

# WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

## Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

### Education & Lifelong Learning Committee: 20 April 2011

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**Subject: 2010-11 Revenue Estimates – Budgetary Control Report for the Period 11 (1 April 2010 to 28 February)**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** This report provides Members with the latest information on expenditure and income to date within the Educational Services approved probable outturn for 2010-11.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1** The 2010-11 budgetary control reporting timetable requires that a budgetary control report for Educational Services be presented to this meeting. Reports submitted to the Education & Lifelong Learning Committee reflect the latest financial period for which information is available. This report covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011.
- 2.2** This budget monitoring report compares probable outturn with actual income and expenditure to date.

#### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** There is an overall favourable variance of £478,986, which equates to 0.54% of the probable outturn to date.
- 3.2** The attached appendices provide the following information for the period 11 from 1 April 2010 to 28 February 2011:
- (a) Total expenditure and income against budget, by type of expenditure (e.g. Employee Costs) and service area (e.g. Schools – Primary) are shown in **Appendices A, B and C**,
  - (b) Explanatory comments on variances in excess of £25,000 are provided in **Appendix D**.
- 3.3** The most significant variances by **service area** are as follows:

#### Primary Schools - £116,881 Favourable

The main variance in primary schools is due to lower than anticipated staff cover costs. Cover in schools is demand led and can vary month on month. Housing, Environmental and Economic Development (HEED) Cleaning recharges and expenditure on supplies and services for nutrition in schools

are less than anticipated. These are partially offset by an overspend on catering recharges from HEED, and property costs and payments to other bodies for Nutrition in Schools.

#### Secondary Schools - £399,915 Favourable

The main variance is in relation to cover in schools which is demand led and can vary month on month. There are also under spends on Metered Water, HEED cleaning recharges and utilities. There is a favourable income variance arising in part from higher than predicted School Let income.

#### Special Schools - £149,353 Favourable

The placement for children in day care and residential care is demand led. There are currently fewer children in placements than were previously anticipated. There are also no children currently in secure accommodation.

#### Sports Development - £33,280 Adverse

The adverse variance is due in part to the recent spell of bad weather which has resulted in reduced income as well as this the income anticipated at probable is lower than will now be achieved due to lower than expected demand.

#### Outdoor Education - £93,172 Adverse

The Loch Lomond Outdoor Centre is in the first year of existence. There are various factors contributing to this overspend. Income was anticipated in relation to corporate events; these have not been as high as initially expected. The recent spell of bad weather has reduced the income anticipated and on top of this the income anticipated at probable through the letting of the property for other events is lower than anticipated. It is intended to address these issues through additional marketing of the Centre. Payments to other bodies is currently overspent due to the current catering costs being higher than anticipated due to the limited availability of caterers willing to deliver to the Centre. There are other overspends on supplies and services and transport costs which are partially offset by an underspend on staffing.

#### Pre 5 - £113,116 Adverse

The main factor is that budgeted income is not being achieved due to a lower than anticipated number of users within nurseries and out of school care this is partially offset by an underspend in staffing due to less demand for cover than anticipated.

#### **4. People Implications**

4.1 There are no personnel issues.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

5.1 The overall favourable variance as reported, suggests that net expenditure is going to be contained within probable outturn.

5.2 Management action where possible will continue to be taken to ensure spend remains in line with the approved probable outturn.

#### **6. Risk Analysis**

6.1 The process of monitoring the revenue budget allows potential adverse variances to be identified at the earliest possible stage and management action taken. This minimises any financial risk.

#### **7. Equalities, Health & Human Rights Impact Assessment (EIA)**

7.1 No significant issues were identified in a screening for potential equality impact of this report.

#### **8. Conclusions and Recommendations**

8.1 The report has compared year to date expenditure and income with the approved probable outturn to date, for Educational Services.

8.2 As stated at 3.1, there is an overall favourable variance of £478,986 or 0.54% of the probable outturn to date.

8.3 Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

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**Appendices:**

**Appendix A** Total expenditure and income against probable outturn, by type of expenditure

**Appendix B** Total expenditure and income against probable outturn, by service area

**Appendix C** Breakdown of expenditure and income against probable outturn, by service area

**Appendix D** Explanatory comments on variances in excess of £25,000

**Background papers:**

None

**Wards affected:**

All Wards