

AUCHTERARDER COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE

27 February 2019

2019/20 BUDGET & 2018/19 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Report by Head of Finance (Report No. 19/57)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report seeks approval of the budget for Financial Year 2019/20 and details the Income and Expenditure to 31 January 2019 and the projected outturn for Financial Year 2018/19.

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 The proposed budget for 2019/20 has been prepared based on activity undertaken in 2018/19 and prior years. This report also provides the monitoring position and projected outturn for Financial Year 2018/19.

2. PROPOSALS

2.1 Budget 2019/20

Following the review of income and expenditure trends for previous years it is proposed that the 2019/20 budget remains largely unchanged from 2018/19, the only proposed adjustment relating to Interest Earned. There has been minimal property related Repair and Maintenance expenditure during 2018/19, however, it is proposed to maintain the £2,000 budget for 2019/20 to fund the potential costs arising from landlord obligations for the upkeep of the Common Good land. The proposed budget for 2019/20 is set out in Appendix 1 to the report. The opening balance of the fund assumes the approval of applications for Financial Assistance at this meeting. Any movement as a consequence of the decisions taken at the Committee meeting today will be reported at the next meeting.

2.1.1 Financial Assistance

A review of expenditure over the previous five years shows that Financial Assistance expenditure peaked at £17,163 in 2014/15. Expenditure for all other years has remained either on or below the approved budget when large projects, such as the Core Paths Improvements, are excluded. It is, therefore, proposed that the Financial Assistance budget continues to reflect historic expenditure patterns whilst retaining a degree of flexibility and continues to be maintained at £10,000 for 2019/20.

2.1.2 Interest Earned

It is proposed that the budget for Interest Earned is reduced from £2,500 to £2,000 in line with the forecast for income generated from the fixed term deposit. The proposed budget adjustment addresses the impact of the overall reduction in the balance of the Fund.

2.2 Financial Statement 2018/19

On the basis of Appendix 2, it is anticipated that there will be a deficit of £9,688 in financial year 2018/19 and the Fund's Revenue Account Balance is estimated to be £274,830 at 31 March 2019. The movement from the previously reported surplus of £9,500 (Report 18/310 refers) relates to an anticipated overspend on Financial Assistance of £20,265, a £1,400 underspend on Repairs and Maintenance and a reduction in Interest income of £600. In addition there has been a small increase (£277) in Rental income received in the year.

3. **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 The Committee is requested to:

- (i) Approve the Auchterarder Common Good Fund budget for Financial Year 2019/20 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.
- (ii) Note the Auchterarder Common Good Fund Income and Expenditure and the projected outturn to 31 March 2019 as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

Author(s)

Name	Designation	Contact Details
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Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Stewart MacKenzie	Head of Finance	30 January 2019
Jim Valentine	Depute Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer	6 February 2019

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1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	None
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	None
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	None
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	Yes
Strategic Environmental Assessment	Yes
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	Yes
Legal and Governance	None
Risk	None
Consultation	
Internal	Yes
External	None
Communication	
Communications Plan	None

1. Strategic Implications

1.1 Corporate Plan

- 1.1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2013 – 2018 lays out five outcome focussed strategic objectives which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resources allocation. They are as follows:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

- 1.1.2 This report relates to all objectives.

2. Resource Implications

2.1 Financial

- 2.1.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report other than those reported within the body of the main report.

3. Assessments

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

3.1.2 The information contained within this report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) and has been assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA.

3.2 Strategic Environmental Assessment

3.2.1 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.

3.2.2 The information contained within this report has been considered under the Act. However, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report.

3.3 Sustainability

3.3.1 Under the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 the Council has to discharge its duties in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. In terms of the Climate Change Act, the Council has a general duty to demonstrate its commitment to sustainability and the community, environmental and economic impacts of its actions.

3.3.2 The information contained within this report has been considered under the Act. However, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report.

4. Consultation

4.1 Internal

4.1.1 The Depute Chief Executive/Chief Operating Officer has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

5.1 No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

6. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Auchterarder Common Good Fund - Proposed Budget for Year 2019/20.

Appendix 2 – Auchterarder Common Good Fund - Financial Statement for period to 31 January 2019 for Financial Year 2018/19.