

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Executive Director of Educational Services

Educational Services Committee: 11 September 2013

Subject: Educational Services Budgetary Position 2013/14 as at Period 4 year to 31 July 2013

1. Purpose




- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to advise Members on the progress of both the Educational Services revenue budget and the approved capital programme.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** Members are asked to note the contents of this report which shows a favourable variance of £0.091m (0.34% of the phased budget).

3. Background

- 3.1** At the meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council on 6 February 2013, Members agreed the Educational Services revenue budget of £79.054m.
- 3.2** At a meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council on 6 February 2013, Members agreed the 10 year General Services Capital Plan for 2013/2014 to 2022/23. The first three years from 2013/14 to 2015/16 have been approved in detail with the remaining 7 years being indicative at this stage. In addition, a new method of capital monitoring has been developed and approved by both the SAMG and the CMT which looks at spend over the whole life of the project.
- 3.3** The new monitoring format has 4 main sections as noted below:
- Financial information details budget allocation, expenditure to date, forecast project spend and forecast project variance;
 - Project Life Cycle information compares initial anticipated percentage completion to date with revised anticipated percentage completion to date to determine if projects are either on or ahead of target or behind target. This calculation is based on the length of time that has elapsed since the project start date;
 - Project Overview information details any issues that require to be reported and provides an update of the progress of each project; and
 - Based on the information provided in the first 3 sections a flag status of red, blue or green is assigned to each project as noted below.

Project Status	
Project is forecast to be overspent and/or experience material delay to completion	
Project is at risk of being overspent and/or experiencing delay in completion, however this is unquantifiable at present	
Project is on target both in relation to overall budget and the forecast stages in the project life cycle	

3.4 Where projects are annually recurring only the first year allocation (2013/14) will be monitored at this time. However the whole project cost for specific projects approved to start within the initial three year period are included in the new budget monitoring format.

3.5 The approved capital budget for Education totals £51.615m and is made up by expenditure that has been carried forward from 2012/13 and a new annually recurring budget for 2013/14.

4. Main Issues

Revenue Budget

4.1 The summary report at Appendix 1 identifies a total favourable variance (underspend) of £0.091m (0.34% of the phased budget).

4.2 Notes on the year to date variances in excess of £0.25m (or greater than 10% of budget) are noted in Appendix 2.

4.3 Although the report indicates that there is a favourable variance in comparison to that anticipated during the budget exercise, the present variance should be viewed in the knowledge that there are a number of variable factors which could arise between now and 31 March and which could affect the year end results.

Capital

4.4 The current departmental budgetary position is detailed in Appendix 3. This shows that the projected capital spend against budget currently is £51.725m.

5. People Implications

5.1 There are no people implications.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 Other than the financial position noted above, there are no financial implications of the budgetary control report.

7. Risk Analysis

7.1 The main financial risks to the ongoing financial position relate to unforeseen cost being identified between now and the end of the financial year. This can affect all service areas.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 8.1** The report is for noting and, therefore, no equalities impact assessment was completed for this report.

9. Consultation

- 9.1** The views of both Finance and Legal services have been requested on this report and both have advised there are neither any issues or concerns with the proposal. As the report is for noting no further consultation is envisaged.

10. Strategic Assessment

- 10.1** Proper budgetary control and sound financial practice are cornerstones of good governance and support Council and officers to pursue the five strategic priorities of the Council's Strategic Plan. This forms part of the financial governance of the Council.

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Executive Director of Educational Services
Date: 16 August 2013

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Appendices: Appendix 1 – Revenue Budgetary Control Report
Appendix 2 – Revenue Variance Analysis
Appendix 3 – Capital Programme Progress

Background Papers: General Ledger prints (period 4)

Wards Affected: All