

Performance and Resources Committee Meeting

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 16 December 2020
Paper Title	GCRB Running & Programme Costs 2020-21
Agenda Item	12
Paper Number	PRC3-G
Responsible Officer	Jim Godfrey, Finance and Resources Director
Status	Disclosable
Action	For Noting

1. Report Purpose

1.1. To update the Committee on the GCRB running costs for 2020-21.

2. Recommendations

- **2.1.** The Committee is asked to:
 - **note** that the forecast position for GCRB Running Costs 2020-21 remains the same as the original budget.
 - **note** the forecast saving in GCRB Programme Costs 2020-21.
 - **consider** the proposed revision to the GCRB Programme Costs 2020-21 and make an appropriate recommendation to the Board.

3. GCRB Running Costs

3.1. The table below provides a summary of income and expenditure for 2020-21. It compares expenditure for the financial year alongside the budget and latest forecast.

	Period ending 30 November 2020		Revised Forecast 2020-21		Original Budget 2020-21	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income						
Allocated from Regional Grant 2020-21	147		442		442	
Total		147		442		442
Expenditure						
Staffing	104		310		303	
Board Costs	28		90		90	
Audit	10		30		30	
Other	8		19		19	
Total		150		449		442
Surplus/(Deficit)		(3)		(7)		0

- **3.2.** The income for 2020-21 consists of an amount set aside from the regional grant. After the first four months of the financial year there is a small variance to the original budget.
- **3.3.** Expenditure on salaries is now forecast to be slightly above the original budget. This is due to a small increase in National Insurance contributions and also the salary increase for the Executive Team being above the level estimated in May 2020.

4. GCRB Programme Costs

4.1. The table below provides a summary of income and expenditure for 2020-21. The table compares expenditure for the financial year alongside the original budget and the latest forecast.

	Period ending 30 November 2020		Revised Forecast 2020-21		Original Budget 2020-21	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income						
Allocated from Regional Grant 2020-21	117		351		351	
SFC Strategic Funding 2020-21	67		201		200	
Total		147		552		551
Expenditure						
Action 4 Children	20		60		60	
Young Enterprise Scotland	67		201		200	
ESOL	32		96		96	
Curriculum Plans	0		25		25	
Child Poverty	0		70		70	
Climate Change/Sustainability	0		50		100	
Total		119		502		551
Surplus/(Deficit)		26		50		0

- **4.2.** It is forecast that potential income will exceed expenditure by £50,000. This is due to the fact that the recruitment process for the Environmental Sustainability Manager was delayed at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- **4.3.** As a result of the anticipated cost saving, two courses of action are proposed:
 - That an amount of £20,000 is transferred to GCRB running costs (to meet the additional cost of the Colleges Scotland subscription)¹.
 - That an amount of £10,000 is set aside in the budget to meet the costs of implementing the Mental Health Strategy (that was developed in 2019-20).
- **4.4.** The Committee is asked to consider the two revisions and make a recommendation to the Board.

¹ There is a separate report on the agenda considering this in further detail

5. Risk Analysis

5.1. There are no risks associated with this report.

6. Equalities Implications

6.1. There are no equalities implications as a direct result of this report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1. There are no specific legal implications associated with this report.

8. Resource Implications

8.1. The financial implications associated with the 2020-21 budget are set out in the report.

9. Strategic Plan Implications

9.1. GCRB running, and programme, costs fund appropriate staffing and operational capacity to enable a range of activity related directly to the achievement of regional strategic goals, including delivery of a regional governance system, the effective management of regional finances and resources, and the coordination of a coherent and high quality regional curriculum which meets economic and social needs.