



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Quarterly Financial Report – Quarter 1 2012/13
Date:	18 September 2012
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Relevant background information

The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee agreed at on 18 June 2010 that:

- the Council would produce financial reporting packs for the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee and each Standing Committee on a quarterly basis
- the Budget and Transformation Panel would also receive monthly financial updates if there were any significant issues to report.

The reporting pack (Appendix 1) contains a summary dashboard of the financial indicators and an executive summary explaining the financial performance of the Development Committee in the context of the financial performance of the overall council. It also provides a more detailed explanation of each of the relevant indicators covering the year to date and forecast financial position.

The style and layout reflect much of the discussion and feedback arising from the Members' financial training at the end of September 2010. As we previously advised the Committee, we will continue to develop the style and contents of the reports in liaison with members.

Central Finance and our departmental management team have worked together to develop the information within this financial reporting pack.

Key issues

Current and forecast financial position 2012/13

The Development Department is over spent by £315,000, or 5% of its net budgeted expenditure of just over £6.1 million at the end of quarter one.

Community Services are over spent by £100,000 (6%), City Events and Venues are over spent by £215,000 (13%), and Economic Initiatives are over budget by £20,000 (1%) and Directorate is under budget by £20,000 (2%).

There are four main areas which give rise to the current overall £315k (5%) over spend within the Department at the end of quarter one:

- Gross Income was £3,438k, which was £384k (12.6%) higher than the budgeted income of £3,054k. This variance is mainly due to increased grant funding in relation to Events 2012 and is offset by matched programme expenditure.
- Employee costs of £2,418k were £112k (4.4%) less than the budgeted figure of £2,530k. This was due to a number of vacant posts and reduced expenditure on training against current budget profile.
- Supplies and Services expenditure of £3,690k was £468k (14.5%) above the budget of £3,222k. This was mainly due to higher than budgeted expenditure as a result of the Events 2012 programme and is matched by increased income, see above.
- Subscriptions and Grants paid amounted to £2,478k, which was £328k (15%) higher than the budgeted figure of £2,150k. This was due to groups meeting their monitoring requirements earlier than normal, and as a result monies were paid sooner than originally profiled.

It is currently forecast that the Development Department will be under spent by £120k (0.6%) at year end.

- Community Services is forecast to be £50k (0.9 %) under budget at year end.
- Economic Initiatives is forecast to be on budget at the year-end.
- Directorate is forecast to be £70k (1.8%) under budget at year end.
- Finally, the City Events and Venues Section are forecast to be on budget at year end.

The Department will continue to monitor the variance between actual and budgeted expenditure during quarter 2.

The financial reporting pack contains more detail on both the overall Council position and the financial performance in each of the Services within the Development Department.

Resource Implications

There is a year to date over spend of £315k and forecast is that the Department will be under budget by £120k at year end.

Recommendations

Members are recommended to note the above report and associated financial reporting pack.

Decision Tracking
N/A

Key to Abbreviations
N/A

Documents Attached
Appendix 1: Financial Reporting Pack