

ANGUS COUNCIL

FINANCE & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – 3 December, 2002
POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 10 December, 2002

REVENUE BUDGET OUTTURN 2002/2003

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this report is to give members an indication of the likely revenue outturn for the financial year 2002/2003.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee notes the contents of this report for its interest.

2. BACKGROUND

At the Special meeting of Angus Council on 14 February, 2002 the Council approved the revenue budget estimates for the 2002/2003 financial year. Details of the individual departmental revenue budgets are contained in the Final Revenue And Capital Budgets Volume 2002/2003 issued to members in April 2002.

3. INTRODUCTION

As part of the Council's procedures for monitoring revenue expenditure and income, year end projections of net expenditure are prepared on a regular basis (taking account of actual figures to date). Any significant variances between the projected outturn and the original budget are investigated and where necessary, budget virements effected.

4. CURRENT POSITION

The budgets set out in the Appendix have been amended by carry forwards. Report 525/01 to the Finance and Information Technology Committee of 1 May, 2001 set out proposals for virement flexibility between financial years. This virement flexibility permits each General Fund department to carry forward 50% of any underspend in 2001/2002 to the 2002/2003 financial year, subject to a maximum ceiling. The departmental budgets shown in the attached statement have been amended for the amounts set out in Report 1049/02 although it should be noted that the carry forward in respect of Contract Services (£78k) has been allocated to Recreation Services for application as a contract variation to Contract Services. It should also be noted that the Education carry forward has been revised to £100k from £84k.

As a result of previous years' underspends on Policy Led Budgeting initiatives, a virement of £180k has been made from General Fund balances into the relevant departmental budgets.

The Appendix indicates the following variations :-

Education – Whilst the projected outturn for the year as reported to Education Committee – R.1393/02 indicates a marginal underspend of £120k, the Director of Education will ensure that the final outturn is in line with the department's agreed revenue budget.

Social Work – The projected outturn report for this committee indicates that there could be an underspend of around £997k. The Directors of Finance and Social Work are to submit a report to the Social Work Committee in January, 2003 regarding the outturn position.

Planning & Transport – There is an anticipated underspend of £403k due to a £250k underspend on concessionary fares; £91k underspend in rural pathways; and £62k from increased income from planning and building warrants. Projects are being progressed in respect of rural pathways ringfenced monies but timing will depend on reaching agreements with land-owners. Any underspend in respect of rural paths will be carried forward in terms of ringfenced monies. The Director of Planning and Transport is working up proposals to utilise any remaining underspend to best effect and these will include enhancing the budget provision for tendered bus services. Further reports will be submitted in due course.

Other Housing – The £11k overspend is made up of a lower level of grant support on Housing Benefit (£35k), which is offset by premature loan repayments (£24k) although it should be noted capital financing charges will increase accordingly.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications arising from this Report.

6. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive and Director of Law & Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

7. CONCLUSION

This report reflects ongoing monitoring of budget versus actual. There are no particular issues of concern at present.

DAVID S. SAWERS
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

NOTE: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

DSS/JC/KB/NS
November, 2002