

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Strategic Lead (Resources)

Educational Services Committee: 01 December 2021

Subject: Educational Services Budgetary Control Report to 31 October 2021 (Period 7).

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Committee with an update on the financial performance of Educational Services to 31 October 2021 (Period 7).

2. Recommendations

2.1 Committee is asked to:

- (a) note that the revenue account currently shows a projected annual adverse revenue variance of £1.308m (1% of the total budget) of which £1.156m (88%) is covid-related and therefore resulting in an underlying adverse variance of £0.152m (0.12%) of the total budget); and
- (b) note that the capital account shows a projected in-year favourable variance of £2.444m made up of £0.117m overspend (1% of the current year budget), and slippage to 2022/23 of £2.561m (27% of the current year budget).

3. Background

Revenue

3.1 At the meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council on 22 March 2021, Members agreed the revenue estimates for 2021/2022, including a total net Educational Services Committee budget of £103.683m. Since then the following budget adjustments have taken place revising the budget to £103.729m.

Budget Agreed by Council 3 March 2021	£103.683m
Centralisation of mobile phones to ICT	(£0.004m)
Centralise Printing & Stationery	(£0.003m)
Recurring Variances	(£0.092m)
Clothing Grants	£0.114m
Instrumental Music Tuition	£0.031m
Revised Budget	£103.729m

Capital

- 3.2 At the meeting of Council on 22 March 2021 Members also agreed the updated 10 year General Services Capital Plan for 2021/22 to 2030/31. The three years from 2021/22 to 2023/24 have been approved in detail with the remaining seven years from 2024/25 to 2030/31 being indicative at this stage. After adjusting for anticipated slippage from 2020/21 into 2021/22 the budget agreed for 2021/22 was £9.562m

4. Main Issues

Revenue Budget

- 4.1 The current departmental budgetary position is summarised in Appendix 1, with detailed analysis by service in Appendix 2.
- 4.2 The overall projected full year variance is £1.308m adverse. Some £1.156m of this variance is attributable to covid-related expenditure or income loss (principally from an increase in placements in residential schools and loss of income from school meals and school lets). Information and all individual variances of over £50,000 are detailed in Appendix 3.
- 4.3 Within our budgetary control reports where additional spending (eg additional cleaning) has been incurred income has been brought in to cover this expenditure. The Scottish Government has provided additional resources for 2021/22 as part of its covid-response . A breakdown of sums granted either as a specific grant or as a redetermination within the Council's overall grant settlement is shown below :-

	£000s
Spring Support	391
Free school meals (holiday periods)	606
Additional Teaching and Support Staff	913
Summer Programme	276
Summer/Winter Support	536
Autumn Hardship	591
	£3,313

Capital

- 4.7 The overall Educational Services programme summary report at Appendix 4 shows that the expected over/underspend on the project life is anticipated to be £0.117m over the original budget, and expected slippage of current year budget to 2022/23 to be £2.368m. Appendix 5 highlights the projects at red status and are those with overspends and slippage. Appendix 6 highlights all projects at green status, of which none have an in-year adverse variance of over £0.050m.

- 4.8 From the analysis within appendix 5, it can be seen that there are 2 projects with forecast material slippage, listed as follows:

Project Name	Slippage (£m)
Schools Estate Improvement	2.234
AV Equipment	0.317

5. People Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct people implications.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications

- 6.1 Other than the financial position noted above and within the appendices, there are no financial or procurement implications of the budgetary control report.

7. Risk Analysis

- 7.1 The main financial risks to the ongoing financial position relate to unforeseen costs and/or reduced income streams being identified between now and the end of the financial year. This is particularly sensitive to the ongoing impact of covid19. Finance staff are in regular discussion with budget holders to ensure potential issues are identified as early as possible in order to mitigate this risk.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 8.1 The report is for noting and ,therefore, no Equalities Impact Assessment was completed for this report.

9. Consultation

- 9.1 The views of Education, Finance and Legal services were requested in the preparation of this report and they have advised there are neither any additional issues nor concerns with the proposal. As the report is for noting no further consultation is envisaged.

10. Strategic Assessment

- 10.1 Proper budgetary control and sound financial practice are cornerstones of good governance and support Council and officers to pursue the 5 strategic priorities of the Council's Strategic Plan. This report forms part of the financial governance of the Council.

Stephen West
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Date: 17 November 2021

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Appendices: Appendix 1 - Revenue Budgetary Control 2021/22
- Summary Report

Appendix 2 - Revenue Budgetary Control 2021/22
- Service Reports

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Appendix 3 - Analysis of Revenue Variances over
£50,000

Appendix 4 - Capital Programme summary

Appendix 5 - Capital Projects at Red Status

Appendix 6 – Capital Projects at Green Status

Background Papers: Ledger output – period 7

Wards Affected: General Services Revenue Estimates 2021/22
,All