

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 16th JUNE 2023

Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23

THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE IS ASKED TO:

- Receive the Authority's Corporate Budget Monitoring Report, the Chief Executive and Corporate Services departmental reports and the Savings Monitoring report and considers the budgetary position.

Reasons:

- To provide Scrutiny with an update on the latest budgetary position, as at 28th February 2023, in respect of 2022/23.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDERS:

- Cllr. Darren Price (Leader)
- Cllr. Alun Lenny (Resources)
- Cllr. Phillip Hughes (Organisation and Workforce)

Directorate: Corporate Services Name of Director of Service: Chris Moore Report Author: Chris Moore	Designation: Director of Corporate Services	Tel No. / E-Mail Address: 01267 224120 CMoore@cararthenshire.gov.uk
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 16th JUNE 2023

Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23

The Financial Monitoring report is presented as follows:

Revenue Budgets

Appendix A – Authority Corporate Budget Monitoring Report

The revenue budget monitoring reports as at 28th February 2023 are attached and indicate that:

COUNCIL FUND REVENUE ACCOUNT (Appendix A)

Overall, the monitoring report forecasts an overspend for the year at departmental level of £6.159m, with a forecast underspend on the Authority's net revenue budget of £470k.

Across the whole authority, the largest driver remains the effect of nationally negotiated pay offers at much higher levels than budgeted, for which additional governmental funding has not been provided. The effect of the pay award is reflected in departmental budgets, contributing to the significant overspend position. The remaining corporate contingency budget has been held to provide a partial mitigation against this in the current year budget, whilst the full effect of the award has been built into the 2023/24 budget which was approved by County Council in March 2023. The overspend showing for schools incorporates the additional £1.5m which Cabinet agreed to provide to schools at its meeting of 27 March 2023 in respect of unfunded 2022/23 NJC and Teacher pay awards affecting school budgets.

In addition, there remain:

- overspends in service areas driven by increased demand combined with reduced grant funding versus previous years, particularly Learning Disabilities and Children's Service
- a sustained reduction in commercial income, covering car parks, leisure centres and school meals
- capital financing underspends due to scheme delays and reduced need to borrow. The inherent underspend is £3.5m, against which £750k direct has been committed to cover the tendered price increase required to proceed with the Oriel Mryddin project, which attracts c. £1m national lottery match funding.

In line with our existing policies, forecast departmental overspends are met out of departmental reserves, where available.

Appendix B

Chief Executive and Corporate Services detailed variances for information purposes only.

Capital Budgets

Corporate Capital Programme Monitoring 2022/23

The current capital programme is based on information available as at the end of February 2023. It was reported as part of the December monitoring cycle that the £56,878k had been slipped to future years and has been incorporated into the new Capital Programme 2023-2028, which brought the general fund working budget more in-line with the projected outturn for the year. HRA budgets remain unchanged.

Appendix C shows a forecasted net spend of £54,673k compared with a working net budget of £93,787k, giving a -£39,115k variance (£14,848k General Fund and £24,267k HRA).

Some of the budgets have also been amended to account for differences in actual grant allocations compared with the anticipated allocations at the time the programme was approved, and new grant awards received during the year to date.

Appendix D

Details the main variances within each department.

New Projects and virements to note and approve for the current year:

Place and Infrastructure:

A new ULEV grant relating to part funding for the purchase of three new electric refuse collection vehicles has been awarded from the Welsh Government. It is reflected as part of the Strategic Waste project.

Appendix E

Details a full list of Chief Executive and Regeneration schemes, respectively. There are no Corporate Services schemes.

Savings Report

Appendix F

The Savings Monitoring report.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES – A list of the main variances is attached to this report.

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **Chris Moore** **Director of Corporate Services**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES

3. Finance

Revenue

Overall, the Authority is forecasting an underspend of £470k. Corporate Performance & Resources Services are projecting to be under the approved budget by £1,862k.

Capital

The capital programme shows a variance of -£39,115k against the 2022/23 approved budget.

Savings Report

The expectation is that at year end £417k of Managerial savings against a target of £484k are forecast to be delivered. There were no Policy savings put forward.

7. Physical Assets

The expenditure on the capital programme will result in the addition of new assets or enhancement to existing assets on the authority's asset register.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE / CONSULTED? YES	(Include any observations here)
Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information	
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:	
Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
2022/23 Budget	Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen
2022-27 Capital Programme	Online via corporate website – Minutes of County Council Meeting 2 nd March 2022