

TITLE OF REPORT	REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING – JULY 2007 REGENERATION & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Robin Cooper, Director of Regeneration & Development

1. CURRENT FORECAST POSITION

- 1.1 The directorate is currently forecasting an overspend of £665,000 against its approved budget of £34,272,000.

2. MAJOR VARIANCES

2.1 Director's Office

The additional vacancy provision of £440,000 appears within this section. It is shown as a pressure because the corresponding savings achieved to date appear in the respective services. An efficiency savings of £112,000 is shown as being achievable this year; however, this is dependent on Members agreeing to proposals currently being formulated.

2.2 Traffic and Parking Management

Following the trend from last financial year the parking income forecast continues to be less than budget. It is currently expected to fall short by £114,000. Income generated from staff recharges to capital and penalty payments from utility companies under NRSWA legislation is also expected to generate a pressure, current forecasts expect this to be in the region of £96,000. Additional pressures include £36,000 for higher rates bills and £16,000 for electricity costs.

2.3 Highways

Highways schemes will, where possible, be curtailed to the level of the budget allocation and any staff vacancy savings will be made available to offset the directorate vacancy provision. Discussions with Rochester Bridge Trust are continuing with respect to the grant for Medway Tunnel running costs and the report reflects the expectation that funding to anticipated levels will be achieved.

2.4 **Integrated Transport**

A cost associated with the issue of plastic passes for concessionary fares was received in this financial year, which has caused a pressure of £24,000.

The tender process for subsidised bus routes has now been concluded and has resulted in no significant pressures. The continuing problems in resolving the St Mary's Island service has however resulted in an expected pressure of £49,000.

3. CONCLUSIONS & MANAGEMENT ACTION

- 3.1 Detailed action plans are currently being formulated to address the forecast overspend and will be implemented as soon as possible.