

CUSTOMER & COMMUNITIES DIRECTORATE SUMMARY
JUNE 2013-14 FULL MONITORING REPORT

1. REVENUE

1.1		Cash Limit	Variance Before Mgmt Action	Management Action	Net Variance after Mgmt Action
	Directorate Total (£k)	+75,987	-140	-	-140

1.2 **Table 1** below details the revenue position by A-Z budget:

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP
	G	I	N	N			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Customer & Communities portfolio							
Strategic Management & Directorate Support budgets	3,112.8	-978.0	2,134.8	-48			
<u>Support to Frontline Services:</u>							
- Communication & Consultation	3,033.7	-11.0	3,022.7	+1			
<u>Other Services for Adults & Older People</u>							
- Social Fund (Kent Support & Assistance Service - KSAS)	3,469.0	-3,469.0	0.0	-592	-592	Lower than anticipated demand for awards in the first quarter for this new pilot scheme. In accordance with Key Decision 12/01939, funding for KSAS is to be ring fenced for two years (2013-14 & 2014-15), therefore committed roll forward will be requested for any underspend at year	
- Supporting People	24,856.5	0.0	24,856.5	0			
	28,325.5	-3,469.0	24,856.5	-592			
<u>Children's Services:</u>							
- Youth Service	8,611.0	-2,365.8	6,245.2	+95			
- Youth Offending Service	5,491.8	-2,496.7	2,995.1	+11			
	14,102.8	-4,862.5	9,240.3	+106			

Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP
	G	I	N	N			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Community Services:							
- Arts Development (incl Turner Contemporary)	2,123.8	0.0	2,123.8	-56			
- Community Learning Services	15,125.4	-15,354.7	-229.3	0			
- Community Safety	659.2	-284.9	374.3	0			
- Community Wardens	2,652.4	0.0	2,652.4	-11			
- Contact Centre & Citizen's Advice Help Line	3,560.2	-1,116.1	2,444.1	+556	+573	The integration of new services into the Contact Centre was due to deliver savings of £573k in 2013-14. This has been re-phased to align with the replacement of the Web Platform and the implementation of the Customer Service Strategy and is now expected to be delivered in 2014-15. Offsetting savings within the directorate are currently being identified in an attempt to mitigate the impact of this in the current year.	This saving is already reflected within the base budget for 2014-15.
					-17	Other minor variances	
- Gateways	2,257.3	-355.2	1,902.1	+12			
- Libraries, Registration & Archives Services (LRA)	19,114.2	-5,216.5	13,897.7	+28	+61	Scoping costs for replacement of a number of LRA computer systems, which may result in a capital programme bid if a viable project solution is found.	
					-32	Staff vacancies	
					-29	Refund in respect of return of leased equipment	
					+28	Other minor variances	
- Local Healthwatch & Complaints Advocacy	1,340.6	-766.0	574.6	0			
- Other Community Services	5,319.1	-5,319.1	0.0	0			
- Sports Development	2,256.0	-1,467.7	788.3	-3			

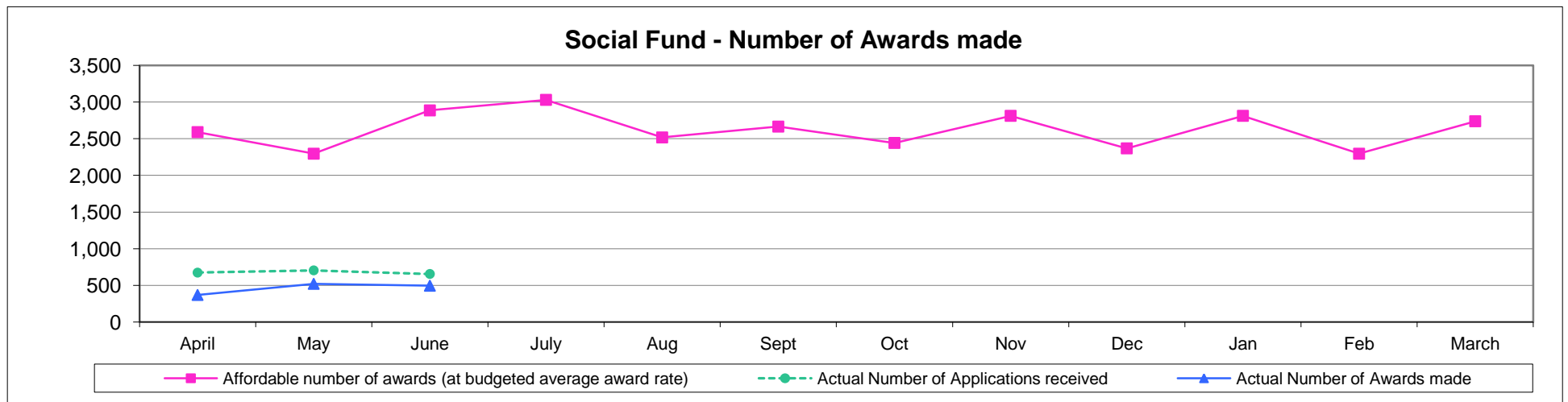
Budget Book Heading	Cash Limit			Variance	Explanation		Management Action/ Impact on MTFP
	G	I	N	N			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
- Supporting Employment	1,085.9	-335.0	750.9	+15			
	55,494.1	-30,215.2	25,278.9	+541			
<u>Environment:</u>							
- Country Parks	1,493.8	-990.7	503.1	-27			
- Countryside Access (incl PROW)	2,772.9	-1,116.7	1,656.2	-41			
	4,266.7	-2,107.4	2,159.3	-68			
<u>Local Democracy:</u>							
- Community Engagement	720.3	0.0	720.3	+11			
- Local Scheme & Member Grants	1,240.0	0.0	1,240.0	0			
	1,960.3	0.0	1,960.3	+11			
<u>Public Health:</u>							
- Drug & Alcohol Services	19,027.3	-17,775.5	1,251.8	0			
- <i>Tfr to(+)/from(-) Public Health reserve</i>				0			
- Drug & Alcohol Services base funded variance				0			
<u>Regulatory Services:</u>							
- Coroners	2,807.3	-475.0	2,332.3	+26			
- Emergency Planning	778.5	-169.0	609.5	-24			
- Trading Standards (incl Kent Scientific Services)	3,926.8	-785.8	3,141.0	-93	-128	Staffing vacancies	
					+35	Other minor variances	
	7,512.6	-1,429.8	6,082.8	-91			
Total C&C portfolio	136,835.8	-60,848.4	75,987.4	-140			
Assumed Mgmt Action							
- C&C portfolio							
Total Forecast <u>after</u> mgmt action	136,835.8	-60,848.4	75,987.4	-140			

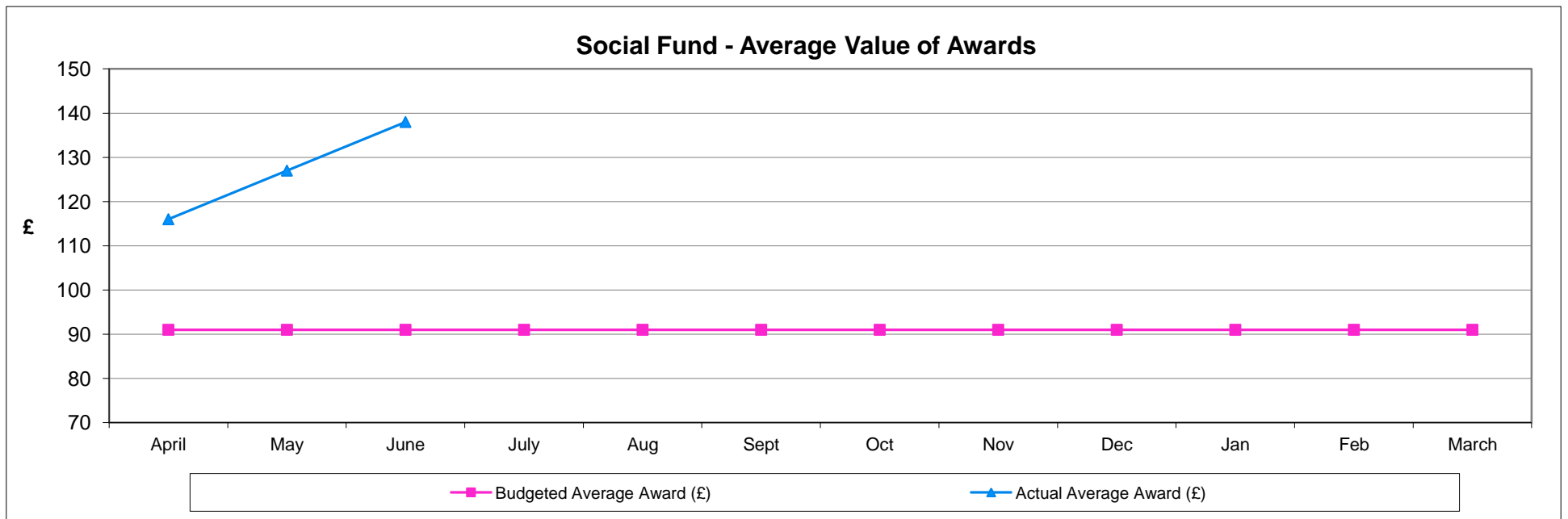
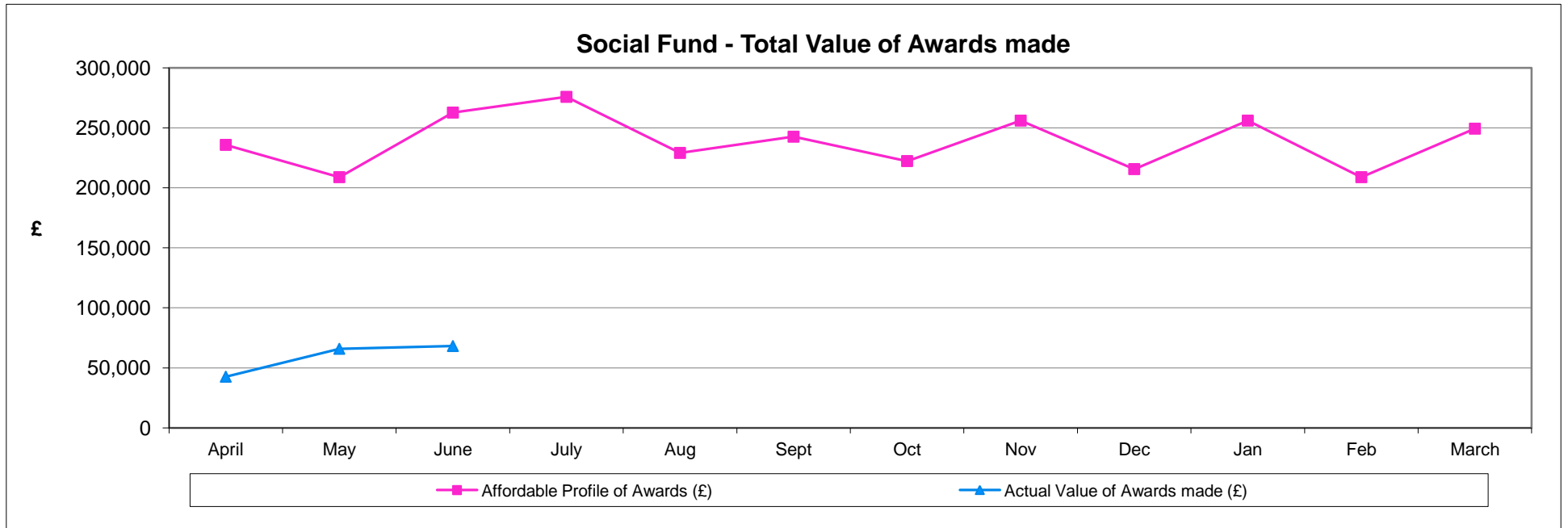
2. KEY ACTIVITY INDICATORS AND BUDGET RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING

2.1 Number and Value of Social Fund awards made

	(a) *	(b)	(c)	(d) *	(e)	(d) / (a)	(e) / (c)
	Affordable number of awards (at budgeted average award rate)	Actual number of applications received	Actual number of awards made	Affordable profile of awards (£)	Actual Value of awards made (£)	Budgeted average award (£)	Actual average award (£)
Apr	2,591	673	368	235,800	42,620	91	116
May	2,296	704	520	208,900	65,907	91	127
Jun	2,887	655	494	262,700	68,201	91	138
Jul	3,031			275,800		91	
Aug	2,518			229,100		91	
Sep	2,666			242,600		91	
Oct	2,443			222,300		91	
Nov	2,813			256,000		91	
Dec	2,369			215,600		91	
Jan	2,813			256,000		91	
Feb	2,296			208,900		91	
Mar	2,739			249,300		91	
	31,462	2,032	1,382	2,863,000	176,728	1,092	381

* Columns (a) and (d) are based on available funding which has been profiled by month and type of award (excluding cash awards) in the same ratio as the previous DWP scheme. As the criteria and awards for this new pilot scheme differ to the DWP scheme, this does not represent the anticipated demand for the new pilot scheme (as demand is unknown), but represents the maximum affordable level should sufficient applications be received which meet the criteria. If the pilot scheme continues, there will be a history of awards in 2013-14 that will form the basis of the affordable levels/ profile for next year which will provide a more meaningful basis to monitor against in future.





Comments:

- This is a pilot scheme that commenced in Kent on 1 April 2013 and differs from the Social Fund scheme, previously administered by DWP, in that cash awards are not given. This scheme offers 4 types of award including food & clothing, white goods, energy vouchers and furniture & equipment and more importantly signposts the individual, whether an award is given or not, to the appropriate service so that they can receive ongoing support. This is an emergency fund to help support the most vulnerable in society. The figures provided in the table and represented in the graphs above reflect a combined average of these 4 types of award.
- The first graph above represents the number of awards made against (i) the number of applications received and (ii) the affordable number of awards as calculated using the budgeted average award rate (which, as previously stated, does not represent the anticipated demand for the new scheme, but the maximum number of awards that could be afforded at the budgeted average rate). The number of applications received is higher than the number of awards made, which predominately reflects that applications for cash awards are being received in line with the old DWP scheme, but this type of award is not offered as part of this pilot scheme. Initially there were also a number of inappropriate referrals being made whereby the applicant did not qualify. There is an admin cost involved in assessing the applications received, irrespective of whether they result in an award being made. The budget for this service, as shown in table 1 is £3.469m, with £0.606m being the cost of administering the scheme and £2.863m available to award where appropriate (column d in the table above).
The maximum funding available and hence the affordable number of awards is predicated on demand for the old Social Fund scheme where a significant proportion of demand was for cash awards and these are not offered as part of the new scheme. Given the uncertainty about both future levels of demand and government funding, there is a need to ring-fence this funding for the period of the pilot scheme (2013-15) to provide some stability to the service.
- The second graph represents the value of awards made against the maximum profiled funding available.
- The number and value of awards made is significantly lower than the affordable level and reflects the initial take up of this new scheme being low in comparison to the old scheme (which is what the funding, and affordable level, is based upon). The value of awards made is expected to increase as the scheme matures, communication increases about what the new scheme provides and as a result of the potential impact of changes to welfare reform in the autumn. However, if applicants are successfully signposted to alternative appropriate services to receive sustained support, and an award is not made, then this will be beneficial to the applicant and would result in an underspend against this scheme, which is still a positive outcome for the pilot.
- The third graph shows the budgeted average award compared to the actual average award. Using DWP data, and excluding cash awards, it was anticipated that the majority of awards for this pilot would be for food & clothing and therefore the budgeted average award was set with this in mind. Whilst this has transpired and 48% of the number of awards has been for food & clothing, there has been a significant number of awards for furniture & equipment which has a higher award value, given the nature of the goods. The number of awards for furniture & equipment (incl white goods) accounts for 24% of the number of awards but 66% of the value of awards. Therefore, the actual average award is higher than budgeted due to the apportionment of the award types being different to what was anticipated. The data collected in the current year will inform the allocation of funds to each type of award in future years, should the scheme continue and will provide a meaningful comparison.

3. CAPITAL

3.1 The Customer & Communities Directorate has a working budget for 2013-14 of £6,975k. The forecast outturn against the 2013-14 budget is £7,120k giving a variance of + £145k.

3.2 **Table 2** below details the C&C Capital Position by Budget Book line.

Budget Book Heading	Three year cash limit (£000)	2013-14 Working Budget (£000)	2013-14 Variance (£000)	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Rolling Programmes									
Country Parks Access and	0	176	17	17	Real Variance - External funding HLF		Green		£17k increase to cash limit
Library Modernisation Programme - adaptations and improvements to existing facilities	1,380	996	0	0			Green		
Management and Modernisation of Assets - Vehicles	380	164	135	135	Real variance - Revenue reserve	Purchase of Equipment for Kent Scientific Services - reserve held. Cash limit will be changed once the final costs are known.	Green		
Public Rights of Way - Structural Improvements	2,449	930	-2	-2	Real Variance - grant		Green		£2k decrease to cash limit
Public Sports Facilities Improvement - Capital Grant	300	100	0	0			Green		
Small Community Projects - Capital Grants	1,500	500	0	0			Green		

Budget Book Heading	Three year cash limit (£000)	2013-14 Working Budget (£000)	2013-14 Variance	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Village Halls and Community Centres - Capital Grants	600	321	0	0			Green		
Individual Projects									
Community Learning and Skills Service Reprovision	457	482	0	0			Green		
Gateways - Continued Rollout of Programme	2,192	661	57	57	Real - prudential from underspend on Cobtree		Green		£57k increase to cash limit
Libraries Invest to Save	0	5	0	0			Green		
New Community Facilities at Edenbridge	0	69	0	0			Green		
Tunbridge Wells Library	0	288	0	0			Green		
Web Platform	0	266	0	0			Green		
Gravesend Library	0	5	-5	-5	Real - prudential		Green		
Ashford Gateway Plus	0	1	0	0			Green		
Grant to Cobtree	0	57	-57	-57	Real - prudential to transfer to Gateways to replenish budget		Green		£57k decrease to cash limit
Kent Library and History Centre	0	188	0	0			Green		
Ramsgate Library - Insurance Betterment	0	0	0	0			Green		
Youth Reconfiguration	0	83	0	0			Green		
Cheesemans Green Library, Ashford	350	0	0	0			Green		
Replacement and Enhancement of Core Website	455	355	0	0			Green		

Budget Book Heading	Three year cash limit (£000)	2013-14 Working Budget (£000)	2013-14 Variance	Variance Break-down (£000)	Rephasing / Real Variance and Funding Stream	Explanation of In-Year Variance	Project Status ¹	Explanation of Project Status	Actions
Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust Capital	0	128	0	0			Green		
Winter Gardens Rendezvous Site - Prelim Works	100	100	0	0			Green		
Integrated Youth Service - Youth Hub Reprovision	1,100	1,100	0	0			Green		
Total	11,263	6,975	145	145					

1. Status:

Green – on time and within budget

Amber – either delayed completion date or over budget

Red – both delayed completion and over budget