

# Report

Report to: Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum

Date of Meeting: 4 October 2018

Report by: Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject: Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/2019

# 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-
  - ◆ update members of the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum of progress on the Council's revenue budget for the period covering 1 April to 17 August 2018

# 2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1. The Forum is asked to note the following recommendation(s):-
  - (1) that the 2018/2019 Financial Position as at period 6 (17 August 2018) and the forecast to 31 March 2019, for General Services, Housing Revenue Account and Trading Operations (as detailed in Appendices A to C), be noted; and
  - that the intention to use the uncommitted element of the forecast underspend (£4.000 million) in the 2019/2020 Revenue Budget Strategy, be noted.

# 3. Background

- 3.1. The Revenue reports attached provide detail on the most recent Executive Committee report dated 26 September 2018. The reports detail the position as at 17 August 2018 for General Services, the Housing Revenue Account and the Council's Trading Operations.
- 3.2. The papers have been split into separate Appendices as shown below:
  - ◆ Appendix A 2018/2019 Financial Position as at Period 6 (17 August 2018) for General Services
  - ◆ Appendix B 2018/2019 Financial Position as at Period 6 (17 August 2018) for Housing Revenue Account
  - ◆ Appendix C 2018/2019 Financial Position as at Period 6 (17 August 2018) for the Council's Trading Operations

## 4. Employee Implications

4.1. None

#### 5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. The financial position of the General Services Revenue Budget, the Housing Revenue Account and the Council's Trading Operations are detailed in Appendices A to C attached.
- 5.2. **General Fund Revenue Account Position (including Trading Operations)**As at 17 August 2018, Appendix A of the report details an underspend of £3.687 million (16.4%) against the phased budget.
- 5.3. The net underspend of £3.687 million is made up of a number of items namely £0.500 million budget for Superannuation on Overtime which is not required, an underspend on Loan Charges (£3.422 million, detailed in 5.4), an underspend of £0.232 million in Education Resources (Early Years' Service) in relation to the timing of staff recruitment and vacancies, and an overspend in Social Work Resources (£0.467 million, detailed in 5.10).
- 5.4. **Loan Charges:** As previously reported, the Council's Loan Charges Strategy assumed that we would borrow at the start of the financial year. However, as a result of using cash balances to manage the Council's cash flow, no borrowing has been required in the first 6 months of the year. Moving forward, the Council will require to borrow by October 2018. This delay in the requirement to borrow has meant a temporary saving in loan charges in 2018/2019. In August we reported a £1.440 million underspend position to that point in time to the Executive Committee (reporting date 22 June 2018). The underspend to 17 August 2018 is now £3.422 million. The underspend for the year is expected to be £4.500 million. The final position will depend on the interest rate at which we borrow. This cannot be confirmed until borrowing is actually taken, and further updates will be provided to the Executive Committee as borrowing is taken.
- 5.5. **Education Resources:** As reported previously, as Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) funding operates in academic (Aug-June) years and not financial years, then it is likely that there will be an underspend at 31 March which will require to be carried forward and used in April to June 2019. The initial estimate of the underspend remains at £2.300 million for this financial year, based on equal spend over the school year, however this will depend on the timing of spend throughout the year.
- 5.6. The actual expected spend position for the financial year will become more certain after the start of the academic year in August. The current projection is shown against Education Resources as a forecast underspend of £2.300 million. As the year progresses, and the actual spend figure is more certain, the budget will be moved to the Transfer to Reserves budget line.
- 5.7. There are also 8 posts which have still to be recruited for Early Years. These posts will be recruited from August 2018 so it is expected that there will be an underspend of approximately £0.100 million depending on the timing of recruitment.

- 5.8. **Housing and Technical Resources:** Funding has been allocated by the Scottish Government for Temporary Accommodation within the Homeless Service. As the Resource has identified that an estimated £0.800 million of this funding may not be required in the current year as a result of implementation timescales, it is intended that the underspend will be transferred to Reserves to manage future pressures in this area. Work continues to confirm the level of the underspend, which will be reported to a future meeting.
- 5.9. **Social Work Resources:** The underspends noted above are offset, in part, by an overspend of £0.467 million within Social Work Resources.
- 5.10. As reported previously, the Resource has identified pressures within Children and Families Services due to the number of residential school/external placements and fostering placements in the first 6 months of the current year. This was noted as approximately £0.800m of a potential pressure as at period 4. Since then, 2 more placements have been made meaning that the potential overspend for the full year has increased to £1.000 million. The period 6 position is an overspend of £0.467 million. The Resource is currently looking at these pressures in conjunction with the other services of the Resource to identify ways to minimise and manage these costs.
- 5.11. In addition, Adults and Older People Services are experiencing pressures in respect of Direct Payments. This will continue to be monitored over the coming months.
- 5.12. **Council Tax and Council Tax Reduction Scheme:** An exercise is commencing to establish any potential over recoveries of income from council tax or underspends in the Council Tax Reduction Scheme payments. Forecast information should be available early November 2018 and will be included in a future report to this Forum.
- 5.13. **Transfers to Reserves:** There have been no further transfers from Resource budgets to the Transfer to Reserves budget line since the £4.898 million for Teachers plus Classroom Support and Employability reported in the 15 August 2018 report.
- 5.14. **Probable Outturn Forecast to 31 March 2019**: At this early stage in the financial year, the forecast to 31 March 2019 is showing an underspend of £6.300 million after the agreed transfer to reserves of £4.898 million previously reported in relation to Teachers plus Classroom Support and Employability for Early Years and Social Care (5.13).
- 5.15. The forecast underspend of £6.300 million reflects underspends in Superannuation on Overtime (section 5.3), Loan Charges (section 5.4) and Pupil Equity Fund (section 5.5), offset by the overspend within Social Work Resources in relation to residential school/external placements and fostering placements (section 5.10). This figure will updated as more information becomes available during the year.
- 5.16. Of the forecast underspend of £6.300 million, only the Pupil Equity Fund element of £2.300 million is ring-fenced. The remaining £4.000 million is uncommitted and therefore can be considered for use in the 2019/2020 Revenue Budget Strategy.

#### 5.17. Additional General Revenue Grant

Social Work Resources have been notified of additional General Revenue Grant by the Scottish Government in relation to Whole System Approach to Youth Justice – Reinvigoration and Extension Funding of £0.025 million for both 2018/2019 and 2019/2020. The £0.025 million for 2018/2019 has been added to the Social Work budget shown in Appendix A.

#### 5.18. Other Funding

Since the last report, Social Work Resources have been notified of £0.110 million of grant funding from the Scottish Legal Aid Board in respect of the Support for the New Mandatory Reconsideration Process introduced by the Department of Works and Pensions. This has been included in the budget figures in Appendix A. Social Work Resources have also been notified of funding of £0.318 million from the Scottish Government for Scottish Attainment Challenge – Care Experienced Children and Young People. This will be added to the budget once the projects have been agreed.

# 6. Housing Revenue Account Position

6.1. As at 17 August 2018, Appendix B of the report shows a breakeven position against the phased budget on the Housing Revenue Account. The forecast to 31 March 2019 on the Housing Revenue Account is a breakeven position.

#### 7. Trading Operations

- 7.1. Included within the overspend position for the General Fund Revenue Account in 5.2 above are the Trading Operations.
- 7.2. As at 17 August 2018, the actual surpluses achieved by the Trading Operations total £4.314 million, representing a breakeven position against the phased budget. These are detailed in Appendix C of the report.

## 8. Other Implications

- 8.1. The main risk associated with the Council's Revenue Budget is that there is an overspend. The risk has been assessed as low given the detailed budget management applied across the Resources. The risk is managed through four weekly Budget Monitoring Meetings at which any variance is analysed. In addition, the probable outturn exercise ensures early warning for corrective action to be taken where appropriate.
- 8.2. There are no implications for sustainability in terms of the information contained in this report.

#### 9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.
- 9.2. There is also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

# Paul Manning Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

26 September 2018

# Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

♦ Accountable, Effective, Efficient and Transparent

#### **Previous References**

♦ Executive Committee 27 June 2018

## **List of Background Papers**

♦ Financial ledger and budget monitoring results to 17 August 2018

#### **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Jackie Taylor, Head of Finance (Strategy)

Ext: 5637 (Tel: 01698 455637)

E-mail: jackie.taylor@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

3.687

Under

#### SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## **Revenue Budget Monitoring Report**

# Period Ended 17 August 2018 (No.6)

<u>Committee</u>	Annual Budget	Forecast	Annual Forecast Variance	Budget Proportion to 17/08/18	Actual to Period 6 17/08/18	Variance to 17/08/18	
Departments:	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Community and Enterprise Resources	114.983	114.983	0.000	38.066	38.066	0.000	_
Facilities Streets and Waste (Inc. Support)	62.883	62.883	0.000	19.089	19.119	(0.030)	over
Environmental Services (Inc. Projects)	3.963	3.963	0.000	1.288	1.258	0.030	under
Leisure and Culture Services	18.905	18.905	0.000	9.004	9.004	0.000	-
Planning and Economic Development	2.920	2.920	0.000	1.030	1.030	0.000	-
Roads	26.312	26.312	0.000	7.655	7.655	0.000	_
Education Resources	308.044	305.744	2.300	102.074	101.842	0.232	under
Finance and Corporate Resources	32.890	32.890	0.000	13.809	13.809	0.000	-
Finance Services	14.974	14.974	0.000	5.200	5.061	0.139	under
Audit and Compliance Services	0.347	0.347	0.000	0.224	0.225	(0.001)	over
Information Technology Services	4.198	4.198	0.000	2.947	2.988	(0.041)	over
Communications and Strategy Services	0.977	0.977	0.000	0.519	0.598	(0.079)	over
Administration and Licensing Services	4.392	4.392	0.000	2.114	2.107	0.007	under
Personnel Services	8.002	8.002	0.000	2.805	2.830	(0.025)	over
Housing and Technical Resources	18.418	18.418	0.000	8.852	8.852	0.00Ó	-
Housing Services	7.478	7.478	0.000	2.593	2.593	0.000	_
Property Services	10.940	10.940	0.000	6.259	6.259	0.000	-
Social Work Resources	151.390	152.390	(1.000)	62.140	62.607	(0.467)	over
Performance and Support Services	8.731	8.731	0.000	2.587	2.587	0.000	-
Children and Families	29.677	30.677	(1.000)	11.445	11.907	(0.462)	over
Adults and Older People	111.888	111.888	0.000	48.122	48.179	(0.057)	over
Justice and Substance Misuse	1.094	1.094	0.000	(0.014)	(0.066)	0.052	under
Joint Boards	2.378	2.378	0.000	0.755	0.755	0.000	-
	628.103	626.803	1.300	225.696	225.931	(0.235)	over
<u>Committee</u>	Annual Budget	Forecast	Annual Forecast	Budget Proportion	Actual to Period 6	Variance to	
			Variance	to 17/08/18	17/08/18	17/08/18	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Service Departments Total	628.103	626.803	1.300	225.696	225.931	(0.235)	over
Trading Accounts Surplus	(11.941)	(11.941)	0.000	(4.314)	(4.314)	0.000	-
CFCR	0.522	0.522	0.000	0.522	0.522	0.000	-
Loan Charges	57.780	53.280	4.500	24.763	21.341	3.422	under
Corporate Items	4.875	4.375	0.500	0.559	0.059	0.500	under
Transfer to Reserves	4.898	4.898	0.000	4.898	4.898	0.000	-
Total Expenditure	684.237	677.937	6.300	252.124	248.437	3.687	under
Council Tax	145.758	145.758	0.000	62.468	62.468	0.000	-
Less: Council Tax Reduction Scheme	(19.370)	(19.370)	0.000	(8.301)	(8.301)	0.000	-
Net Council Tax	126.388	126.388	0.000	54.167	54.167	0.000	-
General Revenue Grant	251.289	251.289	0.000	95.665	95.665	0.000	-
Non Domestic Rates	295.500	295.500	0.000	113.654	113.654	0.000	-
Transfer from Reserves	11.060	11.060	0.000	11.060	11.060	0.000	-
Total Income	684.237	684.237	0.000	274.546	274.546	0.000	-

0.000

(6.300)

6.300

(22.422)

(26.109)

Net Expenditure / (Surplus)

#### **Revenue Budget Monitoring Report**

## Period Ended 17 August 2018 (No.6)

Budget Category	Annual Budget	Forecast for Year	Annual Forecast Variance	Budget Proportion to 17/08/18	Actual to Period 6 17/08/18	Variance to 17/08/18	
Service Departments:	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
<b>Expenditure</b>							
Employee Cost	415.145	415.145	0.000	146.825	146.591	0.234	under
Property Costs	49.525	49.525	0.000	12.546	12.601	(0.055)	over
Supplies and Services	35.723	33.423	2.300	9.659	9.629	0.030	under
Transport Costs	21.714	21.714	0.000	8.900	8.933	(0.033)	over
Administration Costs	11.273	11.273	0.000	3.847	3.864	(0.017)	over
Payments to Other Bodies	51.062	51.562	(0.500)	19.056	19.479	(0.423)	over
Payments to Contractors	183.357	183.857	(0.500)	65.979	66.109	(0.130)	over
Transfer Payments	2.946	2.946	0.000	1.869	1.927	(0.058)	over
Housing Benefits	89.417	89.417	0.000	30.915	30.591	0.324	under
Financing Charges (controllable)	2.051	2.051	0.000	0.729	0.699	0.030	under
Total	862.213	860.913	1.300	300.325	300.423	(0.098)	over
Consider Departments Total	862.213	860.913	1.300	300.325	300.423	(0.000)	01/07
Service Departments Total			0.000			(0.098) 0.000	over
Trading Accounts Surplus	(11.941)	(11.941)		(4.314) 0.522	(4.314) 0.522	0.000	-
CFCR	0.522	0.522	0.000				-
Loan Charges	57.780	53.280	4.500	24.763	21.341	3.422	under
Corporate Items	4.875	4.375	0.500	0.559	0.059	0.500	under
Transfer to Reserves	4.898	4.898	0.000	4.898	4.898	0.000	-
Total Expenditure	918.347	912.047	6.300	326.753	322.929	3.824	under
Income							
Housing Benefit Subsidy	84.182	84.182	0.000	30.917	30.645	(0.272)	under rec
Other Income	149.928	149.928	0.000	43.712	43.847	0.135	over rec
Council Tax (Net of Council Tax Reduction	126.388	126.388	0.000	54.167	54.167	0.000	-
Scheme)	.20.000	.20.000	0.000	0	••	0.000	
General Revenue Grant	251.289	251.289	0.000	95.665	95.665	0.000	_
Non Domestic Rates	295.500	295.500	0.000	113.654	113.654	0.000	_
Transfer from Reserves	11.060	11.060	0.000	11.060	11.060	0.000	-
Total Income	918.347	918.347	0.000	349.175	349.038	(0.137)	under rec
						(55.)	
Net Expenditure / (Income)	0.000	(6.300)	6.300	(22.422)	(26.109)	3.687	under

#### **Revenue Budget Monitoring Report**

## Period Ended 17 August 2018 (No.6)

#### **Housing Revenue Account**

	Annual Budget	Forecast for Year	Annual Forecast Variance	Budget Proportion to 17/08/18	Actual to Period 6 17/08/18	Variance to 17/08/18		%	Note
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m			
Employee Costs	12.718	12.718	0.000	4.598	4.512	0.086	under	1.9%	1
Property Costs	42.130	42.130	0.000	14.003	14.086	(0.083)	over	(0.6%)	2
Supplies & Services	0.610	0.610	0.000	0.304	0.292	0.012	under	3.9%	
Transport & Plant	0.194	0.194	0.000	0.053	0.049	0.004	under	7.5%	
Administration Costs	5.713	5.713	0.000	0.287	0.286	0.001	under	0.3%	
Payments to Other Bodies	3.555	3.555	0.000	0.042	0.042	0.000	-	0.0%	
Payments to Contractors	0.100	0.100	0.000	0.024	0.025	(0.001)	over	(4.2%)	
Transfer Payments	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	-	n/a	
Financing Charges	23.730	23.730	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.000	-	0.0%	
Total Controllable Expenditure	88.750	88.750	0.000	19.312	19.293	0.019	under	0.1%	
Total Controllable Income	(98.948)	(98.948)	0.000	(31.772)	(31.753)	(0.019)	under rec	(0.1%)	
Transfer to/(from) Balance Sheet	(4.603)	(4.603)	0.000	(1.770)	(1.770)	0.000	-	0.0%	
Net Controllable Expenditure	(14.801)	(14.801)	0.000	(14.230)	(14.230)	0.000	-	0.0%	
Add: Non Controllable Budgets									
Financing Charges	14.801	14.801	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>-</b>	0.0%	
Total Budget	0.000	0.000	0.000	(14.230)	(14.230)	0.000	-	0.0%	

#### Variance Explanations

Employee Costs
 This underspend reflects the current turnover levels and vacancies across the service.

This overspend reflects expenditure on repairs which are demand led and will be offset by an underspend in the bad debt provision.

# Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

## Period Ended 17 August 2018 (No.6)

# Fleet Trading Operation

	Annual Budget	Forecast for Year	Annual Forecast Variance	Budget Proportion to 17/08/18	Actual to Period 6 17/08/18	Variance to 17/08/18		%	Note
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m			
Employee Costs	4.825	4.825	0.000	1.530	1.530	0.000	-	0.0%	
Property Costs	0.207	0.207	0.000	0.023	0.022	0.001	under	4.3%	
Supplies & Services	0.194	0.194	0.000	0.072	0.072	0.000	-	0.0%	
Transport & Plant	12.991	12.991	0.000	4.335	4.336	(0.001)	over	(0.0%)	
Administration Costs	0.008	0.008	0.000	0.003	0.005	(0.002)	over	(66.7%)	
Pmts to Other Bodies	0.007	0.007	0.000	0.002	0.002	0.000	-	0.0%	
Pmts to Contractors	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	-	n/a	
Transfer Payments	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	-	n/a	
Financing Charges	0.049	0.049	0.000	0.004	0.004	0.000	-	n/a	
Total Controllable Expenditure	18.281	18.281	0.000	5.969	5.971	(0.002)	over	(0.0%)	
Total Controllable Income	(21.176)	(21.176)	0.000	(7.082)	(7.084)	0.002	over recovered	0.0%	
Net Controllable Expenditure	(2.895)	(2.895)	0.000	(1.113)	(1.113)	0.000	-	0.0%	

## **Revenue Budget Monitoring Report**

#### Period Ended 17 August 2018 (No.6)

## **Roads Trading Operation**

	Annual Budget	Forecast for Year	Annual Forecast Variance	Budget Proportion to 17/08/18	Actual to Period 6 17/08/18	Variance to 17/08/18		%	Note
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m			
Employee Costs	7.996	7.996	0.000	2.509	2.453	0.056	under	2.2%	1
Property Costs	0.190	0.190	0.000	0.060	0.067	(0.007)	over	(11.7%)	
Supplies & Services	6.856	6.856	0.000	3.523	3.526	(0.003)	over	0.0%	
Transport & Plant	3.666	3.666	0.000	1.359	1.359	0.000	-	0.0%	
Administration Costs	0.121	0.121	0.000	0.054	0.056	(0.002)	over	0.0%	
Pmts to Other Bodies	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	-	0.0%	
Pmts to Contractors	2.839	2.839	0.000	1.076	1.076	0.000	-	0.3%	
Transfer Payments	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	-	n/a	
Financing Charges	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	-	n/a	
Total Controllable Expenditure	21.668	21.668	0.000	8.581	8.537	0.044	under	0.2%	
Total Controllable Income	(26.308)	(26.308)	0.000	(10.347)	(10.303)	(0.044)	under recovered	(0.1%)	2
Net Controllable Expenditure	(4.640)	(4.640)	0.000	(1.766)	(1.766)	0.000	-	0.0%	

#### Variance Explanations

**Employee Costs**The underspend relates to staff turnover during the year.

#### Income

The under recovery of income reflects the level of rechargeable works carried out to date.

**Revenue Budget Monitoring Report** 

Period Ended 17 August 2018 (No.6)

**Property Services Trading Operation** 

	Annual Budget	Forecast for Year	Annual Forecast Variance	Budget Proportion to 17/08/18	Actual to Period 6 17/08/18	Variance to 17/08/18		%	No
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m			
Employee Costs	32.594	32.594	0.000	12.295	12.188	0.107	under	0.9%	
Property Costs	1.163	1.163	0.000	0.436	0.380	0.056	under	12.8%	
Supplies & Services	12.219	12.219	0.000	4.781	4.217	0.564	under	11.8%	;
Transport & Plant	4.300	4.300	0.000	1.614	1.479	0.135	under	8.4%	
Administration Costs	3.399	3.399	0.000	1.294	1.294	0.000	-	0.0%	
Pmts to Other Bodies	2.284	2.284	0.000	0.646	0.645	0.001	under	0.2%	
Pmts to Contractors	19.160	19.160	0.000	8.075	7.025	1.050	under	13.0%	
Transfer Payments	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	-	n/a	
Financing Charges	0.107	0.107	0.000	0.020	0.011	0.009	under	45.0%	
Total Controllable Expenditure	75.226	75.228	0.000	29.161	27.239	1.922	under	6.6%	
Total Controllable Income	(79.632)	(79.632)	0.000	(30.596)	(28.674)	(1.922)	under recovered	6.3%	•
Net Controllable Expenditure	(4.406)	(4.406)	0.000	(1.435)	(1.435)	0.000	-	0.0%	

#### Variance Explanations

#### 1. Employee Costs

The underspend relates to staff turnover during the year.

#### 2. Property Costs

The underspend is due to site security costs being lower than anticipated.

#### 3. Supplies and Services

The underspend reflects the level of materials required for maintenance and contract works. This is demand led and can therefore fluctuate during the year.

#### 4. Transport and Plant

The underspend reflects the level of scaffolding required for works to date. This is demand led and can therefore fluctuate during the year.

#### 5. Payment to Contractors

The underspend reflects the level of sub-contracted work to date.

#### 6 Income

The under recovery reflects the current workload and is offset by a reduction in expenditure.