

This monthly report is issued by the three ward councillors as an overview of the work / meetings being carried out it does not portray to be a complete or comprehensive account of their own or the District Councils activities, it is a snap-shot in time.

Financial Review – net Revenue expenditure budget of £12.3m (before the addition of town/parish precepts)

The overall position on revenue net expenditure for all the council services was £12.094m (before the addition of town/parish precepts)

The overall position on revenue net expenditure for all the council services was £12.094k against a revised budget of £12,363k resulting in an under spend of £269k

This under spend enabled a contribution to reserves of £230.6k

Major income received was £6.6m from general Government Grant and the National Non-Domestic Rate pool plus £5.8m from Council Tax payers.

The 2006/2007 Capital expenditure Amended Estimate was £10.9m including , £3.1 for affordable housing, £1.2 for E-Government, £1.2m for World Class Stratford, £1.2m for Wellesbourne Community Hall and £671k for Stratford Football Club. Some spending on major projects was deferred until 2007/2008.

This was mainly due to circumstances beyond the control of the council including progress by external bodies or organisations. The final 2006/2007 capital expenditure was £5.8m

At 31st March 2007 the Council held £2m in Revenue balances, £22m in available Capital resources and had no outstanding debt.

Comprehensive Spending Review. This is a statement of how the Government will fund public sector over the next three years. At the moment detailed information on how it will impact on Stratford is yet to materialise. A few of the headlines are as follows:-

- There will be a 1% growth in real terms in local government funding, but this does not reflect the position for all councils. It seems money may be targeted at education and adult services;
- The Government published the list of grants that will be allocated through the Public Sector Board of the Local Area Agreement and specific grants;
- The Government published the set of performance indicators against which local authority performance will be judged. There are 198, but this is reduced from 1,200!
- There are some new powers to raise money from business, but these powers seem to be reserved to county councils in two tier areas like Warwickshire; and,
- Capping will remain in place; with expectation increases shall not be more than 5%.

New Corporate Strategy – developed to deal with the Council's Wellbeing Strategy, targeting social, economic & environmental aspect.

