GF & HRA MAJOR VARIANCE EXPLANATIONS SINCE LAST REPORTED POSITION

CHILDREN & LEARNING		
	Slippage and Rephasing	
1.	R&M Programme for schools (Slippage of £0.69M from 2020/21 to 2021/22) Slippage is predominantly due to the following schemes: • Mount Pleasant Clock Tower – there has been a delay in developing the tender package for this scheme as a result of a performance issue with the external consultant appointed to do this. This has been addressed for the post-contract phase of the scheme and works will now commence in April 2021. • Mason Moor Roofing – investigations at the start of the scheme found a serious defect in an internal drain run of the existing roof. The least disruptive option to address this was to redesign the roof covering and insulation in this area. The extra design time, and the supply of bespoke insulation have delayed commencement of on-site works. This will also incur additional contractor costs. • Mansel Park Roofing - a previously hidden defect was discovered in the existing-roof deck construction at this school shortly after works commenced. Works were put on hold while further intrusive surveys were carried out to establish the extent of this defect and have resulted in the roof covering system for three large areas of roof to be redesigned before works could recommence. This will also incur additional contractor costs The slippage and additional costs as a result of these issues have been factored into 2021/22 budget.	
2.	Oasis Academy Sholing Renovation (Slippage of £0.76M from 2020/21 to 2021/22) The school's trust is managing these works and a funding transfer agreement is in place to reimburse costs. The trusts completion of works, which are outside of the Council's control, are progressing slower than anticipated therefore reducing the amount expected to be reimbursed in 2020/21. The outstanding sum is forecast to be paid in 2021/22. This delay will not impact on pupil capacity at the school.	
CUSTOMER & ORGANISATION		
	Slippage and Rephasing	
3.	Client Case Management System (Slippage of £0.61M from 2020/21 to 2021/22) The system provider has been unable to develop the system within the agreed timespan due to the impact of Covid-19 on their business and software development delays. An implementation date has been agreed for October 2021.	

GREEN CITY & PLACE	
	Slippage and Rephasing
4.	Transport Schemes Match Funding (Slippage of £1.50M from 2020/21 to 2021/22) This budget is intended to support large grant bids to the Department for Transport for significant infrastructure works in realigning West Quay Road and widening the Northam rail bridge. Progress has been made during year in developing business cases for each scheme but the bid for additional funding is reliant on the central government grant process which has been delayed to prioritise funding associated with the response to Covid-19.
5.	Cycling (Slippage of £1.17M from 2020/21 to 2021/22) The impact of Covid-19 and the ongoing lockdown in quarter 4 has required the service to prioritise delivering schemes which met the requirements and implications of specific Covid-19 related funding which materialised during the year. This has caused the Section 106 funded cycling schemes on Queensway, Cumberland Place and New Road to be pushed into 2021/22 as there was not the resource capacity to do both.
6.	Public Transport (Slippage of £0.22M from 2020/21 to 2021/22) The impact of Covid-19 and the ongoing lockdown in quarter 4 has required the service to prioritise delivering schemes which met the requirements and implications of specific Covid-19 related funding which materialised during the year. This has caused the Section 106 funded minor bus related works, including real time passenger information and bus stop improvements in various locations across the city to be delayed until 2021/22 as there was not the resource capacity to do both.
7.	S106 Unallocated (slippage of £1.52M from 2020/21 to 2021/22) This is Green City & Place related S106 income that has been received by the authority but not yet allocated as funding to a specific scheme. This slipped funding will be reviewed and allocated to appropriate schemes as they are identified in 2021/22.
8.	Future Transport Zones (Slippage of £7.93M from 2020/21 to 2021/22) The Council is the accountable body for this Solent wide grant funded project and this budget is predominately to fund grant payments to partner organisations. Recruitment has now taken place for a fixed-term term team over the for the life of the project to administer the grants and the first tranche of payments to partners will be made in early 2021/22.
9.	Vehicle Purchases (Slippage of £2.73M from 2020/21 to 2021/22) An order to replace the City Services vehicles was not yet delivered, as anticipated, before the end of the financial year will now be paid in 2021/22. In addition, identifying vehicles for the Housing Operations team that meet both service's need and the objectives of the green city charter has caused delays resulting in further slippage of £1.9M.

- 10. Transforming Cities Fund (Slippage of £6.63M from 2020/21 to 2021/22)
 Following the appointment of a full-time delivery team for this scheme and a detailed review of timelines and work scheduling based on the implications of Covid-19 and the interconnectivity of schemes within the project; the wider capital programme; and events in the city the budget profile has been updated for all years of this three-year programme.
- 11. Weston Shore Coastal Erosion (slippage of from £0.97M from 2020/21 to 2021/22)
 The original design using a concrete wall to protect the shoreline in this area is no longer feasible due to the condition of the land underneath. Alternative methods have been assessed and the scheme will now continue based on a rock amour revetment construction in 2021/22.
- 12. Townhill Park Infrastructure (slippage of £0.71M from 2020/21 to 2021/22)
 The construction of the village green, estimated at £0.54M, will now be completed in 2021/22, with the remaining traffic calming measures on Meggeson Avenue and improvements to Ozier Road coinciding with the landscaping work on the village green. This is a grant funded scheme for which the deadline to spend the funding has also been delayed to March 2022.

HRA

Slippage and Rephasing

13. Right to Buy, Satisfactory Purchase Scheme - Slippage of £2.83M from 2020/21 to 2021/22

The acquisitions policy which includes the repurchase of properties that were sold under the Right to Buy scheme is currently under review. This review will be finalised in the first quarter of 2021/22. As a result, the purchasing previously on hold will recommence.

14. Energy Company Obligations, Canberra Towers - Slippage of £3.21M from 2020/21 to 2021/22,

Due to sensitivity currently around fire safety in high-rise tower blocks there has been increased scrutiny of the contract, design and delivery for this scheme. As a result, the consultant's delivery of works on the feasibility stage commenced later than expected. The full budget requirements will be known following a review the feasibility report and the confirmation of design choices in April 2021. As a result, the budget required to carry out the works will not be needed until 2021/22.

Surplus & Deficit

15. Renew Warden Alarm - Surplus of £0.52M, an increase of £0.02M since last reported position

The majority of on-site works have been suspended in 2020/21 as contractors reviewed all site-based activities and amended risk assessments and working methods to ensure compliance with social distancing restrictions, this was further compounded by the additional restrictions introduced in January 2021. As a result, the budget not spent in this financial year will not be required, as works in 2021/22 will be met by the approved budgets for that year.

16. Estate Regeneration Woodside/Wimpson - Surplus of £0.52M, no movement since last reported position

The contractor for this scheme did not reached 'practical completion' as anticipated in March 2021, as a major defect has been detected with fire alarm system, which requires re-installation and subsequent making good. Completion is now expected at the end of May 2021. The budget not spent in this financial year will not be required as the uncompleted works will be covered by the future budgets.

17. Gas Heating Upgrades/Refurbishments - Surplus of £0.51M, an increase of £0.18M since last reported position

The ongoing impact of Covid-19 has caused a delay to the programme of boiler replacements as workers have had restricted access to resident's homes or communal areas to carry out works due to social distancing guidelines. The further lockdown since January 2021 has increased this delay. Although there is a backlog of boiler replacements, it has been reviewed and agreed that this backlog can be covered by the future year budgets.

18. <u>Block Modernisation Programme - Surplus of £0.94M, increase of £0.97M since last reported position</u>

Social distancing restrictions have delayed the completion of this scheme as workers were unable to work in occupied flats until these restrictions were eased. This is because at any time 2 operatives are required to work for more than 15 minutes without social distancing making it difficult to carry out sprinkler installations and fire door works in the block corridors. This delay was further increased by the new restriction introduced in January 2021. As a result, the full budget has not been spent in 2020/21 and the delayed works will be covered by the existing budget for future years.

19. Oaklands Site - Surplus of £0.84M, increase of £0.84M since last reported position

The impact of Covid-19 caused the contractor uncertainty in what works they would be able deliver which has led to them being unable to provide forecasts completion dates with confidence which has then impacted on the scheduling and installation of the utility infrastructure. The remaining works will be completed within the existing budgets for future years.

- 20. Right to Buy Satisfactory Purchase Scheme nil surplus or deficit, decrease of £2.58M since last reported position

 This budget is no longer anticipated to underspend as last reported, the unspent budget from 2020/21 will now be slipped to form part of the budget for 2021/22. This is because the review of the Right to Buy scheme is now expected to be completed in quarter one of 2021/22 after which property purchasing will be approved to recommence, due to the size of the budget in future years and given the shortage of available properties impact on the price the budget will now be required in future years.
 21. Energy Company Obligations Canberra Towers nil surplus or deficit, decrease of £2.90M since last reported position

 This budget is no longer anticipated to underspend as last reported, the unspent budget from 2020/21 will now be slipped to form part of the budget for 2021/22. As consultants have now been appointed to develop and review design choices for this scheme and it
 - 22. Structural Works nil surplus or deficit, decrease of £0.77M since last reported position. This budget is no longer anticipated to underspend as last reported, the unspent budget from 2020/21 will now be slipped to form part of the budget for 2021/22. This is because further works have been identified at International Way from condition surveys which will be funded by the formerly surplus budget in future years.

is anticipated the budget surplus will be required in future years.