

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>03 February 2011</b>
Report by:	<b>Archibald Strang, Chief Executive</b>

Subject:	<b>Information Requested from Resources</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ present information received from Resources in response to issues raised at the last meeting of the Forum held on 9 December 2010.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Forum is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the responses received from Resources be considered.

## 3. Background

3.1. At the meeting of the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum held on 9 December 2010, variances across Resources and the explanation for those variances were considered. Information in relation to the issues highlighted was to be provided to this meeting of the Forum

## 4. Information Requested from Resources

### 4.1. Community Resources – Fees and Charges

- 4.1.1. In relation to Community Resources, a query was raised with regards to the budget lines Fees and Charges General within Environmental and Strategic Services. The explanation for the under recovery of income was that the level of fixed penalties issued was less than anticipated.
- 4.1.2. Details were requested as to why this income is not being recovered and whether it relates to the same areas as last years efficiency savings exercise which highlighted that more could be done in terms of fixed penalties to combat nuisances such as dog fouling and litter.

### 4.2. Corporate Resources – Physiotherapy

- 4.2.1. In relation to Corporate Resources, a query was raised in respect of payments to other bodies and the purpose of the payments made.
- 4.2.2. Clarification was sought on why there are two payments to two different providers for staff physiotherapy services.

### 4.3. Finance and Information Technology Resources – Payments to Other Bodies – Scotland Excel

- 4.3.1. In relation to Finance and Information Technology Resources, a query was raised in respect of payments to other bodies and the purpose of the payments made.

4.3.2. Details were requested on the Council's level of procurement activity carried out through the Scotland Excel Buying Consortium.

4.4. **Community Resources – Capital Programme – Halls Improvement**

4.4.1. In relation to Community Resources, a query was raised with regards to the Halls Improvement Programme.

4.4.2. Details were requested on the reason for the £0.155 million reduction to the Halls Improvement budget following a revised programme of work.

4.5. **Payments to Other Bodies**

4.5.1. A further query was raised in response to the paper issued in respect of the Payments to Other Bodies made by the Council which are greater than £10,000. Members asked for clarification on what the non-statutory payments were for in relation to Education Resources.

4.5.2. The response to this query is the subject of a paper to be issued separately.

5. **Employee Implications**

5.1. None.

6. **Financial Implications**

6.1. None.

7. **Other Implications**

7.1. None.

8. **Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

8.1. There is no requirement to undertake an equality impact assessment or consultation in respect of the content of this report.

**Archibald Strang**  
**Chief Executive**

17 January 2011

**Link(s) to Council Objectives/Improvement Themes/Values**

- ◆ Efficient and effective use of resources
- ◆ Accountable, effective and efficient

**Previous References**

Minutes of 9 December 2010

**List of Background Papers**

None

**Contact for Further Information**

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

Paul Manning, Head of Finance Services

Ext: 4532 (Tel: 01698 454532)

E-mail: paul.manning@southlanarkshire.gov.uk



**Community Resources**  
Executive Director **Norrie Anderson**  
**Support Services**

## Memo

**To:** Paul Manning  
Head of Finance Services

**Our ref:**  
**Your ref:** LO'H 126

**cc:**

**If calling ask for:** Alistair McKinnon

**From:** Alistair McKinnon  
Head of Support Services  
(Community Resources)

**Phone:** 01698 454700

**Date:** 14 January 2011

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**Subject: Resources Scrutiny Forum Query – Fees and Charges General**

At the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum meeting of 9 December 2010, an agenda item looked at the variances across Resources and the explanation for those variances. In relation to Community Resources, a query was raised with regards to the budget lines Fees and Charges – General (£39k under recovered) within Environmental and Strategic Services.

Whilst the Service has increased the number of officers, at any given time, actively undertaking fixed penalty notice regulatory work it should be noted that this increased activity has not been matched by a corresponding increase in the number of legislative breaches observed by the regulatory staff involved in this type of work. In addition it should also be noted that there is an ongoing publicity campaign aimed at encouraging people to refrain from low level environmental crime such as dropping litter, failing to clean up after their dog etc. and this may be having the desired positive effect of encouraging people to behave responsibly and not participate in the aforementioned low level environmental crimes.

If you require any further information, please contact Mohammed Zabir on extension 504

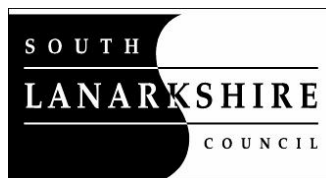
Alistair McKinnon  
Head of Support Services



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**Corporate Resources**  
Executive Director **Robert McIlwain**  
**Administration Services**

## Memo

<b>To:</b>	Paul Manning Head of Finance	<b>Our ref:</b>	RML/FRSF
<b>cc:</b>		<b>Your ref:</b>	LO'H Memo 125
<b>From:</b>	Rosemary Lake Administration Manager	<b>If calling ask for:</b>	Rosemary Lake
		<b>Phone:</b>	01698 454658
		<b>Date:</b>	18 January 2011

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### **Subject: Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum Query - Physiotherapy**

At the meeting of the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum held on 9 December 2010 consideration was given to payments made to other bodies and the purpose of the payments made. In relation to Corporate Resources, clarification was requested on payments made to 2 different providers for staff physiotherapy services.

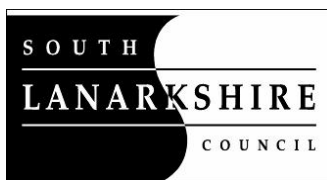
The payments made to the 2 different providers arise from the fact that the contract for the provision of the staff physiotherapy service changed over from the previous provider at the end of their contract on 31 March 2009 to Physicare from 1 April 2009. Payments would have been made in the 2009/2010 financial year for services provided by the previous provider prior to 31 March 2009.



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**Finance and Information Technology Resources**  
Executive Director **Linda Hardie**  
**Procurement Services**

## Memo

**To:** Paul Manning  
Head of Finance Services

**cc:**

**From:** Peter Field  
Procurement Manager

**Our ref:**

**Your ref:**

**If calling ask for:** Paul Manning

**Phone:** 01698 454532

**Date:** 19 January 2010

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**Subject: Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum Query – Payment to Other Bodies – Scotland Excel**

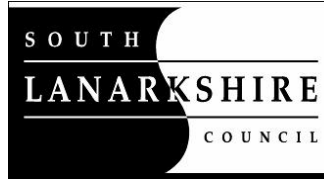
The Chair of the Forum has requested that procurement provide detail on the Council's level of procurement activity carried out through the Scotland Excel Buying Consortium.

The table below gives details on the procurement contracts which were operated through Scotland Excel, providing actual spend for 2009/10 and an estimated spend figure for 2010/11.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Annual Spend</b>
2009/10	£10,937,811
2010/11	£10,843,190 (estimated)

It is worth noting that there is an expectation on spend within Scotland Excel contracts increasing as greater compliance is achieved within the Council. However, this may be neutralised by spending reductions within the Council given the present financial constraints.





**Community Resources**  
Executive Director **Norrie Anderson**  
**Support Services**

## Memo

**To:** Paul Manning  
Head of Finance Services

**Our ref:**  
**Your ref:** LO'H 127

**cc:**

**If calling ask for:** Alistair McKinnon

**Phone:** 01698 454700

**From:** Alistair McKinnon  
Head of Support Services  
(Community Resources)

**Date:** 23 December 2010

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### **Subject: Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum Query – Capital - Halls Improvement**

I refer to your memo dated 13 December 2010 regarding the above and would confirm that this budget will be still be used to implement works within Community Halls.

Due to changes in legislation and Health & Safety the Council is required to implement a programme of surveys, testing and remediation on all properties. It is proposed that the £155,000 is used to implement these works within the Hall portfolio. The budget will be used to undertake fixed electrical, asbestos, water quality and boiler maintenance works.

I trust this will be sufficient for your purposes but if you require any further information, please give me a call.

Alistair McKinnon  
Head of Support Services