

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
Report by the Chief Officer – Resources
Educational Services Committee 18 September 2024

Subject: Educational Services Capital Budgetary Control Report 2024/25 to Period 3 (30 June 2024)

1. Purpose

1.1 This report provides an update on the capital financial performance to 30 June 2024 of those services under the auspices of the Educational Services Committee.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Committee is asked to:

- i) Note the current position of the 2024/25 Educational Services capital budget.
- ii) Approve the revised completion dates detailed in appendix 2.
- iii) Note an in-year variance of £0.206m due to reprofiling of projects.

3. Background

3.1 On 6 March 2024 the Council approved the updated General Services Capital Plan for 2024/2025 to 2032/33. The three years from 2024/25 to 2026/27 were approved in detail with the remaining years being indicative. The budget agreed under the auspice of Educational Services Committee was £19.617m for 2024/25 and £59.633m for the project life budget.

3.2 Since then budget adjustments have taken place which result in a revised Education capital budget as set out in Exhibit 1.

Exhibit 1: Revised Capital Budget

	2024/25 (£m)	Project Life (£m)
Capital Budget Agreed 6 March 2024	19.617	59.633
Capital Project Removed (Para 4.4)	0.073	
Revised Capital Budget as at Period 3	19.544	59.633

4. Main Issues

4.1 Progress against the 2024/25 capital plan is detailed in:

Appendix 1 – Project Life Summary by Chief Officer

Appendix 2 – Off Track Projects

Appendix 3 – Changes to Capital Plan for Noting

Appendix 4 – All Approved Projects

4.2 Appendix 2 highlights one project currently showing as off-track due to revised completion dates. This is:

- Digital Inclusion

Appendix 3 highlights two projects where the project expenditure requires to be reprofiled but there is no need for additional budget.

4.3 Appendix 4 shows all projects with approved in year and project life budgets as well as anticipated expenditure. It highlights that the 2024/25 budget is £19.544m with current forecast spend of £19.338m, a variance of £0.206m, (1.054%) relating to projects which require reprofiling. The spend as at period 3 is £4.199m (21.66%) of the current forecast spend of £19.388m.

4.4 Early Years Early Learning and Childcare Funding project has been removed. It was anticipated that there would be a carry forward of budget into 2024/25 from 2023/24. However, projects were completed by 31 March 2024 and therefore no carry forward was required.

5. Option Appraisal

5.1 No option appraisal was required for this report.

6. People Implications

6.1 There are no people implications.

7. Financial and Procurement Implications

7.1 The report notes the projected in-year financial position for capital budgets.

8. Risk Analysis

8.1 The main risks are as follows:

- (a) The reported variances should be viewed in the knowledge that there are a number of variable factors which could arise between now and 31 March which could affect the year end results for capital budgets.
- (b) As a consequence of current market conditions, inflation is at an all-time high and interest rates continue to be volatile. To forecast for the full year costs budget assumptions have been required. These assumptions continue to change regularly and therefore it is likely the projected year end budgetary position will change from that reported.

9. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

9.1 No equalities impact assessment was required in relation to this report.

10. Environmental Sustainability

10.1 No assessment of environmental sustainability was required in relation to this report.

11. Consultation

11.1 All services involved in delivering the capital budgets have been consulted in the compilation of this report.

12. Strategic Assessment

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

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Date: 6 August 2024

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 -	Project Life Summary
Appendix 2-	Off Track Projects
Appendix 3 -	Reprofiling and Acceleration of Projects
Appendix 4 -	Details of all Projects.

Background Papers:
General Services Capital Plan Update - Council 6 March 2024.

Wards Affected All Wards

