

# **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

## **Report by Executive Director of Corporate Services**

**Corporate and Efficient Governance Committee : 29 October 2008**

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**Subject : Corporate Services Budgetary Control Report : Period 5 2008/09**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the performance of the Corporate Services Departmental budget for the period to 15 September 2008.

### **2. Background**

- 2.1** At a meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council on 14 February 2008, Members agreed the revenue estimates for 2008/2009. A total net budget of £10.652m was approved for the Corporate Services Department. . Due to corporate burdens identified to date, the CMT has agreed to task each department with a controllable savings target (£0.077m for Corporate Services). Thus, the revised net budget being monitored at period 5 is £10.575m.

### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** The summary report brings out a favourable variance to date (underspend) of £0.058m (0.98%).
- 3.2** There are four main variances identified at this stage:
- 3.2.1** Risk Management has a favourable variance of £0.026m due to staff vacancies in the early part of this year.
- 3.2.2** Office Accommodation has an adverse variance of £0.034m arising mainly from the higher than inflationary increases in the costs of heating oil and electricity.
- 3.2.3** The Licensing Board identifies a favourable variance of £0.040m. Under new Licensing legislation all existing premises require to apply for new licences, resulting in a one-year increase in fee income. The favourable budget in this particular line reflects the fact that much of the expenditure (e.g. salaries of Licensing Standards officers) appears in different budget headings.
- 3.2.4** Procurement shows a favourable variance of £0.025m due to staff vacancies.

### **4. Personnel Issues**

- 4.1** There are no personnel issues.

## **5. Financial Implications**

**5.1** There are no financial implications.

## **6. Risk Analysis**

**6.1** 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.

## **7. Conclusions**

**7.1** There is a favourable variance of £0.058m in the Corporate Services departmental budget to date.

## **8. Recommendation**

**8.1** This report is submitted for Committee's consideration and comment.

**Joyce White**  
**Executive Director of Corporate Services**  
**Date: 13 October 2008**

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<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All Wards</b>
<b>Appendix:</b>	<b>Corporate Services Department - Budgetary Control Report Period 5</b>
<b>Background Papers:</b>	<b>General Services Revenue Estimates and Council Tax – Report to Council 14 February 2008 Budget Book 2008/09 Ledger prints – Period 5</b>
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