
Report To:	Policy & Resources Committee	Date:	19 November 2019
Report By:	Chief Executive, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer	Report No:	FIN/102/19/AP/AE
Contact Officer:	Angela Edmiston	Contact No:	01475 712143
Subject:	Policy & Resources Committee 2019/20 Revenue & Capital Budget – Period 6 to 30 September 2019		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the 2019/20 Revenue and Capital position as at period 6, 30 September 2019.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The total revised Committee budget for 2019/20 is £15,750,000. This excludes Earmarked Reserves of £2,740,000.
- 2.2 The latest projection, excluding Earmarked Reserves, is an underspend of £1,488,000 (9.44%), a reduction in spend of £421,000 since Period 4. Movement in projected outturn from the last Committee is mainly due to the over-recovery of Prior Years Council Tax income and less call on the Pay Inflation Contingency.
- 2.3 The main reasons for this underspend are:
- a) £150,000 projected underspend of non-pay inflation contingency
 - b) £700,000 projected underspend of pay inflation contingency
 - c) £250,000 over recovery of Internal Resource Interest
 - d) £200,000 over recovery Council Tax Previous Years
- 2.4 The Earmarked Reserves for 2019/20 totals £2,540,000 of which £1,381,000 is projected to be spent in the current financial year. To date expenditure of £721,000 (52.21%) has been incurred which is £416,000 more than the phased budgeted spend to date. It is to be noted that Earmarked Reserves reported in Appendix 4 excludes Earmarked Reserves for Asset Plans and Strategic Funds.
- 2.5 The Common Good Fund is projecting a surplus fund balance at 31 March 2020 of £75,130.
- 2.6 The Policy and Resources capital budget is £2.126m which means that the total projected spend is on budget. Expenditure at 30 September 2019 is 21.02% of 2019/20 projected spend. Net advancement of £94,000 (22.65%) is being reported.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the 2019/20 Revenue Budget projected underspend of £1,488,000 as at Period 6, 30 September 2019.
- 3.2 It is recommended that the Committee notes the projected 2019/20 surplus of £48,600 for the Common Good Fund.
- 3.3 It is recommended that the Committee notes the current projected capital position.

Aubrey Fawcett
Chief Executive

Alan Puckrin
Chief Financial Officer

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities
& Organisational Development

Scott Allan
Corporate Director
Environment, Regeneration &
Resources

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the current position of the 2019/20 Revenue and Capital budgets and to highlight the main issues contributing to the projected underspend of £1,488,000 which is an increase in the underspend reported to the last Committee of £421,000.

5.0 2019/20 CURRENT REVENUE POSITION

- 5.1 The current projection is an underspend of £1,488,000.
- 5.2 The following material variances relate to the Environment, Regeneration & Resources Directorate:

Finance - £404,000 underspend

Employee Costs: £90,000 projected underspend mainly due to additional turnover savings. This is a £51,000 reduction in costs since the last Committee due to delays in recruiting finance posts.

Other Expenditure: There is an underspend of £165,000 projected, a reduction in spend of £135,000 from the last Committee. This is mainly due to an underspend in the Housing Benefits Bad Debt Provision of £120,000, not previously reported. This is offset by an under recovery in ongoing recoveries, see income below. The remaining underspend is made up of various small underspends, none of which are material, totalling £45,000.

Income: An over-recovery of £141,000 is being projected, which is an increase in income of £116,000 from last Committee. The major variances are as follows: (a) An over recovery of Council Tax prior years income, not previously reported, of £200,000; (b) An under recovery in recoveries of Housing Benefit overpayments of £130,000. This is mainly offset by an underspend in the bad debt provision, see other expenditure above. These lines will be reviewed as part of the budget process; and (c) Income received to offset additional employee costs incurred due to staff members undertaking Early Years Education courses of £27,000.

Legal & Property - £2,000 overspend

Projected variances are all below £20,000.

- 5.3 The following relates to the Education, Communities & Organisational Development Directorate:

Organisational Development, Policy & Communications - £4,000 overspend

Various projected overspends, all of which are below £10,000.

- 5.4 The following material variances relate to the Miscellaneous budget.

Miscellaneous – £1,100,000 underspend

Non-Pay Inflation Contingency: There is a projected underspend of £150,000 based on current estimated calls on inflation contingency. This is an £100,000 reduction in underspend since the last Committee due to uncertainty on potential cost pressures arising from Brexit.

Pay Inflation: Currently projecting £700,000 underspend arising from a reduced call on Teachers Pay Inflation due to a higher Scottish Government contribution towards pay and a delay in the implementation of increases in teachers' superannuation.

Internal Resource Interest: Projecting a £250,000 over-recovery of income based on 2018/19 out-turn after a budget increase of £100,000 in 2019/20. An increase of £250,000 has already been factored into the 2020/21 Revenue Budget.

5.5 The following position relates to the Chief Executive budget.

Chief Executive – £10,000 overspend

Projected variances are all below £10,000.

6.0 2019/20 CURRENT CAPITAL POSITION

6.1 Appendix 6 details the Capital position at 30 September 2019. Expenditure to date is £107,000 (21.02% of the 2019/20 projected spend).

6.2 The current budget for the period to 31 March 2023 is £2,126,000. The current projection is £2,126,000 which means the total projected spend is on budget.

6.3 The approved budget for 2019/20 is £415,000. The Committee is projecting to spend £509,000 with net advancement of £94,000 (22.65%) mainly due to advancement within the Rolling Replacement of PC's and the Server & Switch Replacement Programme.

6.4 **PC Refresh Programme** – ICT implements a six year desktop and laptop refresh strategy. Following the successful Schools Estate programme, the 2019/20 refresh programme has targeted laptop devices within the corporate estate targeting devices for staff within the Health and Social Care Partnership, particularly those staff required to work in a more flexible and mobile environment. To date in 2019/20, £73,000 has been spent through the Scottish Government National Framework for mobile devices. This represents the best overall value for the procurement of IT Equipment and guarantees supply and support of identified models for the period of the contract.

6.5 **Server and Switch Replacement** – Replacement or upgrade of the Council's central file storage services is currently being evaluated and will be implemented in line with a Cloud Migration Strategy to improve resilience and availability of systems in 2019/20. To date in 2019/20, £24,000 has been spent.

6.6 **Whiteboard Projector/Refresh** – A number of whiteboard projectors within the school estate are coming to the end of their useful lifecycle or are no longer available for replacement in the event of equipment failure. Devices are replaced "as and when" they fail and are subject to budgetary availability. Migration away from traditional projector/screen configuration to all one LED active panels, where possible, is being investigated. £5,000 has been invested in this programme with £20,000 spend to date.

6.7 **Modernisation Fund** – As previously reported, two Business Cases for investment as part of the Council's Digital Strategy have been approved. Citizens Account Revenues will allow Council Tax payers to update aspects of their account on line. It is expected to go live in January 2020. In addition a major upgrade to the CRM system is in progress. Once in place it will allow the implementation of various "book and pay" tasks on line. It is hoped that the first phase will be complete late 2019.

7.0 VIREMENT

7.1 There are no virements this committee cycle.

8.0 EARMARKED RESERVES

8.1 Appendix 4 gives a detailed breakdown of the current earmarked reserves position. Total funding is £2,540,000 of which £1,381,000 is projected to be spent in 2019/20 and the remaining balance of £1,159,000 to be carried forward to 2020/21 and beyond. It can be seen that expenditure of £721,000 has been achieved which is £416,000 more than the phased budgeted spend to date and represents 52.2% of the annual projected spend. This is due to the Pay & Grading cost being paid earlier than phased.

A further £500,000 was agreed at the August Policy & Resources Committee for a Spend to Save Earmarked Reserve with the majority of spend being incurred in future years.

9.0 COMMON GOOD FUND

9.1 The Common Good Fund is projecting a surplus in 2019/20 of £48,600 which will result in a Fund Balance of £75,130 by 31 March 2020.

10.0 IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Finance

All financial implications are discussed in detail within the report above.

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

10.2 Legal

There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

10.3 Human Resources

There are no specific human resources implications arising from this report.

10.4 Equalities

(a) Equalities

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	Yes	See attached appendix
X	No	This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO

10.5 **Repopulation**

There are no repopulation issues arising from this report.

11.0 **CONSULTATIONS**

11.1 The Chief Executive, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Chief Financial Officer have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

12.0 **CONCLUSIONS**

12.1 That the Committee note the 2019/20 projected underspend of £1,488,000 for the Policy and Resources Committee as at Period 6, 30 September 2019.

12.2 That the Committee note the current projected Capital position.

12.3 That the Committee note the projected surplus of £48,600 of the Common Good.

13.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

13.1 There are no background papers for this report.

Policy & Resources Budget Movement - 2019/20**Period 6: 1st April - 30th September 2019**

Service	Approved Budget	Movements			Revised Budget	
	2019/20 £000	Inflation £000	Virement £000	Supplementary Budgets £000	Transferred to EMR £000	2019/20 £000
Finance	7,933	70			(300)	7,703
Legal	1,860	2				1,862
Organisational Development, HR & Communications	2,061	0				2,061
Chief Exec	318	0				318
Miscellaneous	6,053	(1,617)	(630)			3,806
Totals	<u>18,225</u>	<u>(1,545)</u>	<u>(630)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(300)</u>	<u>15,750</u>

Supplementary Budget Detail

£000

Inflation

Miscellaneous Inflation breakdown:

Miscellaneous Pay Inflation

(890)

Miscellaneous Non Pay Inflation

(727)

Finance - Various annual inflationary increases

70

Legal - Contribution to COSLA inflation

2

(1,545)Virements

Contribution from Reserves - Pay & Grading Model

(630)

(630)**Total Inflation & Virements**(2,175)

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**CURRENT POSITION****PERIOD 6: 1st April 2019- 30th September 2019**

2018/19 Actual £000	SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS	Approved Budget 2019/20 £000	Revised Budget 2019/20 £000	Projected Out-turn 2019/20 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend £000
9,075	Employee Costs	8,685	8,675	8,598	(77)
534	Property Costs	564	563	564	1
673	Supplies & Services	932	980	997	17
3	Transport & Plant	4	4	4	0
1,503	Administration Costs	1,345	1,298	1,272	(26)
33,812	Payments to Other Bodies	36,048	33,777	32,768	(1,009)
(32,147)	Income	(29,353)	(29,248)	(29,642)	(394)
13,454	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	18,225	16,050	14,562	(1,488)
	Earmarked reserves		(300)	(300)	0
13,454	Total Net Expenditure excluding Earmarked Reserves	18,225	15,750	14,262	(1,488)

2018/19 Actual £000	OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS	Approved Budget 2019/20 £000	Revised Budget 2019/20 £000	Projected Out-turn 2019/20 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend £000
7,278	Finance	7,933	8,003	7,599	(404)
1,772	Legal Services	1,860	1,862	1,864	2
9,050	Total Net Expenditure Environment, Regeneration & Resources	9,793	9,865	9,464	(401)
2,075	Organisational Development, Human Resources & Communications	2,061	2,061	2,065	4
2,075	Total Net Expenditure Education, Communities & Organisational Development	2,061	2,061	2,065	4
321	Chief Executive	318	318	328	10
2,007	Miscellaneous	6,053	3,806	2,705	(1,101)
13,454	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	18,225	16,050	14,562	(1,488)
	Earmarked reserves		(300)	(300)	0
13,454	Total Net Expenditure excluding Earmarked Reserves	18,225	15,750	14,262	(1,488)

	Approved Reserves £000	Revised Reserves £000	19/20 Budget £000	Projected Spend £000	Projected Carry Forward £000
Earmarked Reserves	14,994	16,764	3,992	3,711	13,053
CFCR	0	450	450	450	0
Policy & Resources Overall Expenditure	14,994	17,214	4,442	4,161	13,053

POLICY & RESOURCES**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT****MATERIAL VARIANCES (EXCLUDING EARMARKED RESERVES)****PERIOD 6: 1st April 2019- 30th September 2019**

Outturn 2018/19 £000	Budget Heading	Budget 2019/20 £000	Proportion of Budget £000	Actual to 30/09/19 £000	Projection 2019/2020 £000	Over/(Under) Budget £000
	<u>Finance/ICT</u>					
5,207	Employee Costs	5,335	2,488	2,438	5,245	(90)
	Revenues - CT Income PY	(306)	0	0	(506)	(200)
(4)	Fin/Rev - Internal Income			(27)	(27)	(27)
(52)	Housing Benefits Bad Debt Provision	20	10	(61)	(100)	(120)
(121)	Housing Benefits Recoveries	(140)	(70)	(21)	(10)	130
	<u>Miscellaneous</u>					
1,651	Non-pay Inflation Contingency	1,042	667	667	892	(150)
3,423	Pay Inflation Contingency	1,742	(891)	(891)	1,042	(700)
(493)	Internal Resource Interest	(250)	0	0	(500)	(250)
9,611	TOTAL MATERIAL VARIANCES	7,443	2,204	2,105	6,036	(1,407)

EARMARKED RESERVES POSITION STATEMENT

COMMITTEE: Policy & Resources

Project	Lead Officer/ Responsible Manager	Total Funding	Phased Budget To Period 6	Actual To Period 6	Projected Spend	Amount to be Earmarked for 2020/21 & Beyond	Lead Officer Update
		2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20		
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Digital Strategy	Alan Puckrin	197	40	35	139	58	KANA upgarde and Revenues citizens access progressing.
Welfare Reform - Operational	Alan Puckrin	229	33	30	78	151	Being used to pay for additional temporary employees to address workload demands
Budget Development	Alan Puckrin	26	0	0	22	4	£18k to be used for the 2020/23 Budget consultation exercise.
2013/18 Revenue Contingency	Alan Puckrin	73	0	0	25	48	Projects to date include £10k Jewish Heritage Centre, £5k for Gourock Highland Games & £9k for The Great Get Together. Total uncommitted funds in 2019/20 of £22k.
Anti-Poverty Fund	Alan Puckrin	1,302	220	94	515	787	Wi Fi in Community Centres being progressed. Update on progress with other spend included in the September Welfare Reform update
GDPR	Gerry Malone	67	2	1	37	30	Estimated spend of £37k this financial year on training, ICT requirements, storage and CPD.
Develop Pay & Grading Model	Steven McNab	16	10	10	14	2	Staffing resources to assist with the development and implementation of pay and grading Model. Grade H (22.75hrs) to 31/10/19.
Pay & Grading Model - Funding for 2019/20	Alan Puckrin	630	0	551	551	79	Under utilisation of one-off EMR to fund the new Pay & Grading Model.
Total Category C to E		2,540	305	721	1,381	1,159	

COMMON GOOD FUND**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2019/20****PERIOD 6 : 1st April 2019 to 30th September 2019**

	Final Outturn 2018/19	Approved Budget 2019/20	Budget to Date 2019/20	Actual to Date 2019/20	Projected Outturn 2019/20
<u>PROPERTY COSTS</u>	26,190	22,000	11,000	23,920	29,000
Repairs & Maintenance	6,260	9,000	4,500	520	9,000
Rates	18,690	12,000	6,000	23,400	20,000
Property Insurance	1,240	1,000	500		0
<u>ADMINISTRATION COSTS</u>	15,690	7,700	800	1,190	7,700
Sundries	9,490	1,500	800	1,190	1,500
Commercial Rent Management Recharge	2,200	2,200	0		2,200
Recharge for Accountancy	4,000	4,000	0		4,000
<u>OTHER EXPENDITURE</u>	64,940	79,100	45,200	43,140	74,100
Christmas Lights Switch On	10,500	10,500	0		10,500
Gourock Highland Games	29,400	29,400	29,400	29,400	29,400
Armistice Service	6,930	8,300	0	440	8,300
Comet Festival	13,300	13,300	13,300	13,300	13,300
Fireworks	450	12,600	0		12,600
Society of the Innocents Rent Rebate	3,820	5,000	2,500	0	0
Bad Debt Provision	540				0
<u>INCOME</u>	(125,960)	(135,440)	(67,800)	(60,420)	(159,400)
Property Rental	(168,950)	(168,950)	(84,500)	(79,200)	(168,950)
Void Rents	43,140	34,010	17,000	18,780	45,050
Internal Resources Interest	(150)	(500)	(300)		(500)
Disposal of Land					(35,000)
<u>NET ANNUAL EXPENDITURE</u>	(19,140)	(26,640)	(10,800)	7,830	(48,600)
<u>EARMARKED FUNDS</u>	0	0	0	0	0
<u>TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</u>	(19,140)	(26,640)	(10,800)	7,830	(48,600)

Fund Balance as at 31st March 2019 **26,530**

Projected Fund Balance as at 31st March 2020

75,130**Notes:****1 Rates (Empty Properties)**

Rates are currently being paid on empty properties, projection reflects current Rates levels however all historic Rates costs are being examined to ensure all appropriate empty property relief has been obtained. Any subsequent credit will be included in future reports.

2 Current Empty Properties are:Vacant since:

12 Bay St
6 John Wood Street
10 John Wood Street
15 John Wood Street
17 John Wood Street
74 Port Glasgow Road

April 2015, currently being marketed
January 2019
August 2018
June 2017, currently being marketed
March 2014, currently being marketed
September 2012

COMMITTEE: POLICY & RESOURCES

<u>Project Name</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	<u>Est Total Cost</u>	<u>Actual to 31/3/19</u>	<u>Approved Budget 2019/20</u>	<u>Revised Est 2019/20</u>	<u>Actual to 30/09/19</u>	<u>Est 2020/21</u>	<u>Est 2021/22</u>	<u>Est 2022/23</u>	<u>Future Years</u>
	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>
<u>Environment, Regeneration & Resources</u>									
<u>ICT</u>									
Storage/Backup Devices/Minor Works and Projects	65	24	41	41	8	0	0	0	0
Rolling Replacement of PC's	611	267	267	344	73	0	0	0	0
Whiteboard/Projector Refresh	10	5	5	5	2	0	0	0	0
Server & Switch Replacement Programme	228	114	91	114	24	0	0	0	0
Annual Allocation	1,089	0	0	0		363	363	363	0
<u>ICT Total</u>	2,003	410	404	504	107	363	363	363	0
<u>Finance</u>									
Modernisation Fund	123	112	11	5	0	6	0		
<u>Finance Total</u>	123	112	11	5	0	6	0	0	0
TOTAL	2,126	522	415	509	107	369	363	363	0