

North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 8 September 2014

ITEM 6(a)

2014/15 Financial
Management Report to 31
July 2014

Portfolios: Elected Mayor Finance and Resources	Cabinet Member: Norma Redfearn Cllr Ray Glindon
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Report from Service Area: Finance and Commercial Services

Responsible Officer: Janice Gillespie, Strategic Manager Finance **Tel:** 643 5701

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Purpose:

1.1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the Authority's financial position as at 31 July 2014 and to approve revisions to the Authority's Investment Plan.

1.1.2 The purpose of this report is therefore to:

- (a) Advise Cabinet of the forecast budget monitoring position for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Schools' Finance as at 31 July 2014 (Annex 1, Sections 2, 3 and 4);
- (b) Seek Cabinet approval for the receipt of the new revenue grants (Annex 1, Section 2, Paragraph 2.11, Table 2 and Appendix N);
- (c) Advise Cabinet of the Authority's Investment Plan spend to 31 July 2014 and the financing of the Plan to the end of the year (Annex 1, Section 5); and,
- (d) Seek Cabinet approval for variations of £1.273m in the Investment Plan (Annex 1, Section 5, Tables 4 and 5 and Paragraph 5.5).

1.2 Recommendations:

1.2.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (a) notes the budget monitoring position as at 31 July 2014;

- (b) approves the receipt of new revenue grants;
- (c) notes the level of spend on the Investment Plan as at 31 July 2014; and,
- (d) approves the variations of £1.273m in the Investment Plan.

1.3 Forward Plan

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 16 June 2014.

1.4 Council plan and policy framework.

The budget is a key strand of the Authority's Budget and Policy Framework.

1.5 Information - Executive Summary

- 1.5.1 Annex 1 to this report sets out the budget monitoring position as at 31 July 2014, and includes forecast outturn positions for 2014/15 for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account and the Investment Plan, including a summary of schemes delivered. The Annex also includes an update on Schools.
- 1.5.2 **General Fund Revenue Account:** As at 31 July 2014, the forecast year-end position reflects an in-year surplus of £0.014m.
- 1.5.3 **Housing Revenue Account (HRA):** The HRA is forecast to have year-end balances at 31 March 2015 of £3.027m, which is £0.379m higher than budget. The higher than forecast balances are mainly as a result of higher opening balances due to the impact of previous years' financial performance (£0.359m). The forecast in year surplus is an estimated £0.130m.
- 1.5.4 **School finances:** This report includes an update in respect of work in progress with regard to 2014/15 school funding (Annex 1 Section 4).
- 1.5.5 **Investment Plan:** The Investment Plan for 2014-18, adjusted for reprogramming approved by Cabinet, is £213.794m. Variations of £1.273m are proposed in this report. Full details are shown in section 5 of the annex to this report. The report also sets out some of the achievements in terms of delivery of projects in the first two months of the financial year, as well as summarising the level of spend on projects for the year.

1.6 Decision options:

Cabinet may agree the recommendations as set out in Section 1.2 of this report. Alternatively Cabinet can disagree with the proposals. The main decision option is around the approval of the variations to the Investment Plan.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Cabinet is recommended to agree the proposals set out in section 1.2 of this report as it is important that Cabinet continues to monitor performance against the budget, especially given the current level of financial pressures faced by the public sector.

1.8 Appendices:

Annex 1	2014/15 Financial Management Report to 31 July 2014
Appendix A	Business and Economy
Appendix B	Chief Executive's Office
Appendix C	Finance and Commercial Services
Appendix D	Law and Governance
Appendix E	Public Health
Appendix F	Adult Social Care
Appendix G	Children, Young People and Learning
Appendix H	Commissioning and Fair Access
Appendix I	Environment and Leisure
Appendix I	Housing General Fund
Appendix I	Deputy Chief Executive Central Costs
Appendix J	Corporate Items
Appendix K	Housing Revenue Account
Appendix L	2014-18 Investment Plan variations
Appendix M	2014-18 Revised Investment Plan
Appendix N	In year grant changes
Appendix O	CEI Programme 2014/15: Progress report
Appendix P	Glossary of Terms

1.9 Contact officers:

Janice Gillespie - Corporate Finance Matters - Tel 643 5701

Margaret Keith –Treasury Management matters - Tel 643 5747

Cathy Davison - Capital Plan (financing) matters - Tel 643 5727

Alison Campbell – Business Finance Manager - Tel 643 7038

Darrell Campbell - Housing Revenue Account matters - Tel 643 7052

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers and research reports have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the offices of the author:

(a) Revenue Budget 2014/15 (P).

http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/pls/portal/NTC_PSCM.PSCM_Web.download?p_ID=552107

- (b) Approved Investment Plan 2014-18 (P).
http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/pls/portal/NTC_PSCM.PSCM_Web.download?p_ID=551260
- (c) Council Reserves and Balances Policy (P).
http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/pls/portal/NTC_PSCM.PSCM_Web.download?p_ID=550891

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

As this is a financial report, implications are covered in the body of the report and Annex 1. This report will also be presented to the Authority's Finance Sub-Committee at its meeting on 17 September 2014.

2.2 Legal

The Council has a duty to ensure it can deliver a balanced budget. The Local Government Act 2003 imposes a duty on an authority to monitor its budgets during the year and consider what action to take if a potential deterioration is identified.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

Internal consultation

Internal consultation has taken place with the Cabinet Member for Finance, the Elected Mayor, the Senior Leadership Team and Senior Finance Officers.

Community engagement

The 2014/15 budget was completed after widespread consultation in line with the Council's approved Budget Engagement Strategy. The report to Council on 6 February 2014 entitled "2014-2018 Financial Planning and Budget Process report" summarises the outcome of this engagement (see Appendix B of the report).

2.4 Human rights

The proposals within this report do not have direct implications in respect of the Human Rights Act 1998.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no direct equalities and diversity implications arising from this report.

2.6 Risk management

Potential future financial pressures against the Authority are covered in this report and registered through the Authority's risk management process.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no direct environmental and sustainability implications arising from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Deputy Chief Executive
- Head of Service
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Head of Corporate Strategy