

Scrutiny & Overview Committee Supplementary Agenda



5. Question Time: Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources
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Question time with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, Councillor Simon Hall.

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Scrutiny Committee
10 September 2019

Cabinet Member Question Time

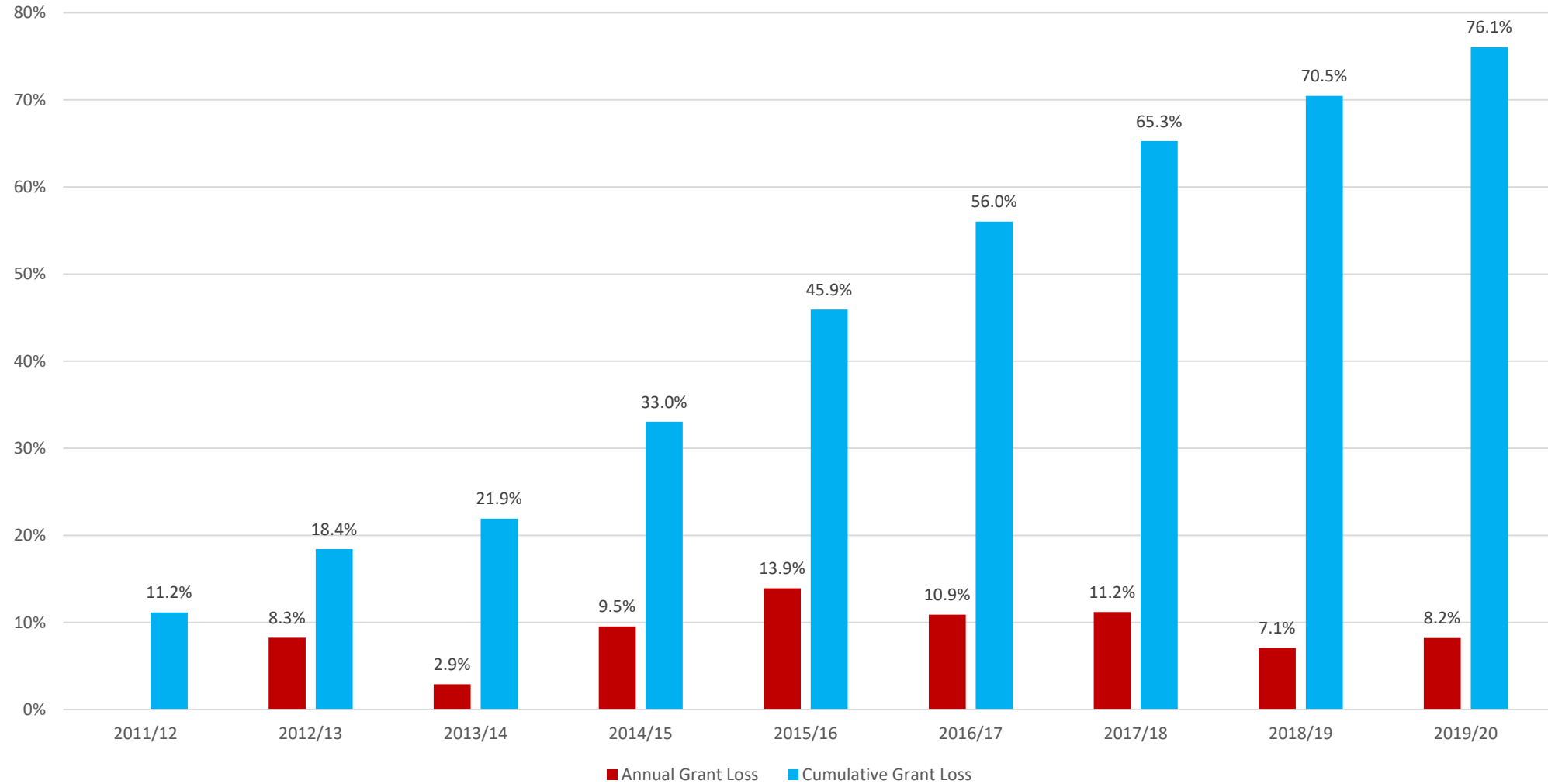
Cllr Simon Hall

Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources

Agenda

- Budget and Budget Process
- Spending Review
- Electoral Services
- Croydon Digital Services
- Commissioning and Contract Management
- Assets

Croydon Grant Reduction 11/20



'Usable' Reserves

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
General Fund Balances	10.7	10.7	10.7	10.4	10.4
Earmarked Reserves excluding schools	29.5	40.1	30.1	15.7	14.2
Total	40.2	50.8	40.8	26.1	24.6

Other reserves include Collection Fund, HRA, Capital Receipts, S106/CIL

Financial Outturn 2018/19

- Revenue overspend £5.466m
- £10.6m UASC funding shortfall
- High Needs in year overspend £4.3m
- DSG cumulative deficit £9.2m
- HRA surplus £0.7m
- Capital spend £325m

Medium Term Financial Strategy – Approved by Council October 2018

	2020/21 £m's	2021/22 £m's	Total £m's
Budget Gap	12.5	7.7	20.2

Budget Setting Process

Date	Event	Comment
June 10th	Cabinet away day	18/19 outturn and MTFS refresh
July 24th	CLT away day	Revised budget gap following completion of the external audit
July to September (weekly)	MTFS programme – identified and number of projects and SRO's	Identifying savings and income opportunities
August 28th	CLT meeting	Prep for sprint sessions
September 4 th		
September 4-6TH	Sprint session 1	10 high priority opportunities – generate a range of opportunities
September 10 th	Scrutiny and overview committee	Budget 20/21 – update on budget setting process
September 11-13th	Sprint Session 2	Expand on ideas generated in sprint session 2
September 25	CLT meeting	update from sprints
September 30	Cabinet away day	communicate ideas generated from the sprints
September and October	Portfolio holder briefings	
October 23	CLT meeting	
November 27	CLT meeting	
December	Spending Review announcement expected - TBC	
January 14	Scrutiny and overview	Budget – final report
February 24	Cabinet	Budget – final report
March 2	Budget Council	

Spending Review

- Cuts to grants stopped
- Some increases in grants
- Adult social care precept extended
- Additional funds for Special Educational Needs
- London business rates retention ended
- Detailed allocations awaited

Electoral Services

- Annual Canvass
 - 57% response – 47% internet, 41% post
 - 74% matched
 - Home visits scheduled in October
 - Response rate 88% in Sanderstead to 63% in Fairfield
- EU electors
 - Total electors 267,776
 - EU (exc Ireland, Malta and Cyprus) 23,289 (8.7%)

Electoral Services (2)

- Polling district and polling place review
 - Public consultation complete
 - Report to Full Council later this year
- Election preparation
 - Staffing
 - Polling Stations
 - Print contracts
 - Communications
 - Logistics

Croydon Digital Services

- Strong start to strategy implementation
- New culture imbedded
- Seamless move to new suppliers
- Staff recruitment proceeding well
- Website overhaul underway
- Prioritised systems improvements & changes

Commissioning & Contract Management

- New Commissioning Strategy being implemented
- Approach to social value being recognised
- Buying team delivering savings & more local procurement
- Tighter management of suppliers
- Make or Buy approach
 - Reduced Procurement processes
 - Insourcing of services

Assets

- Colonnades Second Phase Completed
- Investment assets delivering expected income
- BWH leases extended
- New acquisition opportunities identified
- Review of use of estate identifying opportunities
- Investment in estate to deliver to residents

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