

Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Quarterly Financial Report – Quarter 3 2013/14
Date:	18 February 2014
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Relevant background information

The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee agreed 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 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 at the year-end.

The style and layout of the reporting pack 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 contained within this financial reporting pack.

Key issues

Current and forecast financial position 2013/14

The Development Department is under spent by $(\pounds 22,174)$, or (0.1%), of its net budgeted expenditure of just over $\pounds 14.97$ million at the end of Quarter Three.

Economic Initiatives and International Development (EIID) is under budget by $(\pounds35,497)$ (0.8%), City Events and Venues is over spent by $\pounds117,625$ - 3.8% and Directorate is under spent by $(\pounds5,619)$ (0.2%), while Community Services is under budget by $(\pounds98,682)$ (2.2%) at the end of Period 9.

There are six main areas that give rise to the current overall (£22k) (0.1%) under spend within the Department at the end of Period 9. These are as follows:

- Increased income of (£137k) generated from an increase of (£51k) in Directorate, (£53k) in EIID, (£30k) in City Events and Venues and (£3k) in Community Services.
- An over spend in employee costs of £79k is made up of overspends in Directorate- £78k, Community Services -£7k and City Events and Venues-£55k, offset by an under spend in EIID of(£61k) during the period.
- An under spend of (£18k) in premises costs reflects reduced costs in the Markets (£17k), Community Services (£15k) and Directorate (£10k), and is offset by an over spend in City Venues of £24k
- 4. A net over spend of £34k relates to the section grants and subscriptions during the period and is made up of £35k in the EIID Section and £13k in Community Services, and is reduced by under spends of (£11k) in Directorate and (£3k) in City Events and Venues.
- 5. There is a reported net over spend of £22k which relates to unbudgeted expenditure in regards to compensation claims for Markets of £12k, City Events and Venues of £8k and Community Services of £2k.
- 6. There is a small net under spend of (£3k) in transport costs and supplies and services, and is made up of an over spend of £9k in supplies and services, and offset by reduced spend in transport costs of (£12k).

It is currently forecast that the Development Department will be under spent by approximately £20k (-0.5%) at the year-end.

- Community Services is forecast to be £106k (-1.9%) under budget at yearend.
- Economic Initiatives is forecast to be £11k (-0.2%) under budget at the yearend.
- Directorate is forecast to be £17k (0.5%) over budget at the year-end.
- Finally, the City Events and Venues Section are forecast to be £80k (2.0%) over budget at the year-end.

The Department will continue to monitor the variance between actual and budgeted expenditure during Quarter Four.

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 under spend of $(\pounds 22k)$ at the end of Period 9. However, the forecast is that the Department will be under spent by $\pounds 20k$ at the 2013-14 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