

PART A: MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: 3 DECEMBER 2009

REPORT OF THE: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (s151)

PAUL CRESSWELL

TITLE OF REPORT: REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To present to members a revenue budget monitoring report for 2009/2010.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that members:
 - (i) note the revised budget monitoring reporting arrangements; and
 - (ii) note the content of the report.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To meet the requirements of internal inspection and to ensure Members are kept regularly informed of the Council's financial position (in year).

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

4.1 There are no significant risks in receiving this report.

REPORT

5.0 BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

5.1 Ryedale District Council has a strong record of good financial management. This has been recognised by the Council's external auditors over a number of years. This performance has continued to improve. Ryedale District Council was scored at level 3 out of a possible 4 for the Use of Resources judgement in 2008/9 by the External Auditors.

- 5.2 Established practice for budget monitoring currently takes place outside the formal budget process. Executive Management Information System (EMIS) reports are prepared monthly and considered by Corporate Management Team and the Heads of Service. Where appropriate, issues highlighted in these reports are investigated or considered further. The current EMIS reports are also provided to the Party Group Leaders on a quarterly basis.
- 5.3 A report on budget monitoring arrangements was presented to the Resources Working Party at its meeting on the 16 September 2009 where it was resolved that:
 - (i) Budget Monitoring Information System reports to be a standing item for discussion at the Resources Working Party (RWP); and
 - (ii) A formal budget monitoring report is presented to the Policy and Resources Committee following each RWP.
- 5.4 This report is the first report satisfying the resolution above.

6.0 POLICY CONTEXT

6.1 This report is in line with existing policies.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Resources Working Party has been consulted on the production of this report.

8.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 8.1 Attached at Annex A is a summary of the significant variances within the Council's revenue accounts in the current year, 2009/2010. This report is derived from the information contained within the EMIS reports plus additional significant budgets within the Authority.
- 8.2 Members will see that overall to date there is a net increase in costs of £89k with a projection for the full year of £344k. Of this £151k is planned to come from specific Council reserves and £90k relates to funding of the Council's capital programme.
- 8.3 The following are additional comments on the Annex:
 - (i) The salary saving includes approximately £70k from the pay award being 1% less than budgeted. This saving will assist in preparing the Council's 2010/2011 budget.
 - (ii) The compensation payable to Red Cross arises out of the legal agreement should they choose to relocate.
 - (iii) The shortfall on the efficiency programme has been monitored by the Resources Working Party and compensating savings have been identified to cover part of the shortfall.
 - (iv) External audit fees have increased significantly over recent years and it is likely that unavoidable growth in this area will need to be considered as part of the 2010/2011 budgets.
- 8.4 Other significant budgets including Concessionary Fares and vehicle lease costs are all expected to be within budget in the current year at this time.

9.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The following implications have been identified:
 - a) Financial

There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

There are no new legal issues arising out of this report.

c) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental, Crime & Disorder)

There are no significant issues arising out of this report.

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Background Papers:

None

Background Papers are available for inspection at:

N/a