

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services

Corporate and Efficient Governance Committee: 16 February 2011

Subject : Corporate Services Budgetary Control Report : Period 9 2010/11

1. Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the performance of the Corporate Services budget for the period to 31 December 2010.

2. Background

- 2.1** At a meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council on 28 January 2010, Members agreed the revenue estimates for 2010/2011. At that time, a total net budget of £11.390m was approved for the Corporate Services Department.
- 2.2** Between 28 January and 31 December there have been a number of restructures and budget reviews (e.g. targeted restructure savings, pay award, spending freeze, special Council meeting decisions) within the Council, which have been completed, quantified and budgets adjusted. The current annual departmental budget now stands at £10.428m.
- 2.3** A probable outturn of £10.204m was reported to Members on 21 December 2010. This indicated an underspend from the revised budget of £0.224m within Corporate Services.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** The Appendix notes the annual probable outturn and a comparison of the phased outturn against the actual spend to date on the departmental budgets.
- 3.2** The summary report brings out a favourable variance to date (underspend) of £0.221m (2%).
- 3.3** There are three main variances highlighted in the report –
- a. Environmental Health - £51,289 Favourable
This favourable variance is mainly due to staffing vacancies currently held, together with savings anticipated on payments to other bodies (through dog kennelling & public analyst, which are both demand led budgets).
 - b. Finance - £33,938 Favourable
This favourable variance is mainly due to staffing vacancies currently held.
 - c. Human Resources and OD - £43,557 Favourable
This favourable variance is mainly due to staffing vacancies currently held together with reductions in spending on both training equipment / materials and star awards .
- 3.4** Appendix 2 details the period 9 position on cultural activities of the Council.

4. People Implications

4.1 There are no people implications.

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. Equalities Impact Assessment

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

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

8.1 There is a favourable variance against probable of £0.221m in the Corporate Services departmental budget, which is in addition to the identified £ 0.224m in the probable outturn .

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

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Date: 24 January 2011

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Appendix: 1: Corporate Services Department - Budgetary Control Period 9
2: Summary of cultural Activity – Period 9

Background Papers: General Services Revenue Estimates and Council Tax –
Report to Council 21 December 2010
Budget Book 2011/2
Ledger prints – Period 9

Wards Affected: All Wards