

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
Report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services
Corporate and Efficient Governance Committee: 21 March 2012

Subject: Corporate Services Budgetary Control Report: Period 10 2011/12

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 January 2012.

2. Background

- 2.1** At a meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council on 9 February 2011, Members agreed the revenue estimates for 2011/2012. A total net budget of £12.804m was approved for the Corporate Services Department.
- 2.2** Between 9 February and 15 December 2011, there have been budget reviews (e.g. targeted management savings, spending freeze) within the Council, which have adjusted the value of this budget to £12.799m.
- 2.3** A revised budget (probable outturn) of £12.808m was reported to members on 15 December 2011. The probable outturn indicated an overspend from revised budget of £0.009m within Corporate Services. Therefore this report compares actual income and expenditure to the probable outturn position.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** Appendix 1 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 identifies a favourable variance to date (underspend) of £0.226m (2.36%).
- 3.3** There are three main variances highlighted in the report:
- (a) Environmental Health - £68,127 Favourable
This favourable variance is mainly due to late filling of two maternity leave vacancies and one staff member leaving earlier than anticipated.
 - (b) Revenues , Benefits and Exchequer Services - £43,404 Favourable
The favourable variance is due to an underspend in salary costs arising from vacancies.
 - (c) Human Resources and Organisational Development - £64,802 Favourable
The favourable variance is due to an underspend in salary costs arising from a combination of vacancies, secondment and maternity leave.
- 3.4** Appendix 2 details the period 10 position on cultural activities of the Council.

4. People Implications

- 4.1 Non Filling of vacancies can result in workload pressures for the remaining staff.

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 equalities impact assessment was required in relation to 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 There is a favourable variance, against probable outturn, of £0.226m in the Corporate Services departmental budget to date.
- 9.2 This report is submitted for Committee's consideration and comment.

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Date: 27 February 2012

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Appendices: 1: Corporate Services Dept - Budgetary Control Report Period 10
2: Cultural Activities – Budgetary Control Account Period 10

Background Papers: General Services Revenue Estimates and Council Tax –
Report to Council 28 January 2011
Budget Book 2012/13
Ledger prints – Period 10

Wards Affected: All Wards