
Report To:	Policy & Resources Committee	Date:	25 March 2025
Report By:	Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Executive	Report No:	FIN/18/25/AP/AB
Contact Officer:	Alan Puckrin	Contact No:	01475 712090
Subject:	2024/25 Policy & Resources and General Fund Revenue Budget		

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 projected position of the 2024/25 Policy & Resources Revenue. The report also highlights a projected underspend in the overall General Fund Revenue Budget and the impact this will have on the General Fund Reserve.

1.3 The revised 2024/25 Revenue Budget for the Policy and Resources Committee is £22,947,000, which excludes Earmarked Reserves. The latest projection is an underspend of £417,000 (1.8%), mainly due to a £400,000 underspend within the Non Pay Inflation and a reduction in the impact of the 2024/25 Pay award. Overall, this is a reduction in costs of £637,000 since last reported. More details are provided in section 3.3 and the appendices.

1.4 The latest projection for the General Fund Budget is an underspend of £137,000, a reduction in costs of £667,000 since last reported, this is mainly due to a reduction in costs of combined inflation contingencies highlighted above. Based on these figures the Council's unallocated Reserves are currently projected to be £1.845million more than the minimum recommended level of £4.0million by 31 March 2025.

1.5 This report also includes updates in respect of earmarked reserves spend, Workstream Savings and the Common Good Revenue budget.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1 Note the current projected underspend in the Committee's Revenue Budget for 2024/25 of £417,000, a reduction in costs of £637,000 since the last report.

2.2 Note the projected underspend of £137,000 for the General Fund and the projected reserve balance of £5.845 million as at 31 March 2025.

2.3 Note the projected 2024/25 surplus of £12,100 for the Common Good Budget set out in Appendix 5.

2.4 Note the update in relation to the Savings Workstream programme set out in Appendix 9.

Alan Puckrin
Chief Financial Officer

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & ODHR

Louise Long
Chief Executive

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Committee of the current position of the 2024/25 Revenue Budget and to highlight the main variances contributing to the projected underspend of £417,000 for 2024/25.
- 3.2 The revised 2024/25 Revenue Budget for the Policy & Resources Committee is £22,947,000 excluding Earmarked Reserves. This is a decrease of £2,251,000 from the approved budget largely due to both Non Pay and Pay Inflation transferred to Service budgets . Appendix 1 gives more details of this budget movement.
- 3.3 2024/25 Projected Outturn - £417,000 underspend 1.8 %

The main projected variances contributing to the net overspend are listed below –

- (a) Overall committee Employee Costs are projected to underspend by £200,000 due to an over achievement of turnover savings to date. This is an increase in turnover of £100,000 since the last report across the Committee's services
- (b) The Revenues & Benefits section are reporting a £21,000 overspend within postages, this is due to a £12,000 one-off charge for re-billing of the 2024/25 Council Tax notices and additional postages charges relating to an increase in the volume of reminder notices. No change from last committee.
- (c) Statutory Additions Income is projected to be £54,000 under-recovered in line with last year.
- (d) Projecting £90,000 over recovery within Housing Benefits Recoveries income.
- (e) Over-recovery of income within Revenues & Benefits of £68,000, this is mainly due to one-off SWF administration income from the Government with no off-setting costs. Movement of £11,000 since last reported.
- (f) Over-recovery of £30,000 projected within Council Tax Prior Years based on collection rates and previous years outturn.
- (g) Projecting an overall combined overspend of £57,000 within ICT computer software and hardware. Officers from Finance & ICT Services are currently reviewing in detail whether this pressure is time-limited or recurring in order to address prior to 2025/26.
- (h) Projected over-recovery of £32,000 for ICT service recharges for internal maintenance recharges for computer equipment purchased outside of the refresh programme. No change since last reported.
- (i) Legal Capital Recharges under-recovery of £21,000, this is in line with previous years.
- (j) External Licences are currently projecting at an under recovery of £40,000 for liquor and taxi operators. These projections are in line with previous outturns.
- (k) Now projecting £180,000 overspend within the pay inflation contingency. This is a decrease in costs of £70,000 since last reported following the allocation of 2024/25 Pay award costs to services.
- (l) Non Pay Inflation Contingency is projecting an underspend of £400,000 within 2024/25. This is due to a reduction in non pay inflation requests and has been reflected within 2025/26 budget process.

3.4 General Fund Budget & Reserves Position

Appendix 6 shows that the General Fund is projecting a £137,000 underspend (excluding Health & Social Care) which represents 0.07% of the net Revenue Budget. The Policy & Resources and Education & Communities are both projecting underspends; Policy & Resources Committee £417,000, and Education & Communities £8,000. Offsetting the overall underspend is a £220,000 overspend within the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

3.5 Reserves

Appendix 4 gives an update on the Committee's operational Earmarked Reserves, i.e. excluding strategic funding models. Spend to 31 January 2025 on these operational Earmarked Reserves is £965,000 (12.17% of projected spend), the majority of the earmarked reserve budgets within the Policy & Resources reserves occur at the end of the year. Appendix 7 gives the overall earmarked reserve position which shows £967,000 (22.89%) slippage against phased budget.

Appendix 8 shows the latest position in respect of the General Fund Reserves and shows that the projected balance at 31 March, 2025 is £5.845 million which is £1.845 million above the minimum recommended balance of £4.0 million. A review of reserves was reported to the 23 January Council. The balance of £5.845m includes £1.868m write back to reserves which are noted within Appendix 8 and a further £0.600m use of balances as approved within the December 2024 Financial Strategy. Use of free reserves will be considered as part of the 2025/26 budget setting decisions 6 March 2025.

3.6 Workstream Savings

Appendix 9 provides the latest update on the Workstream savings. It can be seen that there remains a projected shortfall of £74,000 against the 2024/25 target. Since report to the last Committee, the Asset Management saving has been rephased over 2026/28. In addition the energy workstream target has been increased and the Teachers target removed.

3.7 Virements

None.

4.0 PROPOSALS

4.1 The Committee's own revenue budget is showing a £417,000 underspend. The 3 service budgets are showing a projected underspend of £212,000 an improvement of £167,000 since the last report.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 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

5.2 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					

5.3 Legal/Risk

The Financial Regulations state the responsibility for ensuring Revenue Budgets are not exceeded lies with the Committee and budget holding Chief Officers.

5.4 Human Resources

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

5.5 Strategic

There are no specific strategic implications arising from this report.

6.0 CONSULTATION

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

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 There are no background papers for this report.

Policy & Resources Budget Movement - 2024/25

Service	Approved Budget 2024/25 £000	Inflation £000	Movements		Transferred to EMR £000	Revised Budget 2024/25 £000
			Virement £000	Supplementary Budgets £000		
Finance	5,634	33	123	426		6,216
Legal, Democratic Digital & Customer Services	5,279	9	264	0		5,552
Organisational Development, Policy & Communications	2,301	0	25	0		2,326
Chief Exec	336	0	12	0		348
Miscellaneous	11,648	(162)	(5,151)	2,470	(300)	8,505
Totals	25,198	(120)	(4,727)	2,896	(300)	22,947

Supplementary Budget Detail

	£000
Inflation	
Miscellaneous - Non Pay Inflation	(162)
Accountancy - Comp Soft Maint (CIVICA PAY)	6
Revs & Bens - DHP	19
ICT - Software Maintenance	9
R&B - Postages (Critiqom)	8
	<u>(120)</u>
Virements	
Miscellaneous - Pay Inflation	(5,342)
Legal - Information Governance Monies from Social Work	131
Legal - Members Superann reduction returned to Contingency Fund	(57)
Chief Executive Directorates - Pay Award 24/25	357
Reg - Monies to Finance Creditors Post	(7)
ICT - NWOW Monies from Property Services	40
HR - Employee budget reduction from budget upload error returned to Contingency Fund	(47)
Miscellaneous - HR employee budget returned to Contingency Fund	47
Miscellaneous - Election Superann returned to Contingency Fund	57
Miscellaneous virements	87
Fin- Monies to Finance for Creditors Post	7
R&B - Budget transfer from Council Tax Prior Years to R&B Employee Costs	0
R&B - Budget transfer from R&B Miscellaneous to R&B Employee Costs	0
	<u>(4,727)</u>
Supplementary Budgets	
Scottish Welfare Fund	
Pay Offer	426
Teacher Pensions	1,203
	<u>1,267</u>
	<u>2,896</u>
Total Inflation & Virements	<u>(1,951)</u>

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORTSUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS

2023/24 Actual £000	SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS	Approved Budget 2024/25 £000	Revised Budget 2024/25 £000	Projected Out-turn 2024/25 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend £000	Percentage Over/(Under)
10,153	Employee Costs	8,647	9,099	8,899	(200)	(2.2%)
739	Property Costs	744	744	744	0	-
895	Supplies & Services	915	978	1,052	74	7.6%
2	Transport & Plant	5	5	5	0	-
1,279	Administration Costs	1,331	1,727	1,697	(30)	(1.7%)
28,636	Payments to Other Bodies	38,946	40,845	40,627	(218)	(0.5%)
(28,404)	Income	(25,390)	(30,151)	(30,194)	(43)	0.1%
13,300	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	25,198	23,247	22,830	(417)	(1.8%)
	Earmarked reserves		(300)	(300)	0	
13,300	Total Net Expenditure excluding Earmarked Reserves	25,198	22,947	22,530	(417)	

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEEREVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORTOBJECTIVE ANALYSIS

2023/24 Actual £000	OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS	Approved Budget 2024/25 £000	Revised Budget 2024/25 £000	Projected Out-turn 2024/25 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend £000	Percentage Over/(Under)
5,793	Finance	5,634	6,216	6,109	(107)	(1.7%)
5,571	Legal, Democratic Digital & Customer Services	5,279	5,552	5,496	(56)	(1.0%)
2,431	Organisational Development, Policy & Communications	2,301	2,326	2,276	(50)	(2.1%)
2,431	Total Net Expenditure Education, Communities & Organisational Development	13,214	14,094	13,881	(213)	(1.5%)
380	Chief Executive	336	348	364	16	4.6%
(875)	Miscellaneous	11,648	8,805	8,585	(220)	(2.5%)
1,936	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	25,198	23,247	22,830	(417)	0
	Earmarked reserves		(300)	(300)		
1,936	Total Net Expenditure excluding Earmarked Reserves	25,198	22,947	22,530	(417)	

POLICY RESOURCES

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

MATERIAL VARIANCES (EXCLUDING EARMARKED RESERVES)

Appendix 3

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

MATERIAL VARIANCES

Outturn 2023/24 £000	Budget Heading	Budget 2024/25 £000	Proportion of Budget £000	Actual to 2024/25 £000	Projection 2024/25 £000	Over/(Under) Budget £000	Percentage Variance %
	<u>Finance Services</u>						
1,630	Accountancy - Employee Cost	1,542	1,284	1,276	1,545	3	0.2%
1,406	R&B - Employee Cost	1,283	1,069	1,077	1,294	11	0.9%
61	R&B - Postages	56	36	43	77	21	37.5%
(250)	R&B - Statutory Additions	(294)	(212)	(172)	(240)	54	(18.4%)
(23)	R&B - Recoveries	(110)	(83)	(92)	(200)	(90)	81.8%
(64)	R&B - Income	(31)	(31)	(47)	(99)	(68)	219.4%
	R&B Ctax Prior Years	(330)			(360)	(30)	9.1%
	<u>Organisational Development, Policy & Communications</u>						
2,023	ODHR - Employee Cost	1,959	1,632	1,564	1,880	(79)	(4.0%)
	<u>Legal, Democratic Digital & Customer Services</u>						
4739	Employee Costs	3,995	3,327	3,198	3,843	(152)	(3.8%)
587	ICT - Supplies - Software Maintenance	710	745	745	760	50	7.0%
(299)	ICT - Admin Costs - Telephone Recharges - offset in Income	333	278	239	304	(29)	(8.7%)
(60)	ICT - Income Costs - Telephone Recharges - offset in Admin	(333)	(278)	(236)	(304)	29	(8.7%)
(49)	ICT - Income - Recharges (5 Year Computer Refresh)	(30)	(25)	(62)	(62)	(32)	106.7%
(7)	Legal - Capital Recharges	(24)	(20)	(2)	(3)	21	(87.5%)
(310)	Legal - Income Licenses	(327)	(273)	(228)	(287)	40	(12.2%)
	<u>Miscellaneous Services</u>						
	Pay Inflation Contingency	8,426	8,426	8,606	8,606	180	2.1%
	Non Pay Inflation	1,133	733	733	733	(400)	(35.3%)
9,384	TOTAL MATERIAL VARIANCES	17,958	16,608	16,642	17,487	(471)	

EARMARKED RESERVES POSITION STATEMENT

COMMITTEE: Policy & Resources

C a t e g o r y	Project	Lead Officer/ Responsible Manager	Total Funding	Phased Budget 2024/25	2024/25 Spend	Projected Spend	Amount to be Earmarked for 2025/26 & Beyond	Lead Officer Update
			2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25		
			£000	£000	£000	£000		
B	Early Retiral/Voluntary Severance Reserve	Alan Puckrin	3,127	0	0	700	2,427	Projection for 24/25 based on releases agreed linked to 25/26 savings & workstreams.
C	Equal Pay	Morna Rae	100	0	0	0	100	Balance for equal pay legal fees which is under review on an annual basis
C	Digital Strategy	Louise Long	1,149	310	219	405	744	2024/25 Committed project costs to date; purchases of Schools Cashless Catering System replacement £39K and CRM Replacement systems indicative timeline £16K, Revenue and Benefits Victoria Forms system (est cost £37K), Project Officer Post £39k (29/05/24 for 2 years), ICHRIS upgrade £12K.
C	Welfare Reform - Operational	Alan Puckrin	52	0	0	10	42	Employee Costs £10k in 24/25, £42k uncommitted.
C	Anti-Poverty Fund	Ruth Binks	2,248	112	147	636	1,612	Proposals to utilise £480k of the unallocated balance of £774k agreed at P&R 17 September 2024. Also proposal to terminate the IRISE project early with the balance of funding remaining within the Anti Poverty EMR. The projected spend, and phasing has been adjusted on this basis. Proposed approval P&R Committee on 19 November to utilise up to £600k of this to create a Fuel Poverty Fund, leaves £270k unallocated.
B	Loan Charge Funding Model	Alan Puckrin	3,621	0	0	1,113	2,508	Based on Dec Finance Strategy including a further £2.8million over 2024/27 to the EMR to deliver a recurring saving from 2025/26.
B	2023/26 Budget Funding Reserve	Alan Puckrin	8,466	0	0	2,628	5,838	Per approved 2024/26 Budget (Feb 24). Will be updated for May P&R based on March 2025 Budget decision.
C	ICT Technicians To Support Digital School Inclusion/Covid Recovery	Lynsey Brown	13	13	13	13	0	Completed.
C	New Ways of Working	Stuart Jamieson	258	100	2	188	70	Work on-going on James Watt building for transfer of HSCP staff from HMH.

EARMARKED RESERVES POSITION STATEMENT

COMMITTEE: Policy & Resources

C a t e g o r y	Project	Lead Officer/ Responsible Manager	Total Funding	Phased Budget 2024/25	2024/25 Spend	Projected Spend	Amount to be Earmarked for 2025/26 & Beyond	Lead Officer Update
			2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25		
			£000	£000	£000	£000		
C	Project Resource	Louise Long	63	0	17	63	0	Budget set aside to aide the process of difficult to fill posts and certain council memberships/reviews. Projects approved to date; Co-operative Councils membership £5k & Solace assistance to fill CFO post £17k. Unallocated balance of £41k with £20k write back agreed 27/01/25 Full Council.
C	Covid Recovery - Marketing Post & Support for Discover Inverclyde	Morna Rae	44	8	8	44	0	Further development of the 'discover Inverclyde' website and social media as the single trusted source of events and activity for residents and visitors to Inverclyde, local marketing campaigns to support priorities above and local partners and venues, develop trusted and timely marketing data. £8k funds spent in 24/25 for associated prints. Development of facilities and resources to share Inverclyde's Historic Links to Slavery through the Watt Institute.
C	Scottish Welfare Fund	Alan Puckrin	129	0	0	0	129	To Pay for the balance of Scottish Welfare Fund Crisis Grants expenditure as funded by Scottish Government. To be carried forward to 25/26
C	Smoothing Reserve (Service Concession)	Alan Puckrin	490	0	0	201	289	Phasing over 2023/28, per Feb 2023 report.
B	Budget Delivery Reserve	Alan Puckrin	2,771	30	502	1,349	1,422	Allocated costs to date: ASN transport (£400k), HR Review (£88k), Utility Costs (£800k), IL Smoothing Reserve (£200k), Winter Gritting (£150k), Finance Officer (£90k), SWAN contract (£370k) & Catering Review (£30k). £200k write back agreed 23/01/25 at Full Council. £200k write back in 2024/25 and further £500k approved to be written back within 2025/26
C	Student Training Fees	Morna Rae	80	0	2	13	67	The funding is to support professional qualifications and the consequent retention and development of employees. Spend for 24/25 £13k across Revenues & Benefits, Environmental & Legal . Remainder £67k uncommitted.
C	IRI Smoothing Reserve	Alan Puckrin	946	0	0	0	946	Agreed in Dec Finance Strategy, that a further £300k to be added to support model. £7m saving approved 2023/27.
C	Empty Property Relief	Alan Puckrin	80	0	6	6	75	£94k for E&R Business Support transferred to E&R , £5.5k cost EPR software for upcoming EPR changes. Remainder £75k balance to be carried forward to cover any retrospective applications for Empty Property Relief.
C	Elections 2024/27	Lynsey Brown	300	100	50	60	240	Budget approved at 2024/25 budget process for local election costs.
C	Allocation towards Historic Child Abuse settlements	Alan Puckrin	500	0	0	500	0	Add to the Insurance Fund during as part of 2024/25 Year End.. HSCP contribution of £500k due 2025/26.
Total Category A			0	0	0	0	0	
Total Category B			17,985	30	502	5,790	12,195	
Total Category C to E			6,452	643	463	2,139	4,314	

COMMON GOOD FUND**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2024/25**

	Final Outturn 2023/24	Approved Budget 2024/25	Budget to Date 2024/25	Actual to Date 2024/25	Projected Outturn 2024/25
	£	£	£	£	£
PROPERTY COSTS	47,219	65,200	46,200	36,200	58,700
Repairs & Maintenance	19,144	17,500	14,600	12,535	17,500
Rates	23,171	23,200	19,300	19,630	23,200
Property Insurance	4,034	8,000	4,000	4,030	8,000
Property Costs	870	16,500	8,300	0	10,000
ADMINISTRATION COSTS	6,200	7,700	800	0	7,700
Sundries	0	1,500	800	0	1,500
Commercial Rent Management Recharge	2,200	2,200	0	0	2,200
Recharge for Accountancy	4,000	4,000	0	0	4,000
OTHER EXPENDITURE	114,192	109,500	102,210	100,210	108,200
Christmas Lights Switch On	10,500	10,500	10,500	10,500	10,500
Christmas Decorations	38,885	44,000	41,470	41,470	42,700
Gourock Highland Games	29,400	29,400	29,400	29,400	29,400
Armistice Service	9,527	8,300	5,540	5,540	8,300
Comet Festival	13,300	13,300	13,300	13,300	13,300
Events	4,000	4,000	2,000	0	4,000
Bad Debt Provision	8,580	0	0	0	0
INCOME	(202,080)	(183,700)	(150,200)	20,740	(186,700)
Property Rental	(228,200)	(234,200)	(195,200)	(195,200)	(234,200)
Void Rents	33,164	54,000	45,000	215,940	54,000
Internal Resources Interest	(7,044)	(3,500)	0	0	(6,500)
NET ANNUAL EXPENDITURE	(34,469)	(1,300)	(990)	157,150	(12,100)
EARMARKED FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	(34,469)	(1,300)	(990)	157,150	(12,100)

Fund Balance as at 31st March 2024	£ 158,037
Projected Outturn 2024/25	12,100
Expenditure on Port Glasgow Burgh 250th Anniversary approved by Policy and Resources Committee on 13th August 2024	(40,000)
Projected Fund Balance as at 31st March 2025	<u><u>130,137</u></u>

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:

12 Bay St	Vacant since:
10 John Wood Street	April 2015, currently being marketed
17 John Wood Street	August 2018
	June 2023

Policy & Resources Committee

Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2024/25

Committee	Approved Budget 2024/2025	Revised Budget 2024/2025	Projected Out-turn 2024/2025	Projected Over/(Under) Spend	Percentage Variance
	£,000's	£,000's	£,000's	£,000's	
Policy & Resources	25,198	22,947	22,530	(417)	(1.82%)
Environment & Regeneration	21,394	22,199	22,419	220	0.99%
Education & Communities	116,384	121,135	121,127	(8)	(0.01%)
Health & Social Care	73,714	74,397	74,508	111	0.15%
Committee Sub-Total	236,690	240,678	240,584	(94)	(0.04%)
Loan Charges	16,590	16,590	16,590	0	0.00%
Saving Approved yet to be Allocated (Note 1)	(100)	(100)	(100)	0	0.00%
Workstream Savings Approved (Note 2)	(364)	(419)	(345)	74	0.00%
Service Concession Flexibility	(1,650)	(1,650)	(1,650)	0	0.00%
Contribution from Other Funds (Note 3)	0	(87)	(87)	0	0.00%
Earmarked Reserves	0	1,015	1,015	0	0.00%
Total Expenditure	251,166	256,027	256,007	(20)	(0.01%)
Financed By:					
General Revenue Grant/Non Domestic Rates (Note 4)	(208,102)	(214,926)	(214,932)	(6)	0.00%
General Revenue Grant - Teachers Hold Back (Note 4)	(2,119)	0	0	0	0.00%
Contribution from General Reserves (Note 5)	(2,628)	(5,628)	(5,628)	0	100.00%
Council Tax	(38,317)	(35,473)	(35,473)	0	0.00%
Integration Joint Board - Contribution to Reserves	0	0	(111)	(111)	100.00%
Net Expenditure	0	0	(137)	(137)	

Note 1 - Approved savings yet to be allocated

Note 2 - Workstream Savings Approved yet to be vired

Note 3 - Contribution from Insurance Fund for redress scheme

Note 4 - General Revenue Grant - Teachers Hold Back funding now received

Note 5 - General Revenue Grant - £1.797m funded from Capital Grant

Earmarked Reserves Position Statement

Appendix 7

Summary

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Total Funding 2024/25</u>	<u>Phased Budget</u>	<u>Spend 2024/25</u>	<u>Variance Actual to Phased Budget</u>	<u>Projected Spend 2024/25</u>	<u>Earmarked 2025/26 & Beyond</u>	<u>2024/25 %age Spend Against Projected</u>	<u>2024/25 %age Over/(Under) Spend Against Phased Budget</u>
	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>		
Education & Communities	435	133	130	(3)	175	260	74.29%	(2.26%)
Health & Social Care	8,828	2,179	1,163	(1,016)	2,387	6,441	48.72%	(46.63%)
Regeneration & Environment	7,027	1,241	1,001	(240)	1,670	5,357	59.93%	(19.35%)
Policy & Resources	24,437	673	965	292	7,929	16,509	12.17%	43.39%
	40,727	4,226	3,259	(967)	12,161	28,567	26.80%	(22.89%)

Actual Spend v Phased Budget Behind Phasing = (£967k) (22.89%)

Last Update (Period P8) Behind of Phasing = (£237k)

Increase in slippage (£730k)

Only categories B-E included above excluding HSCP with categories C-E only

Appendix 8

GENERAL FUND RESERVE POSITION
2024/25

	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>
Usable Balance 31/3/24		4470
<u>Available Funding:</u>		
Actuarial Pension Review (2024/26)	9000	
Additional IRI 2023/27	3500	
Reduced Use of Reserves Budget 2024/26	384	
IRI shortfall 2023/26 (£3.5m less £3.144m Actual 2023/24)	356	
Earmarked Reserve required for 2024/25	<u>160</u>	13400
Projected Surplus/(Deficit) 2024/25	<u>137</u>	137
<u>Use of Balances Approved 2024:</u>		
Additional IRI to Loans Charges	(3000)	
Increased support to the Revenue Budget	(6000)	
Increased support to the 2024/28 Capital Programme	<u>(4400)</u>	(13400)
<u>Use of Balances Approved - Fin Stratgey Dec 2024</u>		
Fin Stratgey Dec 2024:		
City Deal	(300)	
Internal Resources Model	(300)	
Full Council January 2025:		
Chief Executive Recruitment	<u>(30)</u>	(630)
<u>Write Backs - Full Council January 2025:</u>		
Budget Delivery Reserve 2025/26	500	
Covid - Business Development Interventions	50	
Covid - Import/Export/Access to stock support	50	
Budget Funding Reserve	534	
CFCR - 24/28 Capital Programme	514	
Project Resource/capacity	20	
Budget Delivery Reserve	<u>200</u>	1868
Projected Reserve Balance		<u><u>5845</u></u>

Policy & Resources Committee

Workstreams Saving Monitoring at March 2025

Saving Title	CMT Lead Officer	Chief Officer Update	Approved Saving	Achieved to Date	Projected Saving	Over achievement/ (Shortfall)	Approved Saving	Achieved to Date	Projected Saving	Total Projected Saving	Over achievement/ (Shortfall)	2026/27	2027/28	Est FTE Impact
			2024/25 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2024/26 £000's	2024/26 £000's	2025/26 £000's	2024/26 £000's	2024/26 £000's	2026/27 £000's	2027/28 £000's	
Income Generation Original Target £700k	A Puckrin	5% increases in fees/charges for both 2024/25 and 2025/26 agreed as part of the 2024/26 Budget. Balance anticipated to come from Inchgreen JV no later than 2025/26. £11k identified for 2025/26 relating to uplift in charges for Building Warrant fees.	250	245	245	(5)	450	256	455	700	0	0	0	0.0
Procurement Original target £600k, then £750k, then £805k (to fund Procurement post) now £945k over 24/27 after £140k New target added. Note 2	S Jamieson	£671k achieved in 2024/25 from the new Residual Waste contract with £80k achieved from the new SWAN contract. This has been phased 50% 24/25 and 50% 25/26 and requires £350k investment from the Budget Delivery emr. CMT have increased the target by £55k in order to help increase capacity within the Procurement Team. Proposal to increase target further developed as part of August 2024 savings exercise by £140k including purchase cards.	710	711	711	1	165	40	164	875	0	70	0	(2.0)
Energy Original Target £500k, now £1250k	A Puckrin	£800k reduction in gas/electricity budgets over 2023/26 approved as part of the 2024/26 Budgets. Increased by £100k (Jan 2025 Council) and a further £300k (Feb 2025 P&R)and the position will continue to be monitored given the. A £50k reduction in fuel costs was applied from 2024/25 based on 2023/24 out-turn. 2026/27 potential saving and IL saving to be reviewed later in 2025.	250	250	250	0	1000	1000	1,000	1,250	0	0	0	0.0
Asset Management Original Target £400k	S Jamieson	Initial saving will arise from the demolition of Hector McNeil House as part of the Levelling Up Fund project later in 2024. Officers developing a process for the consideration by members of other proposals which will be presented in October. A report will be presented to the Programme Board February 2025 regarding office proposals. Target slipped over 2026/28 per P&R January 2025. FTE reflects HMM cleaning saving.	50	0	0	(50)	50	0	100	100	0	200	100	3.8
Management Restructure Ph3 Original Target £200k	L Long	Update presented to 14.11.24 Programme Board and 19.11.24 P&R Committee agreed to use £104k from the contingency to meet the 31.3.26 projected shortfall. Shortfall updated in line with latest saving proposal, now utilising £65k from contingency balance.	0	0	0	0	200	0	135	135	(65)	12	0	2.5
Digital & Customer Services Original Target £100k	L Long	A number of projects delivering service improvements progressing . Updated via regular reports to Policy & Resources Committee. Update to 14.11.24 Programme Board and 19.11.24 P&R Committee agreed to use £35k from the contingency to meet the 31.3.26 projected shortfall. In line with latest saving proposal, shortfall increased to £41k funded from contingency.	20	0	0	(20)	80	0	59	59	(41)	17	0	2.0
Community Learning & Development- Delivering Differently Review Original Target £180k	R Binks	This saving was agreed at the Education and Communities Committee on 21 January 2025.	40	40	40	0	140	0	140	180	0	0	0	4.3
Schools Catering Review Original Target £120k	R Binks	3.8FTE vacant posts delivering an £80k saving in 25/26 have already been identified and APSE are undertaking a review with the service to identify potential areas for efficiencies. This review takes place in the first months of 2025.	0	0	0	0	100	0	100	100	0	20	0	3.4
Over achievement Contingency Currently £300k	A Puckrin	This reflects the fact that targets exceed the overall allowance in the 2024/26 Budget. Policy & Resources Committee approved the use of £139k on 19.11.24. Phasing updated, £106k required from contingency.	0	0	0	0	(300)	0	(40)	(40)	260	(154)	0	0.0
Totals			1,320	1,246	1,246	(74)	1,885	1296	2113	3359	479	165	100	14.0