

Supplementary Agenda



Educational Services Committee

Date: Wednesday, 19 March 2025

Time: 10:00

Format: Hybrid Meeting

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Dear Member

ITEMS TO FOLLOW

I refer to the agenda for the above Meeting of the Educational Services Committee which was issued on 6 March 2025 and now enclose copies of the undernoted reports which were not available for issue at that time.

Yours faithfully

PETER HESSETT

Chief Executive

Note referred to:-/

Note referred to:-

**15 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES REVENUE BUDGETARY CONTROL 153 – 168
REPORT 2024/25 TO 31 JANUARY 2025 (PERIOD 10)**

Submit report by the Chief Officer – Resources providing an update on the Educational Services revenue budget to 31 January 2025 (Period 10) and the forecast position at 31 March 2025.

**16 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CAPITAL BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT 2024/25 TO 31 JANUARY 2025
(PERIOD 10) 169 – 175**

Submit report by the Chief Officer – Resources providing an update on the Educational Services capital programme to 31 January 2025 (Period 10).

Distribution:

Councillor Clare Steel (Chair)
Councillor Fiona Hennebry
Councillor Gurpreet Singh Johal
Councillor David McBride
Councillor Michelle McGinty
Councillor John Millar (Vice Chair)
Provost Karen Murray Conaghan
Councillor Lawrence O'Neill
Councillor Lauren Oxley
Councillor Martin Rooney
Councillor William Rooney
Councillor Gordon Scanlan

Councillor Hazel Sorrell
Councillor Sophie Traynor
Mrs Barbara Barnes
Miss Faith Bhardwaj MSYP
Ms Kirsty Connolly
Mr Gavin Corrigan
Miss Ellen McBride
Reverend Ian Miller
Ms Hannah Redford
Miss Rebecca Ross MSYP
Ms Julia Strang

All other Councillors for information

Chief Education Officer

Date of Issue: 13 March 2025

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Chief Officer (Resources)

Educational Services Committee: 19 March 2025

Subject: Educational Services Revenue Budgetary Control Report to 31 January 2025 (Period 10).

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide update on the financial performance of the Educational Services revenue budget to 31 January 2025 (Period 10) and the forecast position at 31 March 2025.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Committee is asked to:

- (a) note the 2024/25 revenue account has a projected adverse revenue variance of £0.311m which becomes a favourable variance of £0.006m after use of earmarked reserves (detail in paragraph 6.2).

3. Background

Revenue

- 3.1 At the meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council on 6 March 2024, Members agreed the revenue estimates for 2024/2025, including a total net Educational Services Committee budget of £123.901m. Since then the following budget adjustments have taken place revising the budget to £125.198m.

	£m
Budget Agreed by Council 6 March 2024	123.901
Previously Reported at period 5	
Early Years revenue support grant	0.413
Reduction in APT&C pension contribution	(2.284)
Subsequent Changes	
Scottish Government contribution towards APT&C / Teacher pay awards	0.939
Increase in Teacher pension contributions (Para 3.2)	1.523
£12 per hour pay commitment (Para 3.3)	0.364
Transfer of Youth Learning to Education (Para 3.4)	0.342
Revised Budget as at period 10	125.198

- 3.2** In 2023 the Scottish Teachers' Pension Scheme was subject to its periodic valuation review to set employer contributions. The valuation confirmed that an increase in the employer contribution rate was required from a rate of 23% to 26% from 1 April 2024. The cost to the Council is forecast to be £1.523m.
- 3.3** The Scottish Government has provided local authorities with an additional £16m in 2024/25 to fund the estimated additional costs associated with enabling funded ELC workers in private and third sector services to be paid at least £12 per hour (the new real Living Wage rate) from April 2024. In addition, funding was provided to pay at least £12 per hour for all direct care commissioned services, an area within which Educational residential placements were in scope. Education service's share of this additional funding was £0.364m.
- 3.4** From January 2025 Youth Learning activities, along with the associated budget, has been transferred to Educational Services as part of a wider reorganisation of the Communities service.
- 3.5** A list of agreed efficiencies and management adjustments totalling £1.745m is shown within Appendix 4. It is anticipated £1.653m will be achieved, the shortfall of £0.092m being in early start clubs income. This shortfall will be covered by the smoothing fund in 2024/25 and a cost pressure has been added to the Council's projected 2025/26 budget as reported to Council on 5 March 2025.

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 £0.006m favourable. Information and all individual variances of over £50,000 are detailed in Appendix 3. The principal reasons for the movement in the variance since last reported to Committee is shown below.

		£m	£m
Net underlying adverse variance at period 5			0.057
Special Schools	Increase in transport costs	0.053	
Psychological Services	Increase in staff recharges	(0.047)	
Pre 5s	Decrease in employee costs	(0.183)	
Cultural Services	Decrease in employee costs	(0.021)	
PPP	Increase in NDR/Water rates	0.184	
Central Admin	Increase in FSM payments	0.006	
Education Development	Decrease in external payments	(0.045)	
Other		(0.010)	
Total movements in Service Variances			(0.063)
Net underlying favourable variance at period 10			(0.006)

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.

6.2 To date £0.317m of expenditure is funded by earmarked reserves as follows:

- Summer programme - £0.100m
- Whole Family Wellbeing - £0.125m
- Smoothing fund (early start income shortfall) - £0.092m

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. Finance staff are in regular discussion with budget holders to ensure potential issues are identified as early as possible 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.

Laurence Slavin
Chief Officer - Resources
Date: 3 March 2025

Person to Contact: Joe Reilly - Finance Business Partner, Church Street Offices
Dumbarton
e-mail joe.reilly@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Revenue Budgetary Control 2024/25 Summary Report

Appendix 2 - Revenue Budgetary Control 2024/25 Service Reports

Appendix 3 - Analysis of Variances over £50,000

Appendix 4 – Monitoring of Efficiencies and Management Adjustments

Background Papers: General Services Revenue Estimates 2024/25

Wards Affected: All

EDUCATION SUMMARY

MONTH END DATE

PERIOD

31 January 2025
P10

Actual Outturn 2023/24	Departmental / Subjective Summary	Total Budget 2024/25	Year to date 2024/25	% Spend to Date of Total Budget	Forecast Spend 2024/25	Forecast Variance 2024/25	RAG Status	Net Variance attributable to earmarked reserves spend	Underlying Variance excluding earmarked reserves spend
£000	Departmental Summary	£000	£000	%	£000	£000	%	£000	£000
33,207	Primary Schools	34,325	28,147	82%	34,054	(271)	-1%	92	(363)
33,301	Secondary Schools	35,513	29,081	82%	35,276	(237)	-1%	0	(237)
20,771	Special Schools	21,567	15,809	73%	21,987	420	2%	0	420
585	Psychological Services	727	542	75%	694	(32)	-4%	0	(32)
551	Sport Development/Active Schools	627	325	52%	627	0	0%	0	0
9,601	Pre 5s	9,604	13,850	144%	9,625	21	0%	0	21
633	Cultural Services	641	465	73%	639	(2)	0%	0	(2)
17,556	PPP	18,082	17,283	96%	18,187	105	1%	0	105
97	Curriculum for Excellence	66	33	51%	66	0	0%	0	0
1,202	Central Admin	868	960	111%	1,051	183	21%	100	83
328	Workforce CPD	314	258	82%	314	0	0%	0	0
454	Performance & Improvement	463	380	82%	463	(0)	0%	0	(0)
2,133	Education Development	2,402	1,955	81%	2,527	125	5%	125	(0)
555	Raising Attainment - Primary	0	(0)	0%	0	0	0%	0	0
(560)	Raising Attainment - Secondary	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0
(12)	Pupil Equity Fund - (PEF)	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0
120,403	Total Net Expenditure	125,198	109,089	87%	125,508	311	0.25%	317	(6)

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
REVENUE BUDGETARY CONTROL 2024/25
EDUCATION DETAIL

APPENDIX 2

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Actual Outturn 2023/24	Service Summary	Total Budget 2024/25	Year to date 2024/25	Forecast Spend 2024/25	Forecast Variance 2024/25	RAG Status
£000	All Services	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
97,690	Employee	98,977	80,685	98,328	(649)	-1% ↑
9,509	Property	9,835	8,451	10,536	702	7% ↓
2,625	Transport and Plant	2,588	1,907	3,066	478	18% ↓
2,733	Supplies, Services and Admin	2,432	1,598	2,531	100	4% ↓
25,728	Payments to Other Bodies	26,303	21,876	26,422	119	0% ↓
1,551	Other	1,606	1,391	1,685	80	5% ↓
139,836	Gross Expenditure	141,740	115,910	142,570	830	1% ↓
(19,433)	Income	(16,543)	(6,820)	(17,061)	(519)	3% ↑
120,403	Net Expenditure	125,198	109,089	125,508	311	0% ↓
£000	Primary Schools	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
29,176	Employee	30,231	24,445	29,621	(610)	-2% ↑
3,283	Property	3,527	3,117	3,782	255	7% ↓
353	Transport and Plant	345	317	345	0	0% →
342	Supplies, Services and Admin	252	223	280	29	11% ↓
(0)	Payments to Other Bodies	14	2	13	(1)	-8% ↑
359	Other	373	335	373	0	0% →
33,513	Gross Expenditure	34,741	28,439	34,414	(327)	-1% ↑
(306)	Income	(416)	(292)	(359)	56	-14% ↓
33,207	Net Expenditure	34,325	28,147	34,054	(271)	-1% ↑
£000	Secondary Schools	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
30,912	Employee	33,011	26,888	32,593	(418)	-1% ↑
1,447	Property	1,339	1,314	1,618	279	21% ↓
569	Transport and Plant	654	593	654	0	0% →
264	Supplies, Services and Admin	297	219	299	2	1% ↓
478	Payments to Other Bodies	472	444	472	0	0% ↓
564	Other	722	491	722	0	0% →
34,234	Gross Expenditure	36,495	29,951	36,359	(136)	0% ↑
(933)	Income	(982)	(870)	(1,083)	(101)	10% ↑
33,301	Net Expenditure	35,513	29,081	35,276	(237)	-1% ↑

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Actual Outturn 2023/24	Service Summary	Total Budget 2024/25	Year to date 2024/25	Forecast Spend 2024/25	Forecast Variance 2024/25	RAG Status
£000		£000	£000	£000	£000 %	
	Special Schools					
13,340	Employee	13,608	11,389	13,686	78 1%	↓
172	Property	179	156	240	61 34%	↓
1,482	Transport and Plant	1,438	888	1,913	476 33%	↓
116	Supplies, Services and Admin	124	96	104	(20) -16%	↑
5,960	Payments to Other Bodies	6,535	3,423	6,408	(127) -2%	↑
23	Other	25	23	23	(2) -8%	↑
21,093	Gross Expenditure	21,909	15,974	22,374	465 2%	↓
(322)	Income	(342)	(166)	(387)	(45) 13%	↑
20,771	Net Expenditure	21,567	15,809	21,987	420 2%	↓
	Psychological Services					
652	Employee	793	637	786	(6) -1%	↑
0	Property	0	0	0	0 0%	→
2	Transport and Plant	1	2	2	1 96%	↓
3	Supplies, Services and Admin	5	1	3	(2) -45%	↑
0	Payments to Other Bodies	0	0	0	0 0%	→
0	Other	0	0	0	0 0%	→
658	Gross Expenditure	799	640	792	(8) -1%	↑
(73)	Income	(73)	(97)	(97)	(25) 34%	↑
585	Net Expenditure	727	542	694	(32) -4%	↑
	Miscellaneous					
0	Employee	0	0	0	0 0%	→
0	Property	0	0	0	0 0%	→
0	Transport and Plant	0	0	0	0 0%	→
0	Supplies, Services and Admin	0	0	0	0 0%	→
810	Payments to Other Bodies	627	630	795	169 27%	↓
0	Other	0	0	0	0 0%	→
810	Gross Expenditure	627	630	795	169 27%	↓
(259)	Income	0	(304)	(169)	(169) 0%	↑
551	Net Expenditure	627	325	627	0 0%	→

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Actual Outturn 2023/24	Service Summary	Total Budget 2024/25	Year to date 2024/25	Forecast Spend 2024/25	Forecast Variance 2024/25	RAG Status
£000	Early Years	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
15,226	Employee	15,208	11,392	15,081	(127)	-1% ↑
522	Property	488	163	481	(7)	-2% ↑
6	Transport and Plant	5	1	3	(2)	-33% ↑
910	Supplies, Services and Admin	976	325	982	6	1% ↓
3,518	Payments to Other Bodies	3,334	2,714	3,668	334	10% ↓
0	Other	0	0	0	0	0% →
20,181	Gross Expenditure	20,012	14,595	20,215	203	1% ↓
(10,580)	Income	(10,407)	(745)	(10,590)	(183)	2% ↑
9,601	Net Expenditure	9,604	13,850	9,625	21	0% ↓
£000	PPP	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
0	Employee	0	0	0	0	0% →
4,041	Property	4,256	3,657	4,370	113	3% ↓
0	Transport and Plant	0	0	0	0	0% →
0	Supplies, Services and Admin	0	0	0	0	0% →
13,515	Payments to Other Bodies	13,825	13,626	13,817	(8)	0% ↑
0	Other	0	0	0	0	0% →
17,556	Gross Expenditure	18,082	17,283	18,187	105	1% ↓
0	Income	0	0	0	0	0% →
17,556	Net Expenditure	18,082	17,283	18,187	105	1% ↓
£000	Curriculum for Excellence	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
0	Employee	0	0	0	0	0% →
1	Property	0	0	0	0	0% →
0	Transport and Plant	0	0	0	0	0% →
83	Supplies, Services and Admin	66	31	64	(2)	-3% ↑
13	Payments to Other Bodies	0	2	2	2	0% ↓
0	Other	0	0	0	0	0% →
97	Gross Expenditure	66	33	66	0	0% →
0	Income	0	0	0	0	0% →
97	Net Expenditure	66	33	66	0	0% →

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
REVENUE BUDGETARY CONTROL 2024/25
EDUCATION DETAIL

APPENDIX 2

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Actual Outturn 2023/24	Service Summary	Total Budget 2024/25	Year to date 2024/25	Forecast Spend 2024/25	Forecast Variance 2024/25	RAG Status
£000	Central Admin	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
237	Employee	127	142	152	25	20%
40	Property	22	22	22	0	0%
2	Transport and Plant	0	0	0	0	0%
36	Supplies, Services and Admin	50	35	50	0	0%
342	Payments to Other Bodies	238	275	316	78	33%
605	Other	486	543	568	82	17%
1,262	Gross Expenditure	924	1,017	1,108	184	20%
(59)	Income	(56)	(56)	(57)	(1)	2%
1,202	Net Expenditure	868	960	1,051	183	21%
£000	Workforce CPD	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
374	Employee	281	244	281	0	0%
0	Property	0	0	0	0	0%
0	Transport and Plant	0	0	0	0	0%
17	Supplies, Services and Admin	20	6	20	0	0%
14	Payments to Other Bodies	13	8	13	0	3%
0	Other	0	0	0	0	0%
405	Gross Expenditure	314	258	314	0	0%
(78)	Income	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	0%
328	Net Expenditure	314	258	314	0	0%
£000	Performance & Improvement	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
486	Employee	497	415	497	(0)	0%
0	Property	0	0	0	0	0%
0	Transport and Plant	1	0	1	(0)	-14%
2	Supplies, Services and Admin	0	0	0	0	87%
0	Payments to Other Bodies	0	0	0	0	0%
0	Other	0	0	0	0	0%
488	Gross Expenditure	498	415	498	(0)	0%
(34)	Income	(35)	(35)	(35)	0	0%
454	Net Expenditure	463	380	463	(0)	0%

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
REVENUE BUDGETARY CONTROL 2024/25
EDUCATION DETAIL

APPENDIX 2

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Actual Outturn 2023/24	Service Summary	Total Budget 2024/25	Year to date 2024/25	Forecast Spend 2024/25	Forecast Variance 2024/25	RAG Status
£000	Education Development	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
1,683	Employee	1,398	1,505	1,839	441	32%
0	Property	0	0	0	0	0%
120	Transport and Plant	113	76	116	3	3%
117	Supplies, Services and Admin	63	96	161	98	154%
432	Payments to Other Bodies	1,065	550	701	(364)	-34%
0	Other	0	0	0	0	0%
2,352	Gross Expenditure	2,639	2,226	2,816	178	7%
(219)	Income	(237)	(271)	(289)	(53)	22%
2,133	Net Expenditure	2,402	1,955	2,527	125	5%
£000	Raising Attainment - Primary	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
525	Employee	593	593	593	0	0%
-	Property	0	0	0	0	0%
0	Transport and Plant	1	1	1	0	0%
22	Supplies, Services and Admin	14	14	14	0	0%
7	Payments to Other Bodies	0	0	0	0	0%
-	Other	0	0	0	0	0%
555	Gross Expenditure	608	608	608	0	0%
-	Income	(608)	(608)	(608)	0	0%
555	Net Expenditure	0	(0)	0	0	0%
£000	Raising Attainment - Secondary	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
773	Employee	189	189	189	0	0%
0	Property	0	0	0	0	0%
2	Transport and Plant	0	0	0	0	0%
2	Supplies, Services and Admin	60	60	60	0	0%
111	Payments to Other Bodies	0	0	0	0	0%
0	Other	0	0	0	0	0%
888	Gross Expenditure	250	250	250	0	0%
(1,448)	Income	(250)	(250)	(250)	0	0%
(560)	Net Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0%

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
REVENUE BUDGETARY CONTROL 2024/25
EDUCATION DETAIL

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Actual Outturn 2023/24	Service Summary	Total Budget 2024/25	Year to date 2024/25	Forecast Spend 2024/25	Forecast Variance 2024/25	RAG Status
£000	Pupil Equity Fund - (PEF)	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
3,602	Employee	2,319	2,319	2,319	0	0%
3	Property	22	22	22	0	0%
87	Transport and Plant	28	28	28	0	0%
806	Supplies, Services and Admin	484	484	484	0	0%
483	Payments to Other Bodies	162	162	162	0	0%
0	Other	0	0	0	0	0%
4,980	Gross Expenditure	3,015	3,015	3,015	0	0%
(4,992)	Income	(3,015)	(3,015)	(3,015)	0	0%
(12)	Net Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0%
£000	Cultural Services	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
705	Employee	722	527	692	(31)	-4%
0	Property	0	0	0	0	0%
1	Transport and Plant	2	1	2	0	16%
12	Supplies, Services and Admin	22	8	11	(11)	-50%
46	Payments to Other Bodies	17	40	55	38	215%
0	Other	0	0	0	0	0%
765	Gross Expenditure	764	576	760	(4)	0%
(131)	Income	(123)	(111)	(121)	1	-1%
633	Net Expenditure	641	465	639	(2)	0%

ANALYSIS FOR VARIANCES OVER £50,000

MONTH END DATE	31 January 2025
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Budget Details	Variance Analysis			
	Total Budget	Forecast Spend	Forecast Variance	RAG Status

Education

Primary Schools (Laura Mason)	34,325	34,054	(271)	-1%	↑
Service Description	This service area includes all Primary Schools.				
Main Issues / Reason for Variance	The favourable variance is attributable to the average unpromoted teacher salary being slightly less than forecast when the budget was set. This offsets the adverse variance against non-domestic rates (£219k). Shortfalls from the early start clubs will be covered from the smoothing fund (£92k).				
Mitigating Action	None				
Anticipated Outcome	Favourable variance				

Secondary Schools (Laura Mason)	35,513	35,276	(237)	-1%	↑
Service Description	This service area includes all Secondary Schools.				
Main Issues / Reason for Variance	The favourable variance is attributable to the average unpromoted teacher salary being slightly less than forecast when the budget was set. This has offset the adverse variance which has arisen due to a number of items being higher than anticipated when the budget was set : accidental/malicious damage (£25k), upkeep of grounds (£19k) and non-domestic rates (£239k).				
Mitigating Action	None				
Anticipated Outcome	Favourable variance				

ANALYSIS FOR VARIANCES OVER £50,000

MONTH END DATE 31 January 2025

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Budget Details	Variance Analysis				
	Total Budget	Forecast Spend	Forecast Variance	RAG Status	
Additional Support Needs (Claire Cusick)	21,567	21,987	420	2%	↓
Service Description	This service area covers all ASN Services.				
Main Issues / Reason for Variance	The largest budget pressure is an increased cost for taxis (£330k). In addition, following a review of internal transport recharges the forecast transport costs are £125k higher than budget.				
Mitigating Action	None possible at present				
Anticipated Outcome	Overspend anticipated				
Miscellaneous (Laura Mason)	627	627	0	0%	→
Service Description	This service area covers Education activities delivered through WDLT				
Main Issues / Reason for Variance	Additional expenditure is offset by additional income from Sport Scotland				
Mitigating Action	none				
Anticipated Outcome	on budget				
Pre 5s (Laura Mason)	9,604	9,625	21	0%	↓
Service Description	This service area includes all Early Years establishments within West Dunbartonshire.				
Main Issues / Reason for Variance	There remains an adverse variance against net cross-boundary transactions of £114k and commissioned places payments are slightly greater (£40k) than the budget. However, this has been offset by a small favourable variance (£127k) against employee costs.				
Mitigating Action	None possible at present				
Anticipated Outcome	Adverse variance				

ANALYSIS FOR VARIANCES OVER £50,000

MONTH END DATE	31 January 2025
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Budget Details	Variance Analysis				
	Total Budget	Forecast Spend	Forecast Variance		RAG Status
PPP (Laura Mason)	18,082	18,187	105	1%	↓
Service Description	This service area includes Vale of Leven, Clydebank High and St Peter the Apostle High Schools and St Eunan's Primary School. The costs charged to this service are Property costs and the Unitary charge.				
Main Issues / Reason for Variance	Non-domestic rates/water charges are higher than anticipated when the budget was set (£182k) although other property costs (eg cleaning) have been less than budgeted (£69k).				
Mitigating Action	None possible				
Anticipated Outcome	Adverse variance				
Central Admin (Laura Mason)	868	1,051	183	21%	↓
Service Description	This service area covers Education Directorate				
Main Issues / Reason for Variance	There is an adverse variance against Summer Programme activities (£100k) which will be covered by an earmarked reserve. The remaining adverse variance is attributable to school meal holiday payments (£82k) being in excess of the sum allocated by the Scottish Government - our eligible caseload is about 15% higher than the caseload implicit in our actual allocation. In addition, FSM payments (over £8k) were made for the day the schools closed because of Storm Eowyn in late January.				
Mitigating Action	None possible				
Anticipated Outcome	Overspend anticipated				

ANALYSIS FOR VARIANCES OVER £50,000

MONTH END DATE	31 January 2025
PERIOD	P10

Budget Details	Variance Analysis				
	Total Budget	Forecast Spend	Forecast Variance		RAG Status
Education Development	2,402	2,527	125	5%	↓
Service Description	This service includes spend in areas such as technician service, language programmes, counselling, Whole Family Wellbeing and senior phase programmes.				
Main Issues / Reason for Variance	Overspend within Whole Family Wellbeing will be covered from an earmarked reserve.				
Mitigating Action	none				
Anticipated Outcome	on budget				

Efficiency reference	Efficiency Detail	budgeted Amount £	Projection of Total Saved £	Projection of Total Not Saved £	Comment
EDU08	Reduce Additional Management Time in Primary Schools	- 304,000	- 304,000	-	
EDU11	Reduce DMR Budgets by up to 10%	- 80,000	- 80,000		
EDU02	Increased use of Pupil Equity Funding to pay for associated support service costs	- 70,000	- 70,000		
EDU05	Introduce Early Start Clubs at schools with associated fees (£2) for pupils not entitled to a free school meal	- 187,000	- 95,000	- 92,000	number of paying attendees less than budgeted
EDU09	Increase fees for Out of School Care Service at St Eunan's Primary School and Linnvale Primary School by £3 from April 2024	- 14,000	- 14,000		
EDU13	Remove 1 of 2 Education Officer posts responsible for quality assuring and monitoring the performance of West Dunbartonshire schools	- 75,000	- 75,000		
EDU14	Reduce the number of ELC Early Stage Teachers from 16.4 FTE to 11.4 FTE across the entire ELC learning estate	- 219,000	- 219,000		
EDU15	Reduce the number of Early Learning Childcare Posts from 223 FTE to 217 FTE across the entire ELC learning estate	- 134,000	- 134,000		
EDU16	Remove ELC Lead Officer in Bellsmyre and Dalmonach ELC with remaining management team required to take over aspects of their remit	- 62,000	- 62,000		
EDU17	Reduce the Collaborative Support Service by 3.6 FTE	- 190,000	- 190,000		
EDU18	Reduce use of SMS text messages with schools communicating with parents using Groupcall.	- 10,000	- 10,000		
EDU20	Review the current flexibility in primary school classification and allocate class structures based on numerical information which aligns with statutory obligations	- 400,000	- 400,000		
		- 1,745,000	- 1,653,000	- 92,000	

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
Report by the Chief Officer – Resources
Educational Services Committee 19 March 2025

Subject: Educational Services Capital Budgetary Control Report 2024/25 to 31 January 2025 (Period 10)

1. Purpose

1.1 This report provides an update on the Educational Services capital programme to 31 January 2025 .

2. Recommendations

2.1 Committee is asked to:

- i) Note the current position of the 2024/25 Educational Services capital budget.
- ii) Note that the project life total is currently on track.
- iii) Note that one project, Free School Meals has moved from Citizen, Culture and Facilities (CCF) to Educational Services

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 for Educational Services was £19.617m for 2024/25 and £59.634m 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 shows the revised period 5 as reported to Committee on 27 November 2024.

Exhibit 1: Revised Capital Budget as at 27 November 2024

	2024/25 (£m)	Project Life (£m)
Capital Budget Agreed 6 March 2024	19.617	59.634
Updates reported to Committee on 18 September 2024 and 27 November 2024	(0.073)	0
Reprofiling agreed at Committee on 18 September 2024 and 27 November 2024	(0.206)	0

Revised Capital Budget at Period 5	19.338	59.634
Reprofiling Reported at period 5	(0.895)	
New Approved Budget Period 5	18.443	59.634

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 (not applicable for this report)
- Appendix 3 – Changes to Capital Plan for Noting
- Appendix 4 – All Approved Projects

4.2 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 £19.635m with current forecast spend of £24.233m. The spend as at period 10 is £16.975m (70%) of the current forecast spend of £24.233m.

4.3 Reported expenditure to date against the School Improvement Programme appears low relative to both the annual budget and probable outturn. This is because it is anticipated that most expenditure will come in as year end recharges.

4.4 Reported expenditure to date against the Free School Meal expansion also appears low relative to the annual budget. This is because confirmation of this funding was not announced until late December 2024. Any underspend will be carried forward to 2025/26.

4.5 Exhibit 2 sets out the revised Educational Services capital budget at period 10 following approval by Council on 18 December 2024.

Exhibit 2: Revised Capital Budget

	£m	£m
Revised Capital Budget at 27 November 2024	18.443	59.634
Faifley Campus reprofiling	5.715	0.00
Free School Meal Expansion	0.075	1.191
Proposed Revised Capital Budget Period 10	24.233	60.825

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 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.

Laurence Slavin
Chief Officer – Resources
Date: 3 March 2025

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Appendices: Appendix 1 : Project Life Summary
Appendix 2 : Off Track Projects (not applicable for this report)

Appendix 3 : Reprofileing 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

Summary at Period 10

Appendix 1

	Project Life Budget	Project Life Forecast Spend	Project Life Variance	On Track/Complete	Off Track
	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Education	60,825	60,825	-	5	0
Total	60,825	60,825	0	5	0

Changes to Capital Plan and Implications at P10

Project - EDUC 3	Reprofiling	Current Year 2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	Total Capital Plan
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools Estate Improvement Plan - next Phase - Faifley Campus	5,715	15,181	16,089	2,754	0	0	0	0	0	0	34,024
Schools Estate Improvement Plan - next Phase - Faifley Campus - Revised		20,896	10,374	2,754	0	0	0	0	0	0	34,024
Explanation											
Following transition of design team to Resources, a reprofiling of budget required over financial years was carried out and as a result acceleration of £5.715m budget was required from 25/26 into 24/25 to align with spend profile. Programme of works is currently ahead of schedule.											

Project EDUC 5	Reprofiling	Current Year 2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	Total Capital Plan
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Free School Meals Expansion	-1,191	1,116	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,116
Free School Meals Expansion Revised		0	1,116	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,116
Explanation											
Project delayed due to late confirmation of grant which prevented the programming of works. Works required to be carried out during recess periods.											

All Approved Projects at Period 10

Appendix 4

Service	Project	Completion Date	Revised End Date	Full Project Life						In Year			
				Project Life Budget	Spend to 31 /3/24	Spend to Date	Projected Future Spend	Total Projected Spend	Project Variance	Approved Budget 2024/25	Actual to date 2024/25	Revised Forecast 2024/25	In Year Variance
				£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
1	EDUC 1 AV Equipment - Education	31/03/2030		859	292	339	520	859	0	60	47	60	0
2	EDUC 2 Digital Inclusion	31/03/2023	31/03/2025	356	324	325	30	356	0	32	2	32	0
3	EDUC 3 Schools Estate Improvement Plan - next Phase - Faifley Campus	31/03/2027	31/03/2027	36,515	2,491	19,069	17,446	36,515	0	15,181	16,578	20,896	5,715
4	EDUC 4 Schools Estate Improvement Plan	31/03/2025		21,904	18,734	19,031	2,874	21,904	0	3,170	296	3,170	0
5	EDUC 5 Free School Meals Expansion	31/03/2025	31/03/2025	1,191	0	52	1,139	1,191	0	1,192	52	75	-1,117
Total Education				60,825	21,841	38,816	22,010	60,825	0	19,635	16,975	24,233	4,598