

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>3 March 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 3 February 2011.

## 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 3 February 2011, 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 - Materials

4.1.1. In relation to Community Resources, a query was raised with regards to the budget line Materials within Land Services. The explanation for the underspend was it is due to less than anticipated expenditure on materials in relation to segregated waste and glass collection.

4.1.2. Details were requested as to the reasons for the underspend, particularly highlighting the types of purchase being made.

### 4.2. *Housing and Technical Resources - Subsidy*

4.2.1. In relation to Housing and Technical Resources, a query was raised in relation to the under recovery on the budget line Fees and Charges General within Finance, Benefits and Revenues Services. The explanation for the under recovery is due to a reduction in subsidy paid by the Department for Works and Pensions for uncashed cheques in prior years.

4.2.2. Clarification was sought on the reason for the under recovery.

#### **4.3. Capital Programme**

4.3.1. In relation to the capital programme, clarification was sought on 2 projects which are currently running behind programme:

- Dunedin Recreation Area
- St Andrews and St Brides School Sports Pitch

4.3.2. Details were requested on the progress of these projects.

#### **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**

18 February 2011

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

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

#### **Previous References**

Minutes of 3 February 2011

#### **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:** LAFS  
**Your ref:** LO'H Memo 130

**cc:**

**If calling ask for:** Alistair McKinnon  
**Phone:** 01698 454700  
**Date:** 15 February 2011

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

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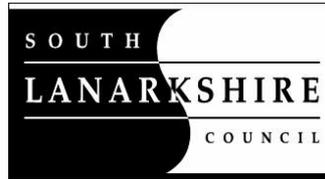
**Subject: Resources Scrutiny Forum Query – Materials**

At the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum meeting of 3 February 2011, 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 line Materials which showed an underspend of £178,000 within Land Services.

Currently spend is behind the profiled budget but Waste Services have confirmed that orders have been raised for the supply of sacks and bins that will realign spend before 31 March 2011.

If you require any further information, please contact Mohammed Zabir on extension 5045.

Alistair McKinnon  
Head of Support Services



**Housing and Technical Resources**  
Executive Director **Lindsay Freeland**  
**Support Services**

## Memo

**To:** Paul Manning  
Head of Finance

**cc:**

**From:** Margaret Hogg  
Finance Adviser

**Our ref:**

**Your ref:** LO'H Memo 131

**If calling ask for:** Margaret Hogg

**Phone:** 01698 454921

**Date:** 10 February 2011

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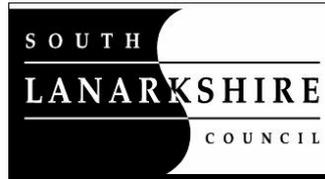
**Subject: Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum Query – Subsidy Income**

In response to your memo dated 7 February 2011, I can confirm that £43,000 of this is under recovery is in relation to a prior year audit adjustment to the housing benefit subsidy for un-cashed housing benefit cheques, which the Council does not receive subsidy on. This has been accrued in the 2009/10 financial accounts and this posting requires to be moved to the subjective where the accrual is held and once this is done will no longer show an under recovery.

Two other areas of under recovery exist within this line, one for £25,000 for an under recovery of costs for rent and service costs to a third party for a sub-let within our office premises. This sub-let is currently vacant and alternative uses for this space are being explored.

The remaining £28,000 is an under recovery of fees in relation to the HomeImprove Service. The budget was set in June 2009, prior to the final scheme being approved by the Council. The final Scheme of Assistance has altered the fee structure for this service, resulting in a sliding scale of fees which has reduced the income generated by this service. This is being managed within the overall budget for this service.

If you require any additional information, do not hesitate to contact me.



**Housing and Technical Resources**  
Executive Director **Lindsay Freeland**  
**Property Services**

## Memo

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

**Our ref:**  
**Your ref:**

**cc:**

**If calling ask for:** Ian Douglas

**From:** Ian Douglas  
Project Services Manager

**Phone:** 01698 456720  
**Date:** 14 February 2011

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### **Subject: Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum Query – Capital**

Regarding the queries raised at the Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum meeting on 3 February 2011, please find detailed below the update position on the sports pitches at St Andrews and St Brides and the Dundedin Recreation Area as requested.

#### **St Andrew and St Brides**

Following the liquidation of the original contractor, a tender for the completion of the project has been issued and is due to be returned on the 18 February 2011. The tenders will then be analysed, and thereafter, there is normally a period of 4-6 weeks to allow for acceptance, mobilisation, and commencement of work. Upon completion of the tender analysis, I will provide details on the proposed start date for completion of the work.

#### **Dunedin Recreation Area**

Work on the project is almost complete, with some minor tar work and bollards to finish off. The pitches will be monitored during the spring period to ascertain the germination and growth of the grass, with a view to the overall acceptance of the playing areas over the summer.

Please come back to me if you require anything further on the above, and I will keep you informed of progress on the St Andrews tender process.