



WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Director of Community Health and Care Partnership

Community Health and Care Partnership Committee: 6 April 2011

Subject: CHCP Social Work Services Budgetary Position 2010/11 as at Period 11 – year to 28 February 2011

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To advise members of the financial performance of the CHCP Social Work services budget for the period to 28 February 2011.

2. Background

- 2.1 Attached as Appendices A, B and C are budgetary control statements which compare actual expenditure to 28 February 2011 to the phased probable outturn as at 28 February 2011.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1 The overall variance for the service to period 11 is £506,982 favourable. The main variances to date are as follows:

- 3.1.1 **Operations and Services** is favourable by £90,578. This variance is mainly due to employee costs which are favourable by £61,100 due to a number of vacant posts being held. In addition Transport costs are £20,469 favourable due to lower than anticipated staff travel costs which is in part directly related to the number of vacant posts being held.
- 3.1.2 **Other Services - Young People** is shown as favourable by £22,708. The main variance is in employee costs which are £25,824 favourable due to vacant posts.
- 3.1.3 **Residential Accommodation – Elderly** is shown as favourable by £191,830. This is due to three main variances:
- Employee costs are favourable by £60,507 due to reduced use of agency staff; and

- Payments to Other Bodies are favourable by £56,614. This is due to reductions in the number of clients cared for in external care homes since the probable outturn was established: and
- Income from clients is favourable by £32,464 due to increased numbers of clients being assessed as due to make a financial contribution to the cost of their care.

3.1.4 Sheltered Housing is shown as favourable by £57,097. Employee costs are £54,482 favourable due to management action to reduce the use of overtime since the probable outturn was established by employing more staff.

3.1.5 Residential Accommodation – Learning Disability is shown as adverse by £101,980. Payments to Other Bodies is adverse by £123,434 due to changes in care needs for a number of clients. This adverse variance is partially offset by smaller favourable variances in Transport - £14,739 and Employee costs - £9,750.

3.1.6 Supplementation – Mental Health is shown as favourable by £81,305. Employee costs are favourable by £65,134 due to an error in the calculation of the probable outturn which has resulted in this being overstated.

3.1.7 Home Care is shown as favourable by £227,938. This variance is mainly due to two variances:

- Employee costs are £139,968 favourable due to management action to reduce the use of overtime since the probable outturn was established by employing more staff.; and
- Payments to Other Bodies are favourable by £98,350 due to the level of assessed need being lower than that estimated in the probable outturn.

3.1.8 Other Specific Services is shown as adverse by £27,868. This variance is mainly due to:

- Income relating to Housing Benefit is lower than the probable outturn by £26,515 due to the number of voids being higher than anticipated. This variance is likely to remain at this level for the remainder of the financial year.

4. People Implications

4.1 The ongoing freeze on filling of posts has resulted in a significant number of posts remaining vacant. Management continue to monitor vacancy levels and are able to fill posts where necessary to meet service need and control pressure being placed on the remaining employees.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 Other than the financial position noted above there are no financial implications of the budgetary control report.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** The main financial risks to the ongoing financial position relate to unforeseen client needs being identified between now and the end of the financial year which may result in increased costs arising from expensive service provision. This can affect several parts of the service.

7. Equalities, Health & Humans Rights Impact Assessment (EIA)

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

8. Conclusion and Recommendations

- 8.1** There is a favourable variance shown at period 11 of £506,982. The main issues are favourable variances in Operations and Servicing, External Residential Care for the Elderly and Homecare which are helping the overall budget position. It should be noted that some budget lines within Social Work are volatile in nature with the potential for significant variation.
- 8.2** This report is submitted for Committee's consideration and comment.

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Appendices: Appendix A - Summary Budgetary Control Report
Appendix B - Detailed Budgetary Control Report
Appendix C - Report on Budgetary Variances

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: All