

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Chief Executive

Corporate and Efficient Governance Committee : 28 November 2007

**Subject : Chief Executive and Corporate Services Budgetary Control Report :
Period 6 (2007/08)**

1. Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the performance of the Chief Executive and Corporate Services budgets for the period to 15 October 2007.

2. Background

- 2.1** At a meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council on 8 February 2007, Members agreed the revenue estimates for 2007/2008. A total net budget of £9.849m was approved for the Chief Executive and Corporate Services Departments.
- 2.2** Due to adjustments made since then for departmental restructurings and also between these budgets and the contingency fund, the budget now being monitored for these services is £11.215m.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** The summary report brings out a favourable variance to date (underspend) of £0.075m (1.08 %).
- 3.2** There are 5 main variances identified at this stage:
- 3.2.1** Environmental Health identifies a favourable variance of £0.027m to date due to a number of staff vacancies.
- 3.2.2** Finance identifies a favourable variance of £0.105m to date relating to a number of vacancies held within the service during the year. The level of Housing Benefit income is also higher than anticipated due to additional housing benefit grant.
- 3.2.3** Procurement identifies a favourable variance of £0.017m to date due to staffing vacancies.
- 3.2.4** Cost of collection of council tax shows an adverse variance of £0.020m due to increased debt recovery actions to improve speed of debt collection resulting in higher than anticipated legal costs.

3.2.5 ICT & Business Development highlights an adverse variance of £0.046m to date mainly due to increased cost of software maintenance and licences and disaster recovery.

4. Personnel Issues

4.1 There are no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications.

6. Conclusions

6.1 There is a favourable variance of £0.075m in these departmental budgets to date.

7. Recommendation

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

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David McMillan
Chief Executive
Date: 22 November 2007

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Appendix:	Chief Executive Department - Budgetary Control Report Period 6
Background Papers:	General Services Revenue Estimates and Council Tax – Report to Council 8 February 2007. Ledger prints – Period 6
Wards Affected:	All Wards