

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
Report by Executive Director of Corporate Services
Council – 24 November 2010

Subject : General Services Revenue Budgetary Control Report : Period 6 (2010/11)

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the performance of the General Services revenue budget for the period to 30 September 2010.

2. Background

2.1 At a meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council on 28 January 2010, Members agreed the revenue estimates for 2010/11. A total net budget of £249.179m was approved.

2.2 This report covers service expenditure and loan charges, which are budgeted at £219.446m. The balance of the budget comprises of requisitions, which are outwith the Council's control.

2.3 To date, departmental budgets have been adjusted for a number of items during the year, including transfers of expenditure due to restructures, spending freeze targets, etc. however, the consolidated budget report for period 6 still allocates the annual spend of £219.446m (per 2.2 above)

3. Main Issues

3.1 The summary report brings out a favourable variance (underspend) of £1.173m (1.02% of the phased budget).

3.2 Notes on variances in excess of £25,000 are attached. The report collates a large amount of information and if any Member wishes further details on any of the variances, it would be appreciated if contact could be made with the undernoted officer prior to the Council meeting.

3.3 Although the report indicates that expenditure is favourable in comparison to that anticipated during the budget exercise, 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.

3.4 The report notes the budgetary position as at 30 September 2010 and, as such, does not take into account the part year effect from Council decisions on 14 October 2010, anticipated to create a surplus of £0.400m by 31 March 2011.

3.5 It has been agreed with the Pension authority to repay the outstanding balance of strain on the fund costs during 2010/11, which will reduce the General Services annual budget in 2010/11 onwards (£0.850m held within 2010/11 Sundry Services). This balance will be paid from anticipated reserves as at 31 March 2011.

4 People Implications

4.1 There are no people implications.

5 Financial implications

5.1 At 30 September 2010, the Council's revenue budget was showing a £1.173m underspend against budget.

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

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

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

8.1 The report identifies a favourable variance against budget of £1.173m.

8.2 This report is submitted for consideration and comment.

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Date: 10 November 2010

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Appendix: Budgetary Control Report Period 6
Variance Analysis

Background papers: Ledger Output
Revenue Estimates 2010/11

Wards affected: All