

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

18 SEPTEMBER 2013

Agenda Item	5
Report No	PED 54/13

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT TO JULY 2013

Report by Director of Planning & Development

SUMMARY

This report comments on the Revenue Monitoring Statement for the period to the end of July 2013 and forecasts a budget under spend of £0.664m at the year end.

1. Introduction

1.1 The statement attached as **Annex 1** shows the financial position to end July 2013.

2. Year-end Projection

2.1 At this stage in the financial year the Service predicts an under-spend of £0.664m at the year end. However there are variations from budget (see section 3 below) which are being managed.

3. Comment on Variances in 2013/14

3.1 The Fee income budget for 2013/14 was increased by £0.380m in the roll-forward budget to take account of an increase of 20% in the Planning fees. At the end of July 2013, Planning and Building Warrant Fees have achieved 39% and 36% respectively of the annual budget and were as follows (with comparison to the previous two years adjusted in the case of Planning Fees to take account of the 20% rise in fees in 13/14)

	Planning Fees £m	Building Warrant Fees £m	Total £m
July 2013	0.860	0.662	1.522
July 2012	0.642*	0.566	1.208
July 2011	0.644*	0.562	1.206

(* adjusted by +20%)

3.2 Even with the increase in Planning Fees in 13/14, Planning Fee income has increased compared to the previous two years and it is forecast that it will exceed budget by £0.100m by the year end. Similarly Building Warrant Fees have increased compared to previous years and they are forecast to exceed budget by £0.025m by the year end. The fee income position will be carefully monitored throughout the year.

3.3 Public Local Inquiry etc. costs incurred in the year to date would appear to have exceeded the annual budget (see details in note 2) but the £0.068m refund of legal costs for Tullochgibbon Quarry was accounted for in 2012/13. However as the actual income has still to be received there is a net cost showing in the statement to date. Actual spend against the £0.050m budget is only £0.016m at the end of July. Two further PLIs are in the process of getting started however and the year end forecast at present is a budget overspend of £0.020m which is covered by savings identified elsewhere in the overall budget – see below.

3.4 Senior Management has identified the following saving in spending elsewhere in the budget-

- Staff savings in the order of £0.195m from management of vacancies, reduced hours and frozen posts.

3.5 As detailed elsewhere on this agenda in the Employability Services report, it is proposed to manage the Employability budget over the current and the 2014/15 financial years to sustain employability activity when the current match European Social Fund finishes in 2014. If agreed, a request will be made to the Finance, Housing and Resources Committee to earmark the funds for use in 2014/15, with the result that the current year budget for Employability will decrease by £400k (final sum to be reviewed/amended at year end). Committee will be advised of the final earmarked sum.

4. Budget Savings

4.1 The attached monitoring statement takes full account of all budget savings in 2013/14 which the P&D Service was asked to make by the Council.

5. Implications

5.1 There are no resource, legal, equality, climate change/carbon clever or risk implications arising out of this report.

6. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Committee:

- **Note** the monitoring report to end of July 2013 and **Agree** the management action which has been taken to date.

Designation: Director of Planning & Development

Date: 06 September 2013

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT Revenue Expenditure Monitoring Report

1 APRIL - 31 JULY 2013

Summary

	£000 Actual Year To Date	£000 Annual Budget	£000 Year End Estimate	£000 Year End Variance
BY ACTIVITY				
Director & Business Support				
Director & Business Team	123	681	597	(84)
Environment & Development				
Management	20	79	74	(5)
Countryside, Heritage & Natural Resources	653	2,073	2,063	(10)
Economy & Regeneration	640	2,079	2,074	(5)
Employability Service	164	2,250	1,850	(400)
Planning & Building Standards				
Management	28	87	87	0
Planning & Building Standards HQ	84	306	276	(30)
Development Plans	198	662	647	(15)
Area Planning & Building Standards	996	3,152	3,142	(10)
Appeals, Public Local Inquiries & Court Cases	84	50	70	20
Income				
Planning Fee Income	(860)	(2,184)	(2,284)	(100)
Building Warrant Fee Income	(662)	(1,849)	(1,874)	(25)
	1,468	7,386	6,722	(664)

BY SUBJECTIVE

Staff Costs	2,309	7,432	7,237	(195)
Other Costs	950	4,551	4,161	(390)
Gross Expenditure	3,259	11,983	11,398	(585)
Grants	(1)	(41)	(41)	0
Other Income	(1,790)	(4,556)	(4,635)	(79)
Total Income	(1,791)	(4,597)	(4,675)	(79)
	1,468	7,386	6,722	(664)

Notes

1. Percentage of annual budget	Expenditure	Income
This year	<u>27%</u>	<u>39%</u>
Last year	<u>28%</u>	<u>35%</u>
2. Appeals, Public Local Inquiries and Court Cases	Actual Year to Date £000	
PLIs general	9	
Tullochgribbon Quarry, Dulnain Bridge (Supreme Court)	68	
Invergordon Incinerator (PLI)	10	
Daviot Wind Farm (written submissions appeal)	<u>(3)</u>	
TOTAL	<u>84</u>	
3. Projects (overleaf)		

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT Revenue Expenditure Monitoring Report

1 APRIL - 31 JULY 2013

Summary

3. Projects	Actual Year to Date £000
14BH - NPP2	1
14DL500 The Fox Trail Project	7
14DL501 Culloeden Access & Interpretation Project	25
14DT006 - Inverness, Academy Street, THI	(273)
14DT007 - Highland Environment Network Project	(7)
14EC002 Fisheries Axis 4 Project	(5)
14EC007 Aquaculture Initiatives	-
14EC003 Fisheries Axis 5 Project	2
14EC013 Marine Biodiversity Project 2013-16	(11)
14ED009 - TC - Income	(55)
14LF -Great Glen Way donations	(87)
14LF West Highland Way donations	(2)
14LF Glen Nevis Visitor Centre donations	7
14LF Tourism Workshops Project	2
14LG - BAP Implementation Programme, General	4
14LH003 ESF Create & Employ Project	(154)
14LH004 ESF Youth Work Experience Project	63
14LH005 Business Growth Grant Project	(153)
14LH006- ESF Commissioned Services Project	(87)
14MA - Wick THI	(92)
14MD - Highland Marine Resources & Communities Scheme	(84)
14MF001 - Highland Core Path Implementation	(80)
14MH - Conservation Areas Regeneration Scheme	(116)
14N - LEADER	<u>2,901</u>
Total	1,806