

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet
15 January 2010

Children's Services Select Committee
27 January 2010

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2010-11 (as at the end of Period 7)

(N/B. This is an edited version of the full Budget report received by Cabinet on 14 December – this version contains only the information pertinent to DCE)

Purpose of Report

1. A key area of movement since the last period has been:
 - DCE – £0.914 million reduction due to an increase in the contribution from Dedicated Schools Grant, subject to schools forum confirmation, towards looked after children placements in residential schools.

General Fund

10. The overall net position by departments is as follows:

Department	Revised Budget £ m	Actual Period 7 £ m	Forecast Y/E £ m	(Under)/ overspend £ m	(Under)/ overspend Reported at period 5 £ m	Movement since period 5 £m
DCE (paras 12-15)	49.889	150.054	50.090	0.201	1.115	(0.914)
DCS (paras 16-19)	116.820	81.641	121.944	5.124	5.229	(0.105)
DNP (paras 20-22)	80.845	45.537	81.440	0.595	0.547	0.048
DHWB (paras 23-25)	5.142	2.662	5.213	0.071	0.183	(0.112)
DOR (paras 26-27)	66.538	18.849	65.688	(0.850)	(0.850)	-
Corporate (paras 28-29)	28.043	4.423	22.857	(5.186)	(5.186)	-
TOTAL	347.277	303.166	347.232	(0.045)	1.038	(1.083)

Department for Children and Education (DCE)

12. Overall the Department of Children & Education is now forecast to overspend by £0.201 million in 2010/11. This can be broken down as a £0.509 million underspend on service related activity and a £0.710 shortfall remaining from the £2.1 million of Area Based Grant reductions. Placement budgets for

looked after children (LAC) remain under considerable pressure as numbers of LAC have increased through the year.

13. The following notes summarise the key pressures and the assumptions that have been made in calculating the projected position:
14. Whilst progress has been made in implementing recovery actions to offset projected overspends in some areas, pressures remain against demand led budgets including External Residential Placements, In-house Foster Care, Legal Services and Aftercare.
15. A review of placements for Children and young people placed in residential schools has taken place and it has been possible to increase the contribution, subject to confirmation by the schools forum, from the overall schools budget (Dedicated Schools Grant) towards these placements on a one off basis in the current year.

Proposals

41. That Members note the report showing a balanced position, pending future monitoring reports that will highlight ongoing actions being taken to continue a balanced budget.

Reasons for Proposals

42. That Members can approve a continued corporate approach to managing the financial pressures and government reductions and ensure a balanced budget.

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Unpublished documents relied upon in the preparation of this report: NONE
Environmental impact of the recommendations contained in this report: NONE

Appendix 1 – Wiltshire Council Revenue Budget Monitoring Report