

Financial Position Quarter Four 2014/15

1. General Fund Revenue Budget

- 1.1 The Council approved a General Fund Revenue Budget of £14,893,770 on 26 February 2014. The actual position compared to this budget is continuously monitored by managers, EMT and Portfolio Holders in order to detect any significant variances of expenditure or income from the approved amounts contained in the budget.

2. Capital Programme

- 2.1 A Capital Programme totalling £7,242,300, covering the two years 2013/14 to 2014/15, was approved at the same Council meeting. Of this total, £2,238,000 was estimated to be spent in 2014/15.

3. Revenue Budget Position

- 3.1 The outturn position is a surplus of £7,327 which is in line with the approved budget and budget monitoring predictions during the year. The Audit and Risk Committee agenda for its meeting of 6 July 2015 contains a commentary on the outturn in the report in relation to the statement of accounts for 2014-15, which can be referred to for further details such as areas where variances occurred.

4. Capital Programme Position

- 4.1 The Capital Programme approved by Council in February 2014 has been updated to take account of slippage in 2013/14. Where planned expenditure did not occur last year, this has been added to the budget for 2014/15 (apart from any cases where costs have been reduced or expenditure will no longer be incurred). The revised budget for capital projects in 2014/15 totals £4,067,100.
- 4.2 The actual capital outturn for 2014/15 is £2,061,454. The shortfall in spending occurred because some projects were unable to be commenced or completed in 2014/15, for example; vehicles scheduled for replacement have been kept in use for as long as they are capable of being operated economically; the results of consultation regarding the replacement/repair of play equipment are awaited; external funding has yet to be confirmed or received (Madeley Extracare contribution, Pooldam Marshes nature reserve); further work that is dependent upon the completion of works by other parties (Lowlands Road); and, the finalisation of scheme design and costs/contributions (Clayton Sports Centre, Brampton Park).

5. Investment Counterparties

- 5.1 Investment counterparties with whom money is invested, as at 31 March 2015 are as follows (with the parent company shown in brackets, where applicable):

Halifax Bank of Scotland (Lloyds Bank)
Nationwide Building Society
Coventry Building Society
Debt Management Account –Deposit facility
Heritable Bank (*Landsbanki*)

- 5.2 With regard to the Council's frozen investment in Heritable Bank, the total amount repaid now amounts to some £2,357,691, which is 94% of the total that was frozen. The Administrators have informed creditors that a further dividend may be paid but this is subject to the successful outcome of their claim against their parent bank, Landsbanki.