



REPORT TO: GRAMPIAN VALUATION JOINT BOARD ON 26 AUGUST 2022

SUBJECT: REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL TO 31 JULY 2022

BY: TREASURER TO THE BOARD

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 To consider the Revenue Budget Monitoring Statement for the period 1 April to 31 July 2022.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Board considers the Revenue Monitoring Statement to 31 July 2022.

3. CURRENT POSITION

3.1 At its meeting on 4 February 2022, the Board agreed the Revenue Budget for 2022/23 (paragraph 4 of the Minute refers) be set at £4,896,000 and approved the requisitions to constituent authorities of £4,749,000, with £147,000 being funded from the earmarked NDR reserve.

3.2 The **APPENDIX** shows the monitoring position to 31 July 2022 against the budget. It gives details of the 2022/23 Revenue Budget, actual expenditure to date and the variance of expenditure against budget to date.

3.3 Total net expenditure at 31 July 2022 is £1,410,000 which is an underspend against budget to date of £247,000.

3.4 There are currently 14 vacancies and recruitment is actively being carried out.

NDR Reform

3.5 There is £415,000 budgeted this year for continuing the implementation of the NDR reforms following the Barclay review. £147,000 will be funded from the balance in the earmarked reserve with a further £268,000 included in the requisitions from authorities.

3.6 Of the NDR budget, £359,000 is for staffing. As mentioned in para 3.4, recruitment is now being actively pursued for these NDR Reform posts although it has not yet been possible to fill all the posts. Currently four Graduate Trainee Valuers, one Admin Assistant and two Clerical Officer posts

have been filled from the NDR staffing budget. Two valuer posts remain vacant.

- 3.7 The remainder of the NDR budget is in Supplies & Services for Postages, ICT, subscriptions etc, but there has been no spend to date on these areas.

Year to Date Variances

- 3.8 There is a £159,000 underspend against budget to date within employee costs. The variance arises from vacant posts in the establishment, including NDR posts not yet occupied, and a 2% pay award for 2022/23 which has been budgeted for but not yet agreed.
- 3.9 Property costs are currently on budget to date. At the time of budget setting, the potential re-configuration of Woodhill House had been delayed and so the original rental and service charge budgets were reinstated. A reduced footprint for the service would result in a reduced rental charge and associated costs for the service. It is now looking unlikely that any move will take place until 2023/24.
- 3.10 There is a small variance within Transport Costs budgets, which will continue to be monitored throughout the year.
- 3.11 Budgets within Supplies and Services are under by £88,000 with the main variance in Postages and ICT Maintenance; underspends of £36,000 and £39,000 respectively. This is not causing concern at this early stage of the year.
- 3.12 Support charges are processed at 31 March as part of the year end closedown.
- 3.13 There are no other significant variances to report at this early stage in the year.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The total net expenditure as at 31 July 2022 is £1,410,000 giving an underspend against budget to date of £247,000.
- 4.2 The Assessor and his Senior Management Team closely monitor and control budgets in order to keep within agreed levels and generate savings wherever possible throughout the year.
- 4.3 A detailed revenue monitoring and estimated outturn statement will be reported at the Board meeting in October 2022.

Author of Report:	Susan Souter, Accountant.
Background papers:	Held within Accountancy Section, Moray Council
Date:	17 August 2022