

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

Report To: Environment & Regeneration

Committee

Date:

15 January 2015

Report No: FIN/77/14/MMcC/AP

Report By:

Chief Financial Officer and

Corporate Director Environment,

Regeneration and Resources

Contact Officer: Mary McCabe Contact No: 01475 712222

Subject: Environment and Regeneration 2014/15 Revenue Budget – Period 7

to 31 October 2014

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To advise Committee of the 2014/15 Revenue Budget position at period 7 to 31 October 2014.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The revised 2014/15 budget for Environment and Regeneration is £21,560,860 which excludes Earmarked Reserves.
- 2.2 The latest projection, excluding Earmarked Reserves, is an underspend of £141,000, a reduction in spend of £29,000 since Period 5 Committee.
- 2.3 The major variances projected at Period 7 are:
 - i. Employee Cost underspends across the Committee of £363,000; £223,000 of which are due to the early achievement of future year's savings.
 - ii. An underrecovery in Special Catering income of £50,000 in line with previous year's outturn, as previously reported.
 - iii. A one off cost of £90,000 to create an Earmarked Reserve to cover the costs of the City Deal project management office for a 3 year period, as approved at the October meeting.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Committee note the current projected underspend for 2014/15 of £141,000 as at 31 October 2014.
- 3.2 The Committee is asked to approve virement as detailed in Section 7 and Appendix 4.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Committee of the current position of the 2014/15 budget and to highlight the main issues contributing to the projected underspend.
- 4.2 The revised 2014/15 budget reflects an increase from the approved budget of £87,140, as previously reported.

5.0 2014/15 CURRENT POSITION

5.1 The current projection for 2014/15 is an underspend of £141,000.

5.2 Regeneration & Planning - £70,000 Overspend

The current projected out-turn for Regeneration & Planning is an overspend of £70,000, a reduction in spend of £10,000 from Period 5.

The main issues relating to the current projected overspend for Regeneration & Planning are detailed in Appendix 2 and is largely due to the one off allocation of £90,000 to fund 3 year Project Management Office costs relating to the City Deal, as previously reported. The movement from last period is explained below:

(a) Employee Costs

There is a projected underspend of £44,000, £3,000 less spend than Period 5. This underspend is mainly due to the early achievement of a 2015/16 saving.

(b) Property Costs

Property Costs are projected to be underspent by £11,000, not previously reported. This is mainly due to an underspend in security within Industrial & Commercial Properties (£13,000). This budget line will be reduced in 2015/16 in line with an existing saving.

5.3 **Property Services - £34,000 Overspend**

The current projected out-turn for Property Services is an overspend of £34,000, an increase in spend of £3,000 since last Committee. The main variance is a projected underrecovery of Physical Assets income of £30,000, as previously reported.

The main issues contributing to the current projected overspend for Property Services are detailed in Appendix 2. There are no material movements since Period 5.

5.4 Environmental & Commercial Services - £225,000 Underspend

The current projected out-turn for Environmental & Commercial Services is an underspend of £225,000; a reduction in projected spend of £2,000 since last Committee.

The main issues contributing to the current projected underspend for Environmental & Commercial Services are detailed in Appendix 2 and these and the movement from last period are explained below:

(a) Employee Costs

There is a projected underspend of £327,000 within employee costs, a reduction in projected spend of £75,000 from last Committee. Of this underspend £184,000 is the early achievement of future year's savings. The major movements from Period 5 are as follows:

- i. Further turnover savings within Environmental management of £22,000. Total projected turnover savings within Environmental management being £90,000; £29,000 of which relates to the early achievement of a 2015/16 saving.
- ii. Further turnover savings within Building Services of £16,000. Total projected turnover savings being £93,000; £57,000 of which relates to the early achievement of a future saving.
- iii. A reduction in Refuse Collection costs of £22,000 due to vacancies. This is offset by an increase in agency costs, see 5.4(e) below.
- iv. There is a projected underspend in Janitors of £41,000, offset by an underrecovery of recharge income, per 5.4(g)(vi) below; £8,000 less spend than previously reported.
- v. As previously reported there are underspends in Ground Maintenance and Street Cleaning of £27,000 and £58,000 respectively which will be removed as part of the 2015/16 savings exercise.

(b) Property Costs

Property Costs are projected to outturn £8,000 under budget, £6,000 less than Period 5. Since Period 5, the material movements have been as follows:

- i. Reduction in Ground Maintenance skip disposal costs of £13,000, not previously reported. This is offset by a corresponding reduction in Refuse Transfer income.
- ii. An increase in residual waste disposal costs of £13,000 due to a small increase in projected tonnages.

(c) Supplies & Services

There is a projected overspend of £1,296,000 within Supplies & Services, an increase in projected spend of £22,000 since last Committee, mainly due to the following:

- i. A further reduction in Catering provisions spend of £22,000; total underspend being £37,000; based on current expenditure.
- ii. An increase in Building Services direct purchases of £50,000; offset by a reduction in subcontractors costs of £50,000; based on the current workload.
- iii. A £30,000 increase in Roads Client Payment to Contractors due to costs incurred at Auchneagh Road and Grieve Road for essential inspections to protect public safety. These are associated with a third party boundary wall which is in a very poor condition. Works carried out at Grieve Road at the end of November 2014 will greatly reduce the scale of costs incurred from December 2014 onwards. Although the intention is to recover the monies associated with the inspections from the landowners, it is thought prudent to project the overspend at this time.
- iv. A further increase in Roads Operational Account subcontractors and materials of £14,000. The projected overspend is £1,273,000 and is offset by additional income, due mainly to increased capital works.

(d) Transportation & Plant

There is a projected overspend of £325,000, an increase in spend of £32,000 since last Committee, mainly due to:

i. A combined increase in Roads Operational Account non routine maintenance and hires of £15,000, offset by additional income. There remains an overspend in external hires of £301,000; mainly due to additional capital works, also offset by additional income.

ii. Small increases in non-routine maintenance and fuel recharges, both of £6,000 across the remaining client services. There is a corresponding increase in Vehicle Maintenance purchase of fuel of £5,000 which is offset by increased income.

(e) Administration Costs

There is a projected overspend of £48,000, an increase in spend of £28,000 since Period 5. This increase is mainly due to an increase in Refuse Collection agency costs of £24,000 due to increased sickness cover and cover for vacancies, see 5.4(a)(iii) above. As previously reported, there is an £11,000 overspend in Building Services agency costs, offset by reduced employee costs.

(f) Payments to Other Bodies

There is a projected overspend of £13,000, an increase in spend of £14,000 since last Committee. This movement is mainly due to a £16,000 increase in composting costs within Waste Strategy due to increased tonnages.

(g) Income

There is a projected overrecovery in income of £1,571,000, an increase in income of £17,000 since Period 5, the material movements being as follows:

- i. A reduction in the Roads Operational Account income of £8,000. There remains a projected overrecovery of £1,663,000 due to additional income; mainly from capital. This additional income is partially offset by additional costs with the net projected outturn for the Operational Account being an overrecovery of £14,000.
- ii. A net increase in Roads Client sales, fees and charges income of £20,000 due to an increase in fees relating to warrant repairs for Scottish Water of £60,000, offset by reductions in fees from construction consents of £25,000 and sale of permits/other income of £15,000.
- iii. An increase in projected bus shelter advertising income of £42,000. A potential shortfall in bus shelter advertising income of £30,000 was reported at the last Committee due to a dispute over the contract termination date. Latest indications are that the contract will run until at least the end of the financial year (where it was previously projected to end in November). This has resulted in the movement in projected income.
- iv. A projected underrecovery of Refuse Transfer Station tipping charges income of £13,000; in line with reduced Ground Maintenance spend, per 5.4(b)(i).
- v. A projected underrecovery in Ground Maintenance sundry income and special events income of £13,000.
- vi. As previously reported there are projected underrecoveries in special catering and janitors' income of £50,000 and £41,000, respectively. The janitors' underrecovery is offset by reduced employee costs.

5.5 Corporate Director - £20,000 Underspend

The Corporate Director budget is projecting £20,000 under budget as a result of recharges to Riverside Inverclyde. This recharge is for services provided to RI and equates to 35% of the Director's costs from November until 31st March, as agreed at the Policy & Resources Committee, November 18th 2014.

6.0 EARMARKED RESERVES

6.1 There is a planned contribution of £1,400,000 to Earmarked Reserves in the current financial year. Appendix 3 gives an update on the operational Earmarked Reserves, ie excluding strategic funding models such as RI funding, AMP and Vehicle Replacement Programme. Spend to date on these operational Earmarked Reserves is 55% of the phased budget (£951,000 less spend than anticipated). Note that whilst expenditure is behind phased budget, officers will endeavour to minimise slippage by the year end.

7.0 VIREMENTS

7.1 Committee is asked to approve virement as detailed in Appendix 4. This virement is requested in relation to Greenock town centre parking to cover the cost of consultants to assist with a residents' parking permit scheme option appraisal. This virement is from the unspent staffing element of the RAMP, is one-off in nature and increases the Greenock Town Centre Parking Strategy Earmarked Reserve. As such it has no impact on the budgets contained within this report other than to increase Earmarked Reserves as reported in Appendix 3. It is estimated that up to £25,000 will be required for this; any increase/decrease in this estimate will be similarly funded via the RAMP and reflected in future reports.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

8.1 All finance 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					

Legal

8.2 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

Human Resources

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

Equalities

8.4 There are no equality issues arising from this report.

Repopulation

8.5 There are no repopulation issues within this report.

9.0 CONSULTATIONS

9.1 The report has been jointly prepared by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and the Chief Financial Officer.

10.0 CONCLUSIONS

10.1 The Committee is currently reporting an underspend of £141,000.

11.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 There are no background papers relating to this report.

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Subjective Heading	Approved Budget 2014/15 £000	Revised Budget 2014/15 £000	Projected Out-turn 2014/15 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend	Percentage Variance %
Employee Costs	18,101	17,988	17,625	(363)	(2.02)%
Property Costs	8,066	8,185	8,166	(19)	(0.23)%
Supplies & Services	5,395	5,492	6,788	1,296	23.60%
Transport Costs	2,221	2,177	2,501	324	14.90%
Administration Costs	506	522	621	99	18.88%
Payments to Other Bodies	7,206	7,260	7,374	114	1.57%
Income	(18,473)	(18,515)	(20,107)	(1,592)	(8.60)%
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	23,022	23,109	22,968	(141)	(0.61)%
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves *	0	(1,400)	(1,400)	0	0.00%
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE EXCLUDING EARMARKED RESERVES	23,022	21,709	21,568	(141)	(0.65)%

Objective Heading	Approved Budget 2014/15 £000	Revised Budget 2014/15 £000	Projected Out-turn 2014/15 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend	Percentage Variance %
Regeneration & Planning	4,840	4,841	4,911	70	1.44%
Property Services	3,777	3,265	3,299	34	1.03%
Environmental & Commercial Services	14,247	14,845	14,620	(225)	(1.51)%
Corporate Director	158	158	138	(20)	(12.48)%
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	23,022	23,109	22,968	(141)	(0.61)%
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves *	0	(1,400)	(1,400)	0	0.00%
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE EXCLUDING EARMARKED RESERVES	23,022	21,709	21,568	(141)	(0.65)%

^{*} Per Appendix 3: New funding transferred to earmarked reserves during 2014/15

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

MATERIAL VARIANCES

Out Turn 2013/14 £000	Budget Heading	Subjective Head	Budget 2014/15 £000	Proportion of Budget	Actual to 31-Oct-14 £000	Projection 2014/15 £000	(Under)/Over Budget £000	Percentage Variance %
90	REGENERATION & PLANNING Cleaner, Greener	Employee Costs	91	51	33	52	(39) (39)	(42.86)%
0	Commercial & Industrial - Security	Property Costs	20	12	7	7	(13) (13)	(65.00)%
13	Local Plan Preparation	Administration	8	0	27	27	19 19	237.50%
0	Payments to Other Bodies - City Deal PMO	РТОВ	0	0	2	90	90 90	
(98)	Getting Ready for Work Contract Income	Income	(108)	(76)	(66)	(96)	12 12	(11.11)%
0	PROPERTY SERVICES Technical Services Agency Staff	Administration	0	0	25	30	30 30	
(11) (1,106)		Income Income	(44) (1,100)	(26) (642)	(2) (26)	(14) (1,130)	30 (30) 0	(68.18)% 2.73%

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

MATERIAL VARIANCES

Out Turn 2013/14 £000	Budget Heading	Subjective Head	Budget 2014/15 £000	Proportion of Budget	Actual to 31-Oct-14 £000	Projection 2014/15 £000	(Under)/Over Budget £000	Percentage Variance %
1,530 947 600 2,561 775 1,021 863	ENVIRONMENTAL & COMMERCIAL SERVICES Ground Maintenance Street Sweeping Vehicle Maintenance Management Roads Operational Account Janitors Building Services Unit	Employee Costs	1,542 1,043 618 2,850 788 1,063 929	347 1,608 445 597	911 548 337 1,529 465 569 461	598 2,760 832	(27) (58) (20) (90) 44 (41) (93) (285)	(1.75)% (5.56)% (3.24)% (3.16)% 5.58% (3.86)% (10.01)%
110 2,306 19 58	Ground Maintenance Hire of Skips Transfer Station Waste Disposal Public Conveniences Repairs & Maintenance Catering Cleaning Materials	Property Costs Property Costs Property Costs Property Costs	102 2,504 11 45	51 1,349 5 19	29 1,329 6 24	2,493 21	(13) (11) 10 10 (4)	(12.75)% (0.44)% 90.91% 22.22%
70 244 1,876 204 290 927	Roads Client Emergency/Miscellenous Roads Operational Account Sub-contractors Roads Operational Account Materials Building Services Unit - Direct Purchases Building Services Unit - Subcontractors Catering - Provisions	Supplies & Services Supplies & Services Supplies & Services Supplies & Services Supplies & Services Supplies & Services	25 119 810 164 220 930	47 336 96 128	34 182 1,075 105 38 442	253 1,949 250 150	30 134 1,139 86 (70) (37)	120.00% 112.61% 140.62% 52.44% (31.82)% (3.98)%
578 324 381 70	Vehicle Maintenance Fuel Client Services Non Routine Maintenance (excludes Roads) Roads Operational Account External Hires Roads Operational Account Non-Routine Maintenance	Transport & Plant Transport & Plant Transport & Plant Transport & Plant	566 216 94 26	109 38	321 144 213 24		(27) 17 301 28 319	(4.77)% 7.87% 320.21% 107.69%
24 11	Refuse Collection Agency staff Building Services Unit Agency staff	Administration Administration	20 0	7 0	31 5	48 11	28 11 39	140.00%

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

MATERIAL VARIANCES

Out Turn 2013/14 £000	Budget Heading	Subjective Head	Budget 2014/15 £000	Proportion of Budget	Actual to 31-Oct-14 £000	Projection 2014/15 £000	(Under)/Over Budget £000	Percentage Variance %
101	Waste Strategy Composting	РТОВ	88	70	88	108	20 20	22.73%
(583) (451) (289) (56) (124) (3,004) (798) (133) (435) (1,131) (77) (28) (38) (1,143)	Vehicle Maintenance Fuel Income Vehicle Maintenance Non Routine Maintenance Income Transfer Station Sales Fees & Charges Roads Client Sales, Fees and Charges Roads Client Advertising Income Roads Operational Account Capital Roads Operational Account Revenue/EMR Roads Operational Account Non Client Involvement Building Services - Work Won in Tender Building Services - Internal Public Building Repairs Building Services - External Income/Other Income Catering Special Catering Income Janitors Recharge Income CORPORATE DIRECTOR Corporate Director Recovery from Riverside Inverclyde	Income	(566) (278) (256) (123) (115) (1,666) (700) 0 (488) (900) (145) (25) (90) (1,180)	(362) (132) (150) (72) (57) (676) (284) 0 (285) (525) (85) (15) (38) (635)	(321) (188) (117) (18) (63) (1,787) (334) (57) (72) (332) (8) (6) (8) (598)	(768) (75) (505)	27 (27) 13 (20) (12) (1,520) (68) (75) (17) (35) 35 17 50 41 (1,591)	(4.77)% 9.71% (5.08)% 16.26% 10.43% 91.24% 9.71% 0.00% 3.48% 3.89% (24.14)% (68.00)% (55.56)% (3.47)%
Total Materia	al Variances						(141)	

COMMITTEE: Regeneration & Environment

<u>Project</u>	Total Funding 2014/15	Phased Budget To Period 7 2014/15	<u>Actual</u> <u>To Period 7</u> 2014/15	Projected Spend 2014/15	Amount to be Earmarked for 2015/16 & Beyond	<u>Lead Officer Update</u>
	£000	<u>£000</u>	<u>0003</u>	<u>0003</u>	£000	
Youth Employment	702	408	333	612	90	Continuing to Support the Employability programme including MA's.
Business Support Initiative	219	126	35	202	17	The Contractor is on site at West Station shops with a completion date of November, it is anticipated that the Contractor will start billing the Council shortly.
Birkmyre Park, Port Glasgow	181	175	87	171	10	Ground works and play area elements of the project are complete, but due to the lateness of the season seeding will not be done until next spring, April 2015, £10k of costs will be slipped to next year.
Investment Fund for Council Owned Bowling Clubs	77	65	0	0	77	Work completed for Wellington, Hillend, Gourock Park and Parklea. Tenders returned for Rankin Park are well in excess of funds available, Circa £50,000 against budget availability of £25,000. The situation is similar to Lady Alice. Report in preparation for CMT outlining options for the two Bowling Clubs.
Whinhill Golf Club	145	145	56	145	0	Contract awarded to construct x2 new buildings. Work in progress completion due early November.
Lower Clyde River Valley Projects	15	11	0	15	0	Project briefs developed.
Flooding Strategy	44	0	0	0	44	The funding is for Legal costs associated with the Eastern line of Falls and is unlikely to be spent before period 12 2014/15.
Local Environment Improvement Fund	40	25	21	40	0	Kelburn Park main resurfacing works complete. Painting and repair of structures in parks and open spaces completed. Awaiting final charges.
Greenock Town Centre Parking Strategy	109	84	67	84	25	Funding is for implementation of the Greenock Town Centre Parking Strategy and Decriminalised Parking Enforcement. The actual cost for the Reporter and incidentals for the hearing venue is £8k. Consultants costs are estimated at approx. £16k and the remaining spend will on P&D machines, PA equipment, discs and training. Includes £25k additional funding for residents parking options appraisal; virement requested under Section 7 and Appendix 4.

COMMITTEE: Regeneration & Environment

<u>Project</u>	Total Funding 2014/15	Phased Budget To Period 7 2014/15	Actual To Period 7 2014/15	Projected Spend 2014/15	Amount to be Earmarked for 2015/16 & Beyond	<u>Lead Officer Update</u>
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Roads - Additional revenue investment	55	47	37	55	0	£43k of carry over funding is for pot hole repairs and patching works and is substantially complete; invoice awaited for final amounts. It is now intended that the £12k of carry forward funding for the RAMP Survey be used as a contribution to the survey work required to identify and assess the condition of the Council's sea walls and coastal protection along Inverclyde's coastline.
Greenock Town Centre - Extra Police	36	36	34	36	0	Future updates would go to the Education & Communities Committee. Annual invoice received and processed in P5.
Repopulating/Promoting Inverclyde	886	210	91	261	625	Update report to September Policy & Resources Committee. All workstreams proceeding well with the exception of the external graduate placement scheme. Proposals to amend the criteria being developed.
Increased Officer Capacity - External Funding Officer	99	23	23	33	66	Post recently vacated, intention is to backfill until March 2015 and release 15/16 funding to reserves.
Employability Initiatives	525	136	25	400	125	Contracts in place. Projected spend for 2014/15 is being reviewed by Service and will be reported at the next CMT.
Greenock Municipal Buildings Tourism Initiative	150	142	0	0	150	Design commenced for Victoria Tower however will be delayed due to decision to combine with refurbishment of the District Court and apply for Heritage Lottery Fund funding. Rot survey of District Court confirms no rot present. Design to be taken to stage C to allow for grant application to be made but there will then be a delay until funding application considered. Fire Engineer commissioned to undertake a Fire Risk Assessment of Victoria Tower.
Shop Front Improvements Grants	50	50	0	50	0	Contractors have started on site. Full spend expected by year end.
Commonwealth Flotilla Event	250	250	166	217	33	Approved funding towards a major sailing event to showcase Inverclyde, its sailing opportunities, its maritime history and to celebrate the Commonwealth games. RYAS delivered their element of the event £33k under budget, which is proposed will be directed towards the legacy element that is to be carried out in due course.

COMMITTEE: Regeneration & Environment

Project	Total Funding 2014/15	Phased Budget To Period 7 2014/15	Actual To Period 7 2014/15	Projected Spend 2014/15	Amount to be Earmarked for 2015/16 & Beyond	<u>Lead Officer Update</u>
	£000	<u>£000</u>	£000	£000	£000	
Roads Defects and Drainage works	500	75	82	250		Jetpaching works and 1st external contract for pothole patching completed, with the 2nd external contract substantlially completed, and processing invoice; 3rd external contract award imminent; drainage works identified and are being designed and programmed.
Street Lighting Surveys	28	28	28	28	0	Surveys are complete.
Coastal Communities	40	40	40	40		EMR to cover Employee costs of Modern Apprentices taken on under Coastal Communities scheme. When budget is spent costs will be covered by Employability initiative EMR above.
Miscellaneous Planning & Economic	21	21	21	21	0	Reserve made up of Heritage Development Officer, Employability Review and Local Plan Preparation. Full spend achieved.
Total	4,172	2,097	1,146	2,660	1,512	

VIREMENT REQUESTS

PERIOD 7: 1st April 2014- 31st October 2014

Budget Heading		Increase Budget	(Decrease) Budget
		£	£
Greenock Town Centre Parking Strategy Earmarked Reserve	1)	25,000	
RAMP Staffing Costs	1)		25,000
Total		25,000	25,000

Note

1) Virement is requested from the unspent staffing element of the RAMP CFCR budget to the Greenock Town Centre Parking Strategy earmarked reserve to cover the cost of consultants to assist with a residents parking permit scheme option appraisal. This virement is one-off in nature and increases the Greenock Town Centre Parking Strategy Earmarked Reserve. As such it has no impact on the budgets contained within this report other than to increase Earmarked Reserves as reported in Appendix 3. It is estimated that up to £25,000 will be required for this, any increase/decrease in this estimate will be similarly funded via the RAMP and reflected in future reports.