
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	2 September 2025
Report By:	Interim Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	FIN/46/25/AE/IC
Contact Officer:	Iain Cameron	Contact No:	01475 712832
Subject:	2025/26 Communities Revenue Budget and 2024/25 Out-turn		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 ☐ For Decision ☒ For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the Communities Revenue Budget outturn for 2024/25 and the 2025/26 projected position.
- 1.3 In 2024/25, excluding the carry forward of Earmarked Reserves, there was an underspend of £56,000 within the Communities Committee. This was a reduction in expenditure of £5,000 from the projected outturn reported to Committee in May 2025. More details are provided in section 3 of the report.
- 1.4 The total Communities Revenue Budget for 2025/26, excluding Earmarked Reserves, is currently £5.724m. The latest projection is an overspend of £118,000, mainly due to the non-achievement of turnover savings within Libraries & Museum and Community Safety.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the final outturn for 2024/25 and that the Committee's Revenue Budget is currently projected to overspend in 2025/26 by £118,000.
- 2.2 It is recommended that the Committee notes that proposals to address the underlying budget pressures will be presented to future meetings of this Committee.

Angela Edmiston
Interim Chief Financial Officer

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & ODHR

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

3.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Committee of the current position of the 2025/26 Revenue Budget, as well as the 2024/25 final outturn and to highlight the main variances contributing to the £56,000 underspend for 2024/25 and the projected overspend of £118,000 for 2025/26.

3.2 The current Communities Revenue Budget for 2025/26 is £5.724m which is an increase of £1,300 from the Approved Budget. Appendix 1 provides details of the budget movement.

3.3 2024/25 OUT-TURN (£56,000 Underspend – 1.0%)

The final outturn for the Communities Revenue Budget in 2024/25, excluding Earmarked Reserves, was an under spend of £56,000. This was £5,000 less expenditure than reported to the last Committee in May 2025.

The main variations from budget and movements from the projected outturn position reported in May, were as follows:

Service	Revised Budget 2024/25 £000	Outturn 2024/25 £000	Variance to Budget £000	Variance to Budget %	May Projected Variance £000	Movement Since May Projection £000
Libraries & Museum	1,979	1,978	(1)	-0.1%	5	(6)
Sports & Leisure	2,057	2,065	8	0.4%	5	3
Community Safety	465	463	(2)	-0.4%	3	(5)
Community Halls	989	927	(62)	-6.3%	(65)	3
Community Grants Fund	296	297	1	0.3%	1	0
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	5,786	5,730	(56)	-1.0%	(51)	(5)

3.4 The actual outturn, excluding earmarked reserves was £5,730,000, which represents an underspend of £56,000, a reduction in spend of £5,000 since the May Committee. The main variances were within School Lets where there was an underspend of £41,000 due to a reduction in Bad Debt Provision and an over recovery in income of £10,000.

3.5 2025/26 Projected Outturn (£118,000 overspend 2.1%)

The main variances contributing to the £118,000 overspend are within Libraries & Museum employee costs which are projected to overspend by £77,000 and Community Safety employee costs which are projected to overspend by £19,000, due to not achieving turnover savings.

3.6 Earmarked Reserves

Appendix 4 gives an update on the Committee's operational earmarked reserve. Spend to date on this reserve is nil, which is in line with projected spend. The sole earmarked reserve this financial year relates to Community Grants. There will be spend of £25,000 in 2025/26 to supplement a saving to the core budget. The remaining £50,000 will be carried forward to use over the next two financial years.

3.7 Virements

There are no virements this Committee cycle.

3.8 PROPOSALS

It is proposed that Committee note the current projected overspend for 2025/26 of £118,000 and that action will continue to be taken by the Corporate Director to reduce the overspend.

4.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendations are agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial	X	
Legal/Risk	X	
Human Resources		X
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		X
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		X
Environmental & Sustainability		X
Data Protection		X

4.2 Finance

One off Costs

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

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

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

4.3 Legal/Risk

The Financial Regulations state that the responsibility for ensuring Revenue Budgets are not exceeded lies with the Committee and Chief Officer (Corporate Director). Actions are being progressed by the Corporate Director to bring the Committee back within budget.

4.4 Human Resources

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

4.5 Strategic

There are no specific strategic implications arising from this report.

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The paper has been jointly prepared by the Interim Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development.

6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 There are no background papers for this report.

Communities Budget Movement - 2025/26

Service	Approved Budget	Movements				Revised Budget
	2025/26 £000	Inflation £000	Virement £000	Supplementary Budgets £000	Transferred to EMR £000	2025/26 £000
Libraries & Museum	1,955	1				1,956
Sport & Leisure	1,948					1,948
Community Safety	475					475
Community Halls	1,074					1,074
Community Grants Fund	271					271
Totals	<u>5,723</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,724</u>

Movement Details

£000

External Resources

Inflation

Non Domestic Rates (NDR)

1

1

Virement

0

Supplementary Budget

0

1

COMMUNITIES**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT****CURRENT POSITION**

2024/25 Actual £000	Subjective Heading	Approved Budget 2025/26 £000	Revised Budget 2025/26 £000	Projected Out-turn 2025/26 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend £000	Percentage Over/(Under)
2,052	Employee Costs	2,052	2,052	2,152	100	4.9%
2,339	Property Costs	2,215	2,216	2,213	(3)	(0.1%)
626	Supplies & Services	620	620	628	8	1.3%
3	Transport Costs	3	3	5	2	62.5%
72	Administration Costs	75	75	67	(8)	(10.6%)
1,113	Other Expenditure	1,051	1,071	1,085	14	1.3%
(418)	Income	(293)	(313)	(308)	5	(1.6%)
5,787	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	5,723	5,724	5,842	118	2.1%
0	Earmarked Reserves	0	0	0	0	
5,787	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE EXCLUDING EARMARKED RESERVES	5,723	5,724	5,842	118	2.1%

2024/25 Actual £000	Objective Heading	Approved Budget 2025/26 £000	Revised Budget 2025/26 £000	Projected Out-turn 2025/26 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend £000	Percentage Over/(Under)
1,971	Libraries & Museum	1,955	1,956	2,032	76	3.9%
2,131	Sports & Leisure	1,948	1,948	1,953	5	0.3%
463	Community Safety	475	475	508	33	6.9%
925	Community Halls	1,074	1,074	1,078	4	0.4%
297	Community Grants Fund	271	271	271	0	-
5,787	TOTAL COMMUNITIES	5,723	5,724	5,842	118	2.1%
0	Earmarked Reserves	0	0	0	0	
5,787	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE EXCLUDING EARMARKED RESERVES	5,723	5,724	5,842	118	2.1%

COMMUNITIES

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

MATERIAL VARIANCES

<u>Out Turn</u> <u>2024/25</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Heading</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2025/26</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Proportion</u> <u>of Budget</u>	<u>Actual to</u> <u>30-Jun-25</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Projection</u> <u>2025/26</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>(Under)/Over</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Over / (Under)</u>
1,375	Libraries & Museum Employee Costs	1341	290	319	1418	77	5.7%
Total Material Variances						77	

EARMARKED RESERVES POSITION STATEMENT

COMMITTEE: Communities

<u>Project</u>	<u>Lead Officer/ Responsible Manager</u>	<u>Total Funding 2025/26</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Phased Budget 30-Jun-25 2025/26</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Actual 30-Jun-25 2025/26</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Projected Spend 2025/26</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Amount to be Earmarked for 2026/27 & Beyond</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Lead Officer Update</u>
Community Grants	Tony McEwan	75	0	0	25	50	£25k per year for 3 years to supplement reduction in Core Budget
Total		75	0	0	25	50	