

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Education & Lifelong Learning Committee: 9 November 2011

Subject: 2011-12 Revenue Estimates – Budgetary Control Report for the Period 6 (1 April 2011 to 30 September 2011)

1. Purpose

1.1 This report provides Members with the latest information on expenditure and income to date within the Educational Services approved budget for 2011-12.

2. Background

2.1 The 2011-12 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 1st April 2011 to 30th September 2011.

2.2 This budget monitoring report compares approved budget with actual income and expenditure to date.

3. Main Issues

3.1 There is an overall adverse variance of £87,106 which equates to 0.19% of the budget to date.

3.2 The attached appendices provide the following information for the period 5 from 1 April 2011 to 30 September 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:

Secondary Schools - £96,719 Favourable

Teaching costs have a favourable variance due to a lower than anticipated usage of cover. The promoted structure within secondary schools is different than originally anticipated giving a saving on salaries.

Special Schools - £47,378 Favourable

Residential placement costs are lower than anticipated to date. This is partially offset by transport recharges which are higher due to more children requiring transport. These are both reactive budgets and vary considerably depending on the requirements of the individual children.

Outdoor Education - £58,491 Adverse

The main adverse variances are in relation to lower than anticipated weekend and concurrent courses giving a lower income than budgeted. There is also a higher than expected cost for catering.

Pre 5 - £41,786 Adverse

The adverse variance reflects an increase in the prices of nursery provision paid to external providers, with lower usage rates and reduced income from those using Council nursery services. This variance is expected to reduce as more staff move from full time to term time contracts as the year progresses.

PPP - £85,047 Adverse

The adverse variance is mainly due to inflation on the unitary charge and TUPE pension costs both being greater than anticipated during the estimate process.

4. People Implications

4.1 There are no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 The overall variance as reported is £87,106 adverse.

5.2 Management action where possible will continue to be taken to ensure spend is contained in line with the approved budget.

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 Impact Assessment

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

8. Strategic Assessment

8.1 The report is for noting and, therefore, does not directly affect any of the strategic priorities.

9. Conclusions and Recommendations

9.1 The report has compared year to date expenditure and income with the approved budget to date, for Educational Services.

9.2 As stated at 3.1, there is an overall adverse variance of £87,106 or 0.19% of the budget to date.

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

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Date: 25 October 2011

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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: Ledger printouts – period 6

Wards affected: All Wards