

**CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 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 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, in respect of 2022/23.

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDERS:**

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

<b>Directorate:</b> Corporate Services	<b>Designation:</b>	<b>Tel No. / E-Mail Address:</b>
<b>Name of Director of Service:</b> Chris Moore	Director of Corporate Services	01267 224120 <a href="mailto:CMoore@cararthenshire.gov.uk">CMoore@cararthenshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Report Author:</b> Chris Moore		

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 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**

Overall, the monitoring report forecasts an overspend for the year at departmental level of £4,844k, with a forecast overspend on the Authority's net revenue budget of £3,473k.

At a high level this is due to a combination of:

- nationally negotiated pay offers at much higher levels than budgeted, for which additional governmental funding has not been provided. High level estimates are that this could be £7.1m above budget. This is offset by an estimated £0.8m due to the reversal of the health and social care levy from November 2022, which reduces the forecast for employers National Insurance contributions
- 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

As part of the 2022/23 budget setting process the Authority agreed a £3m in year contingency budget which is currently held centrally which provides a partial offset to the general pressures above. £200k has been used to offset the increase in fuel prices impacting on School Transport.

### **Appendix B**

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

### **Capital Budgets**

#### **Appendix C – Corporate Capital Programme Monitoring 2022/23**

The current capital programme is based on information available as at the end of October 2022.

**Appendix C** shows a forecasted net spend of £64,369k compared with a working net budget of £148,334k, giving a -£83,965k variance. This is a significant reappraisal of the forecasted outturn to that reported following the June Monitoring. This is mainly owing to reprofiling and slippage of City Deal, Towy Valley Path, MEP and HRA programme. In part, some of the slippage is because of contractor capacity issues.

The net budget includes the original H.R.A. and General Fund capital programmes approved by Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> March and slippage from 2021/22. 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:**

##### **Leisure:**

Savings of £35k and £80k against the budgets of the County Museum Roof and Carmarthenshire Archives – Y Stordy, respectively have been transferred to Oriel Myrddin. All projects are reported as part of the Libraries and Museums main project.

A £130k revenue contribution to complete the works at Parc Howard Museum. This takes the approved budget for this project in 2022/23 to £262k.

An award of £180k Access Improvement grant funding has been received for the Morfa Bacas Path project. This funding replaces the Active Travel funding which was withdrawn because of delays to the project.

##### **Education and Children:**

A new award of £2,198k for 2022/23 funding for the roll-out of free school meals for primary aged children.

Additional capital funding from the Welsh Government for works at the Carmarthen Community Education Centre of £325k.

The budget against the Strade Welsh Language Immersion Centre has been temporarily removed because it is still awaiting an official award from the Welsh Government. It was previously uploaded based on an indicative award in error.

A total of £658k childcare places grant has been withdrawn by the Welsh Government because of delays with two schemes. No expenditure has been incurred against these schemes by the authority.

##### **Regeneration:**

Additional grant funding for the Cross Hands East Plot 3 Development of £3,900k has been awarded and received from the Welsh Government which covers the additional costs of the project. The Authority has not had to provide additional match funding to secure this grant.

Transformation Strategy Fund budget has now been allocated to specific projects within the Regeneration capital programme, namely:

£100k Cross Hands East Plot 3 Development, £1,400k to Pendine Attractor Project in gap funding which will be reimbursed by insurance monies in future, £261k to the Transforming Towns budget.

### **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 overspend of £3,473k.

Corporate Performance & Resources Services are projecting to be under the approved budget by £1,411k.

#### Capital

The capital programme shows a variance of -£83,965k 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 <sup>nd</sup> March 2022