

REPORT TO THE CABINET

14 February 2017

Cabinet Member: Councillor Peredur Jenkins, Cabinet Member - Resources

Subject: The Revenue Budget 2016/17 -
Third Quarter Review (December 2016)

Contact Officer: Dafydd L Edwards, Head of Finance

1. The decision sought / Purpose of the report

The Cabinet is asked to:

- Receive the report on the third quarter review of the Revenue Budget (position as at 31 December 2016), and consider the latest financial position regarding the budgets of each department / service, asking the Cabinet Members and relevant heads of department to take appropriate steps regarding the matters under their leadership/management.
- Transfer (£115k) from the Regulatory Department to the Council's general balances to assist with the changes facing us to fulfil the Council's priorities.
- Harvest (£250k) from the favourable Council Tax collections, (£180k) from the Benefits underspend, (£600k) reserve budget, together with (£250k) of the underspend included within 'Other' to the Council's general balances, with £1,055 of the sum (£756k 2017/18, and £299k 2018/19) to be used specifically to finance obligations in the Education field that have already been approved by the Cabinet on 13 December 2016.

2. Introduction / Background

It is the Cabinet's responsibility to take action, as necessary, in order to secure appropriate management of the Council's budgets (e.g. approval of significant virements or supplementary budgets).

This report presents the latest quarterly review of the Council's revenue budget for 2016/17, and a summary of the position by each Department is outlined in **Appendix 1**.

In **Appendix 2**, further details are given relating to the main issues and the budget headings where significant variances are forecasted, along with specific recommendations where appropriate.

2.1 Regulatory Department

The favourable income position, together with early realisation of savings by the Regulatory Department this year, has resulted in an underspend in excess of (£100k), and accordingly it is recommended that the underspend in excess of £100k is transferred to the Council's General Balances.

2.2 Corporate

It is recommended that the underspend from the Council Tax base, Benefits, reserve budget and other headings within the Corporate budget, are transferred to the Council's Balances to assist with the changes facing us to fulfil the Council's priorities.

2.3 General

The third quarter review of the budgets, generally, reflects an acceptable level of financial management, but it is expected that the Children's Department take steps to manage the budget by 31 March.

Next steps and timetable

Implement the recommendations submitted and present a follow-up report to the Cabinet at the end of the financial year.

Local member's views

Not relevant

Opinion of the Statutory Officers

Chief Executive:

Nothing to add to the report

Monitoring Officer:

Nothing to add from a propriety perspective

Head of Finance:

I have collaborated with the Cabinet Member in the preparation of this report and I confirm the content.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Summary of Departments' net budget position.

Appendix 2 – Details of budgets and significant variances.