

**Report To:** Policy & Resources Committee      **Date:** 5 February 2019  
**Report By:** Chief Financial Officer      **Report No:** FIN/15/19/AP/AE  
**Contact Officer:** Alan Puckrin      **Contact No:** 01475 712223  
**Subject:** 2018/19 General Fund Revenue Budget as at 30 November 2018

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the position of the General Fund Revenue Budget as at 30 November 2018 and to update the Committee in respect of the position of the General Fund Reserves and Earmarked Reserves.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

2.1 The Council approved the 2018/19 Revenue Budget in March 2018 and set a budget without the use of Revenue Reserves. It should be noted that Inverclyde Council approved a Committee and Senior Management restructure on 22 February 2018 and these changes have been reflected in the 2018/19 Revenue Budget reports to the individual Service Committees.

2.2 It can be seen from Appendix 1 that as at 30 November 2018, the General Fund is projecting a £1.041 million underspend (excluding the Health & Social Care Directorate) which represents 0.54% of the net Revenue Budget. This is mainly due to:

- Release of non-pay inflation not required (£650,000).
- Projected over recovery Internal Resources Interest (£100,000).
- Net additional turnover savings achieved, including early achievement of savings (£496,000).
- Over Recovery of Planning Development Control Income (£165,000).

This has been offset in part by a projected overspend against the 2018/19 Pay Award allowance, an under recovery of Refuse Collection trade waste income and an overspend in the Recycling contract due to additional costs incurred as a result of the main recycling contractor going into administration. The items above have been or will be factored into the 2019/20 Base Budget where appropriate.

2.3 From Appendix 1 it can be seen that all Service Committees are currently projecting underspends. The Health and Social Care Partnership is currently projecting an underspend, however any resulting underspend will be retained by the Integration Joint Board.

2.4 Appendix 2 shows the latest position in respect of Earmarked Reserves, excluding those relating to Asset Plans and Funding Models. It can be seen that as at 30 November 2018, expenditure totalled £1.586 million which equates to 40.7% of the planned spend in 2018/19. It can also be seen from Appendix 2 that at 30 November 2018, actual expenditure is 15.14% behind the phased budget.

2.5 Appendix 3 shows the latest position in respect of the General Fund Reserves and shows that the projected balance at 31 March 2019 is £5.680 million which is £1.880 million greater than the minimum recommended balance of £3.8 million. This position reflects the decisions taken at the Council budget meeting on 15 March 2018.

2.6 A report elsewhere on the agenda gives an update on the 2019/20 Budget.

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the latest position of the 2018/19 Revenue Budget and General Fund Reserves.
- 3.2 It is recommended that the Committee notes that the use of any Free Reserves will be considered as part of the 2019/20 budget process.

**Alan Puckrin**  
**Chief Financial Officer**

#### **4.0 BACKGROUND**

4.1 The Council approved the 2018/19 Revenue Budget in March 2018 and set a balanced budget without the use of Reserves.

#### **5.0 POSITION AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2018**

5.1 It can be seen from Appendix 1 that as at 30 November 2018 the General Fund is projecting an underspend of £1.041 million which equates to 0.54% of the net General Revenue Fund Budget and is an increase of £121,000 from the previous report.

5.2 Appendix 1 shows that all Service Committees are currently projecting underspends.

5.3 In summary the main issues relating to the four Service Committees are as follows:-

Policy & Resources Committee – Projected underspend of £705,000 (3.7%) mainly due to release of non-pay inflation contingency not required and a projected over-recovery of Internal Resources Interest partly offset by a shortfall in the Pay Inflation Contingency. An element of the non-pay inflation and Internal Resources Interest underspends are planned to be factored into the 2019/20 Base Budget.

Environment & Regeneration – Projected underspend of £12,000 (0.05%) mainly due to a projected over-recovery in industrial and commercial rent income offset by a projected shortfall of refuse collection trade waste income. In addition, the Committee is reporting an overspend of £121,000 within the Recycling contract arising from the main recycling contractor entering administration. This extra cost will be contained by the Committee in 2018/19.

Education & Communities - £196,000 (0.24%) projected underspend mainly due to additional turnover savings, a projected underspend within Teachers employee costs and a projected over-recovery of income for Early Years Wraparound. This has been offset in part by an overspend within Libraries and Museums employee costs, a projected overspend on utility costs and a projected shortfall in library income and golf course income.

Health & Social Care – Projected underspend of £520,000 (1.08%) mainly due to a projected increase in turnover savings being achieved, a number of the vacancies were considered as part of the recent budget discussions or formed part of the decisions taken in March 2018. In addition, there are projected underspends in Client care packages within Learning Disability Services and Addiction Services both as a result of approved Service Reviews taken as part of the 2019/20 budget setting decisions and a refund from an external provider relating to previous years' service provision. The Committee underspend will be retained by the Integration Joint Board.

5.4 Appendix 2 shows the latest position in respect of the Earmarked Reserves and provides information on performance against phased budget. The Committee is asked to note that the phasing will not be amended during the year and provides a useful benchmark for Officers and Members to monitor performance against originally envisaged targets. The Earmarked Reserve statement excludes those funds that relate to Assets Plans or Funding Models.

5.5 As at 30 November 2018, the Council has spent £1.586 million against a phased budget target of £1.869 million. This represents 15.14% behind the target phasing and spend equates to 40.7% of the projected spend for 2018/19. Performance in respect of Earmarked Reserves is reviewed by the Corporate Management Team and reported in detail to each Service Committee.

5.6 Appendix 3 shows the latest position in respect of the General Fund Reserves and shows that the projected unallocated balance at 31 March 2019 is £5.680 million which is £1.880 million greater than the minimum recommended balance of £3.8 million. This position reflects the decisions taken at the Council budget meetings 15 March 2018.

## 6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 This report has been produced utilising the detailed budget reports to each Committee.

## 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

### 7.1 Finance

One off Costs

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

Annually Recurring Costs

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

### 7.2 Legal

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

### 7.3 Human Resources

There are no HR implications arising from this report.

### 7.4 Equalities

There are no equality implications arising from this report.

### 7.5 Repopulation

There are no repopulation implications arising from this report.

## 8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None

**Policy & Resources Committee**  
**Revenue Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Position as at 30th Nov 2018**

Committee	Approved Budget 2018/2019	Revised Budget 2018/2019	Projected Out-turn 2018/2019	Projected Over/(Under) Spend	Percentage Variance
	£,000's	£,000's	£,000's	£,000's	
Policy & Resources	19,474	18,870	18,165	(705)	(3.74%)
Environment & Regeneration	20,521	22,341	22,329	(12)	(0.05%)
Education & Communities <b>(Note 1)</b>	90,235	80,843	80,647	(196)	(0.24%)
Health & Social Care	47,794	48,117	47,597	(520)	(1.08%)
<b>Committee Sub-Total</b>	<b>178,024</b>	<b>170,171</b>	<b>168,738</b>	<b>(1,433)</b>	<b>(0.84%)</b>
Loan Charges (Including SEMP)	12,500	17,128	17,128	0	0.00%
Savings Achieved Early <b>(Note 2)</b>	95	128	0	(128)	(100.00%)
Contribution to / (from) Statutory Funds	(240)	(240)	(240)	0	0.00%
Earmarked Reserves	0	4,010	4,010	0	0.00%
2018/19 Pay Offer - Funding Shortfall	0	0	264	264	100.00%
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>190,379</b>	<b>191,197</b>	<b>189,900</b>	<b>(1,297)</b>	<b>(0.68%)</b>
<b>Financed By:</b>					
General Revenue Grant/Non Domestic Rates	(160,030)	(160,848)	(160,848)	0	0.00%
General Revenue Grant Redetermination	(523)	(523)	(523)	0	0.00%
Council Tax	(29,826)	(29,826)	(29,826)	0	100.00%
Integration Joint Board - Increase in Reserves	0	0	520	520	100.00%
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(777)</b>	<b>(777)</b>	

**Note 1 - Reduction reflects loans charges and earmarked reserves.**

**Note 2 - Efficiencies/adjustments identified post budget setting removed from Service Committee budgets.**

**Earmarked Reserves Position Statement**

**Appendix 2**

**Summary**

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Total Funding 2018/19</u>	<u>Phased Budget to 30 Nov 2018</u>	<u>Actual Spend To 30 Nov 2018</u>	<u>Variance Actual to Phased Budget</u>	<u>Projected Spend 2018/19</u>	<u>Earmarked 2019/20 &amp; Beyond</u>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Education & Communities	1,471	296	166	(130)	726	745
Health & Social Care	1,684	622	575	(47)	1,136	548
Regeneration & Environment	3,955	645	613	(32)	1,461	2,494
Policy & Resources	2,507	306	232	(74)	577	1,930
	9,617	1,869	1,586	(283)	3,900	5,717

<u>2018/19 %age Spend Against Projected</u>	<u>2018/19 %age Over/(Under) Spend Against Phased Budget</u>
22.87%	(43.92%)
50.62%	(7.56%)
41.96%	(4.96%)
40.21%	(24.18%)
40.67%	(15.14%)

**Actual Spend v Phased Budget Behind Phasing = (£283k) (15.14%)**

**Last Update (Period 6) Ahead of Phasing £288k**

**Movement in slippage v Phasing £571k**

**Appendix 3**

**GENERAL FUND RESERVE POSITION**  
**Position as at 30/11/18**

	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>
Balance 31/03/18		13447
Projected Surplus/(Deficit) 2018/19	1041	
Contribution to/(from) General Fund Reserves <b>Note 1</b>	<u>0</u>	
		1041
Refund from Mortgage Guarantee Reserve		50
Approved Use of Free Reserves (March 2018) <b>Note 2</b>		<u>(8858)</u>
Projected Unallocated Balance 31/03/19		<u><b>5680</b></u>

**Minimum Reserve required is £3.8 million**

**Note 1** No contribution from reserves was required when setting 2018/19 Revenue Budget.

**Note 2 (Use of Reserves)**

Apprenticeship Programmes	170
Dementia and Autism Friendly Community	200
I Youth Zones	186
Anti- Poverty Fund	200
Community Fund	215
Major Events 2019/21	345
Inverkip Community Hub	50
Demolish Redundant Buildings	150
Contingency Reserve	120
Indoor Bowling Club	100
Beacon Arts Centre - Repairs and Renewals Fund	120
Lady Alice Bowling Club	65
Indoor Tennis Facility	150
Inverclyde Leisure Spend to Save Investment	1300
Cremator Replacement	850
Capital Programme 2018/21 Deficit	467
3 to 4 Traffic Management Studies	30
Passing places Kirn Drive	200
Refurbishment of Ashton Prom	50
Gourock Park Improvements	20
Extend Gourock Pool Opening Times	16
Roads/Footways Investment	204
GDPR	150
Budget Strategy Reserves	3000
Repopulation Strategy	<u>500</u>
	<u><b>8858</b></u>