

## General Services Budgetary Control Report

Period to 31 October 2011

### Notes on Variances greater than £25,000

#### Chief Executive

Welfare Rights £37,590 Fav

Additional income from NHS and MacMillan and staff savings in relation to temporary workers have contributed to the favourable variance.

Internal Audit £64,270 Fav

Vacant posts for a section leader and auditor have resulted in a favourable variance. This is partially offset by additional costs incurred in relation to professional fees for investigative work.

Community Learning and Development £46,220 Fav

Savings in sessional staffing and additional grant income have resulted in the favourable variance.

#### Corporate Services

Legal & Admin £27,320 Fav

This favourable variance is mainly due to a staffing restructuring exercise.

Environmental Health £39,290 Fav

The favourable variance relates mainly to savings accrued from the restructure of the service.

Housing Benefit £35,740 Fav

The favourable variance relates mainly to the relocation of staff from an area office into an HQ building, resulting in savings from accommodation recharges. Supplies costs have been reduced due to further scanning of Benefits documentation and the Housing Benefit Subsidy is now being estimated as greater than originally budgeted.

ICT & Business Development £60,760 Adv

This adverse variance is mainly due to surplus staff previously held within the redeployment register. All relevant staff have now been redeployed and are now chargeable elsewhere.

Human Resources & Organisational Development £36,650 Fav

The favourable variance is due to savings from the restructure over the targeted amount.

## **Educational Services**

Schools – Secondary £80,900 Fav

The cost of teacher cover has been lower than anticipated to date. The promoted structure is different than originally anticipated giving a saving on salary costs.

Outdoor Education £58,450 Adv

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. Budgets are being closely monitored and controlled, where possible.

PPP £88,990 Adv

This adverse variance is mainly due to inflation on the unitary charge and pension costs being greater than anticipated. These cost increases are affected by decisions and results outwith the Council's control.

## **Community Health and Care Partnership**

Operations and Servicing £75,900 Fav

The main reason for this favourable variance is employee cost savings due to vacancies currently held.

Residential Accommodation Young People £42,410 Fav

This favourable variance is due to staff cost savings from vacant posts and lower payments to other bodies due to reduced client needs.

Other Services - Young People £49,780 Fav

Savings have been made in relation to vacancies and payments to other bodies due to a reduced client need.

Residential Accommodation - Elderly £102,060 Fav

This favourable variance has arisen as a lower number of clients are being placed in care than anticipated.

Sheltered Housing £28,270 Fav

Employee costs are favourable due to reduced use of premium rate overtime. This has been due to changes to shift patterns/cover arrangements.

Residential Accommodation - Learning Disability £82,980 Adv

Increased client need and revised package costs has resulted in an adverse variance at this stage.

Home Help Service £53,330 Adv

An adverse variance has arisen in relation to cessation of Life Skills funding in relation to Housing Support Services.

## **Housing, Environmental and Economic Development Services**

Catering Services £76,310 Adv

This adverse variance is as a result of the decline in income from the Education department following reduced demand caused by cessation of free school meals.

Catering PPP £36,980 Adv

This adverse variance is due to income being less than anticipated within the new contract.

Building Cleaning PPP £79,970 Fav

This favourable variance is mainly due to the contracted level of service being provided with fewer posts.

Roads Infrastructure £43,030 Adv

Additional costs have been incurred beyond budget in relation to additional overtime used to minimize disruption on A811 road closure and the settlement of a rest period claim. There has been an additional one-off cost incurred from the purchase of extra salt bays required to hold stock for winter gritting.

Grounds Maintenance & Street Cleaning Client £83,000 Adv

Considerable overtime was undertaken by this service following the strong winds on 24 May 2011. This expenditure on clear-up works is out with the normal subsidy paid by the client account to the trading operation.

Architectural & Related Services £129,720 Fav

The favourable variance relates to staff vacancies created by the restructure.

Leisure Services Client £147,890 Adv

This adverse variance is due to a fall in Cosmo Club membership with declines also evident across other activities. Delays in implementing Phase 2 of the restructure has produced further adverse variances in employee budgets.

Homeless Persons £167,350 Fav

This favourable variance is mainly due to the continuing high occupancy of the temporary units.

Estates Admin £273,860 Fav

As a consequence of council decisions surrounding Securitisation, 12 months income is now anticipated.

Events £46,420 Adv

The adverse variance is mainly related to income being less than anticipated, with no further income anticipated during the year.

Community Education Centres

£64,180 Fav

The favourable variance is mainly due to employee costs being less than budgeted, following the closure of the cafes and following the wider Leisure and community Facilities restructure.

Refuse Collection

£111,460 Adv

This adverse variance is mainly caused by staffing being higher than anticipated, in general, and also in particular overtime in connection with public holidays.

Asset Management

£37,260 Adv

This adverse variance has been caused by employee costs being greater following the restructuring.

Trading Surplus

£105,240 Fav

This favourable variance is mainly due to increased income from Housing Maintenance jobbing repairs and contract income in connection with kitchens, bathrooms and voids. Additional client income is also apparent in Grounds Maintenance.

Office Accommodation

£59,790 Adv

This adverse variance has been caused by expenditure of oil and electricity being greater than budgeted.

Loan Charges

£86,330 Fav

The favourable variance is due to interest savings resulting from proactive cash management.