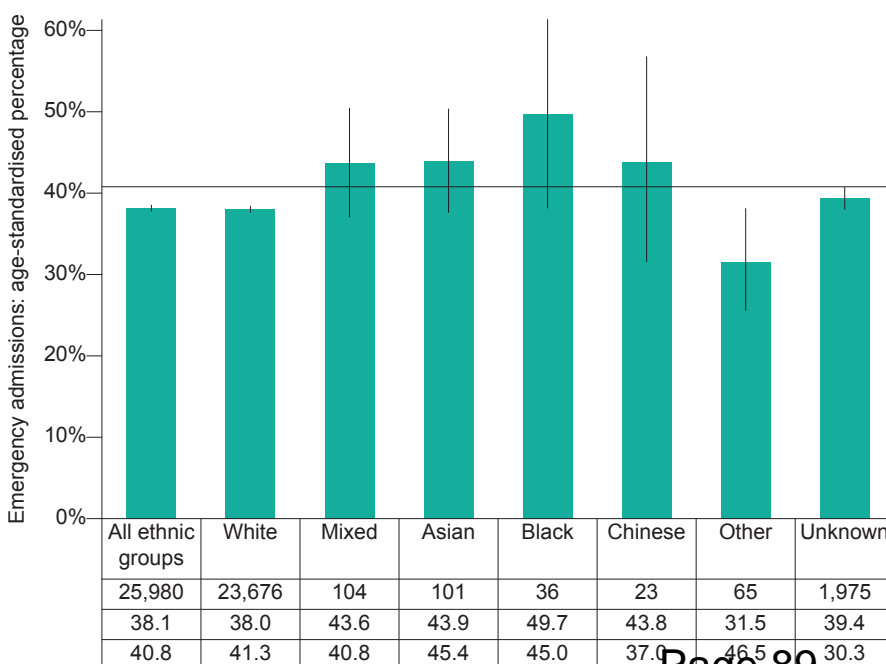
Health inequalities: changes over time

These charts provide a comparison of the changes in early death rates (in people under 75) between this area and all of England. Early deaths from all causes also show the differences between the most and least deprived quintile in this area. (Data points are the midpoints of 3 year averages of annual rates, for example 2005 represents the period 2004 to 2006).



Health inequalities: ethnicity

Percentage of hospital admissions that were emergencies, by ethnic group



This chart shows the percentage of hospital admissions in 2012/13 that were emergencies for each ethnic group in this area. A high percentage of emergency admissions may reflect some patients not accessing or receiving the care most suited to managing their conditions. By comparing the percentage in each ethnic group in this area with that of the whole population of England (represented by the horizontal line) possible inequalities can be identified.

■ Shropshire
 — England average (all ethnic groups)
 | 95% confidence interval

Figures based on small numbers of admissions have been suppressed to avoid any potential disclosure of information about individuals.

Health Summary for Shropshire

The chart below shows how the health of people in this area compares with the rest of England. This area's result for each indicator is shown as a circle. The average rate for England is shown by the black line, which is always at the centre of the chart. The range of results for all local areas in England is shown as a grey bar. A red circle means that this area is significantly worse than England for that indicator; however, a green circle may still indicate an important public health problem.

Domain	Indicator	Local No Per Year	Local value	Eng value	Regional average [^]		England Average		England Best
					Eng worst	25th Percentile	75th Percentile	England Range	
Our communities	1 Deprivation	8,217	2.7	20.4	83.8				0.0
	2 Children in poverty (under 16s)	6,745	13.6	20.6	43.6				6.4
	3 Statutory homelessness	239	1.9	2.4	11.4				0.0
	4 GCSE achieved (5A*-C inc. Eng & Maths)	1,967	60.4	60.8	38.1				81.9
	5 Violent crime (violence offences)	2,248	7.3	10.6	27.1				3.3
	6 Long term unemployment	1,079	5.7	9.9	32.6				1.3
Children's and young people's health	7 Smoking status at time of delivery	n/a	-	12.7	30.8				2.3
	8 Breastfeeding initiation	1,879	73.8	73.9	40.8				94.7
	9 Obese children (Year 6)	489	19.2	18.9	27.3				10.1
	10 Alcohol-specific hospital stays (under 18)	25	41.1	44.9	126.7				11.9
	11 Under 18 conceptions	137	24.3	27.7	52.0				8.8
Adults' health and lifestyle	12 Smoking prevalence	n/a	19.8	19.5	30.1				8.4
	13 Percentage of physically active adults	n/a	58.0	56.0	43.8				68.5
	14 Obese adults	n/a	23.4	23.0	35.2				11.2
	15 Excess weight in adults	507	62.5	63.8	75.9				45.9
Disease and poor health	16 Incidence of malignant melanoma	46	13.0	14.8	31.8				3.6
	17 Hospital stays for self-harm	441	150.7	188.0	596.0				50.4
	18 Hospital stays for alcohol related harm	1,810	568	637	1,121				365
	19 Drug misuse	1,123	5.8	8.6	26.3				0.8
	20 Recorded diabetes	14,457	5.8	6.0	8.7				3.5
	21 Incidence of TB	11	3.3	15.1	112.3				0.0
	22 Acute sexually transmitted infections	1,257	409	804	3,210				162
Life expectancy and causes of death	23 Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over	343	477	568	828				403
	24 Excess winter deaths (three year)	162	16.6	16.5	32.1				-3.0
	25 Life expectancy at birth (Male)	n/a	79.8	79.2	74.0				82.9
	26 Life expectancy at birth (Female)	n/a	83.8	83.0	79.5				86.6
	27 Infant mortality	9	3.0	4.1	7.5				0.7
	28 Smoking related deaths	534	269	292	480				172
	29 Suicide rate	33	10.8	8.5					
	30 Under 75 mortality rate: cardiovascular	206	69.8	81.1	144.7				37.4
	31 Under 75 mortality rate: cancer	397	133	146	213				106
	32 Killed and seriously injured on roads	131	42.5	40.5	116.3				11.3

Indicator Notes

1 % people in this area living in 20% most deprived areas in England, 2010 2 % children (under 16) in families receiving means-tested benefits & low income, 2011 3 Crude rate per 1,000 households, 2012/13 4 % key stage 4, 2012/13 5 Recorded violence against the person crimes, crude rate per 1,000 population, 2012/13 6 Crude rate per 1,000 population aged 16-64, 2013 7 % of women who smoke at time of delivery, 2012/13 8 % of all mothers who breastfeed their babies in the first 48hrs after delivery, 2012/13 9 % school children in Year 6 (age 10-11), 2012/13 10 Persons under 18 admitted to hospital due to alcohol-specific conditions, crude rate per 100,000 population, 2010/11 to 2012/13 (pooled) 11 Under-18 conception rate per 1,000 females aged 15-17 (crude rate) 2012 12 % adults aged 18 and over, 2012 13 % adults achieving at least 150 mins physical activity per week, 2012 14 % adults classified as obese, Active People Survey 2012 15 % adults classified as overweight or obese, Active People Survey 2012 16 Directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population, aged under 75, 2009-2011 17 Directly age sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2012/13 18 The number of admissions involving an alcohol-related primary diagnosis or an alcohol-related external cause, directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2012/13 19 Estimated users of opiate and/or crack cocaine aged 15-64, crude rate per 1,000 population, 2010/11 20 % people on GP registers with a recorded diagnosis of diabetes 2012/13 21 Crude rate per 100,000 population, 2010-2012 22 Crude rate per 100,000 population, 2012 (chlamydia screening coverage may influence rate) 23 Directly age and sex standardised rate of emergency admissions, per 100,000 population aged 65 and over, 2012/13 24 Ratio of excess winter deaths (observed winter deaths minus expected deaths based on non-winter deaths) to average non-winter deaths 1.08.09-31.07.12 25 At birth, 2010-2012 26 At birth, 2010-2012 27 Rate per 1,000 live births, 2010-2012 28 Directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population aged 35 and over, 2010-2012 29 Directly age standardised mortality rate from suicide and injury of undetermined intent per 100,000 population, 2010-2012 30 Directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population aged under 75, 2010-2012 31 Directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population aged under 75, 2010-2012 32 Rate per 100,000 population, 2010-2012 ^ "Regional" refers to the former government regions.

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