

General Services Budgetary Control Report

Period to 15 November 2007

Notes on Variances greater than £25,000

Corporate Services

Cultural Services £75,625 Fav

This favourable variance is due to a spending freeze on non essential items.

Finance £93,707 Fav

This favourable variance relates to a number of vacancies held within the service during the year to date together with the level of Housing Benefit income being higher than anticipated.

Rent Rebates and Allowances £57,900 Fav

This favourable variance is due to expenditure being less than anticipated during the budget process and a greater average subsidy rate.

ICT and Business Development £48,716 Adv

This adverse variance is due to increased costs of software maintenance and licences and costs for corporate disaster recovery.

Education and Cultural Services

Schools – Primary £70,677 Fav

This favourable variance is mainly due to underspends in rates and janitorial recharges.

Schools – Secondary £39,961 Adv

This adverse variance is mainly due to anticipated overspends in respect of contract cleaning and energy costs which are offset by savings in staff costs.

Schools – Special £82,049 Adv

This adverse variance is mainly due to the level of current placements in residential and day placements. There are currently and pending a greater number of secure placements than previously anticipated. There is also lower than anticipated income due to reduction in number of children placed by other local authorities in West Dunbartonshire schools.

Community Learning and Development £43,876 Adv

This adverse variance is mainly due to an anticipated overspend in janitorial recharges.

Outdoor Education £52,579 Adv

This overspend is due mainly to the income levels being lower than previously anticipated. This is in line with 2006/07 final outturn.

Psychological Services £47,495 Fav
This underspend is due to staffing costs where actual hours worked are less than anticipated .

Miscellaneous £42,757 Fav
This favourable variance is due to an anticipated grant to assist in the cost of the chartered teachers programme.

Pre- five £147,506 Adv
This adverse variance is funded from the re-determination allocated by the Scottish Government.

Libraries £43,564 Adv
This overspend is primarily due to unbudgeted staff cover costs. Management action is being taken where possible to minimise any further overspends. There is also an anticipated under-recovery in income from lets.

Social Work

Operations and Servicing £78,776 Fav
This underspend is mainly due vacant posts being held.

Residential Accommodation – Young People £114,490 Adv
This adverse variance is mainly due to the shortage of foster parents causing the need to use fostering agencies which are more expensive.

Other Services – Young People £51,520 Adv
This adverse variance is due mainly to an overstatement of budgeted income and other small overspends within expenditure.

Residential Accommodation – Elderly £155,930 Adv
This adverse variance is due to difficulties in recruitment resulting in the use of expensive agency staff.

Day Centres – Learning Disability £35,672 Adv
This adverse variance is due to anticipated vacancy savings not being achieved.

Supplementation – Mental Health £179,327 Fav
This variance is mainly due to additional income now anticipated from Health Boards.

Home Help Service £123,135 Fav
This variance is due to the rationalisation of home care provision causing lower than anticipated staff costs and payments to other bodies. Income is also higher than budgeted due to changes in guidance regarding people in receipt of supporting people services.

Housing, Environment and Economic Development

Central Repairs and Maintenance £64,842 Adv

This adverse variance is due mainly to recharge income being less than anticipated.

Homeless Persons £285,760 Adv

This adverse variance is primarily due to an under-recovery of rental income.

Refuse Collection £35,460 Adv

This adverse variance is mainly due to a fall in the level of commercial charges income caused by competition in the market place and a fall in sale/demand of wheelie bins through the issue of pre-owned free bins.

Miscellaneous

Sundry Services £201,385 Adv

This adverse variance is mainly due to corporate staffing efficiencies built into the budget being budgeted within sundry services, with the actual held within departments. The additional costs of the pay modernisation team are also charged to sundry services. Trading operations are also identifying an adverse variance.

Members Allowances £29,275 Fav

Allowance levels agreed are lower than those anticipated during the budget setting exercise.