



Belfast City Council

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| Report to: | Development Committee |
| Subject: | Quarterly Financial Report – Quarter 3 2012/13 |
| Date: | 19 February 2013 |
| Reporting Officer: | John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470 |
| Contact Officers: | David Orr, Business Support Manager, ext 3502 |

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| 1 | Relevant Background Information |
| 1.1 | The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee agreed on 18 June 2010 that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 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. |
| 1.2 | The reporting pack (Appendix 1) contains a summary of the financial indicators and an executive summary explaining the financial performance of the Development Department 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 at the year-end. |
| 1.3 | The style and layout reflect much of the discussion and feedback arising from the Members’ financial training session which was held at the end of September 2010. As we previously advised the Committee, we will continue to develop the style and content of the reports in liaison with Elected Members. |
| 1.4 | Central Finance and our departmental management team have also worked together to develop the information within this financial reporting pack. |

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| 2 | Key Issues |
| 2.1 | <i>Current and forecast financial position 2012/13</i> The Development Department is under spent by £136,754, or 0.9%, of its net budgeted expenditure of just over £15.7 million at the end of Quarter Three. Three of the services are under spent in the third quarter with Community |

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| | <p>Services being under budget by £52k (1.1%), Directorate by £73k (3.0%), City Events and Venues under spent by £12k (0.4%), while Economic Initiatives is on budget for the period.</p> |
| 2.2 | <p>There are two areas which give rise to the current overall £137k (0.9%) under spend within the Department at the end of Quarter Three:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An under spend in employee costs of £118k at the end of Quarter Three accounts for 86% of the total departmental under spend of £137k . This variance is in relation to a number of vacant posts throughout the department, as well as to the reduced usage of casual staff at the Belfast Waterfront Hall. With the structural review approved and recruitment ongoing, this level of under spend will not re-occur in 2013/14. 2. An under spend in transport costs of £19k within Community Services over the nine-month review period accounts for 14% of the total departmental under spend of £137k. This relates to the reduced use/hire of buses and is already reflected in the 2013/14 Revenue Estimates. |
| 2.3 | <p>It is currently forecast that the Development Department will be under spent by approximately £175k (0.9%) at the year-end.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Community Services is forecast to be £69,000 (1.3%) under budget at year end. – Economic Initiatives is forecast to be on budget at the year-end. – Directorate is forecast to be £90,000 (2.5%) under budget at year end. – Finally, the City Events and Venues Section are forecast to be £16,000 (0.4%) under budget at the year-end. |
| 2.4 | <p>The Department will continue to monitor the variance between actual and budgeted expenditure during Quarter Four.</p> |
| 2.5 | <p>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.</p> |

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| 3 | Resource Implications |
| 3.1 | There is a year-to-date under spend of £137k and it is forecast is that the Department will be under budget by £175k at the year-end. |

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| 4 | Equality and Good Relations Considerations |
| 4.1 | There are no Equality and Good Relations Considerations attached to this report. |

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| 5 | Recommendations |
| 5.1 | Members are asked to note the contents of the above report and associated |

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| | financial reporting pack. |
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| 6 | Decision Tracking |
| There is no decision tracking attached to this report. | |

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| 7 | Documents Attached |
| Appendix 1 - Financial Reporting Pack | |