

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

Downs Committee

22 April 2013

Report of: Director of Corporate Services

Title: Finance Report 2012/13 and draft budget 2013/14

Ward: N/A

Officer Presenting Report: Tony Whitlock

Contact Telephone Number: 0117 9222428

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the estimated outturn for 2012/13 and approve the draft budget for 2013/14

Summary

Appendix A presents the estimated financial outturn position. This is based on actual figures to the end of February 2013. Overall there is likely to be a net underspend at the end of the year of £58,294.

Appendix B presents the draft budget for 2013/14.

The significant issues in the report are:

There is a current projected net underspend of £58,294 largely resulting from unbudgeted income of £29,140 received from Bristol Water in connection with their installation of a new water main across the Downs and increased events income of £14,350.

The underspend can be transferred to reserves at the end of the financial year.

Total reserves as at 31 March 2012 stand at £152,856.

Policy

1. The Downs budget for 2013/14 was prepared in line with Council guidelines and approved by Council on 26 February 2013.

Consultation

2. **Internal**
Robert Westlake – Downs Ranger
3. **External**
Not applicable

Context

Outturn 2012/13

Appendix A details the budget for the year, actual expenditure to the end of February 2013 and an estimated outturn position for 2012/13. An underspend of £58,294 is estimated for the end of the year.

There are a number of previously unreported variations from budget to comment upon. The overspend of £7,060 on plant and equipment includes the purchase of a strimmer and additional goal posts. Leasing charges includes the outright purchase of a new Trimax mower.

Both the costs of the Downs Day and the Discover The Wildlife of Avon Gorge book can be met from the underspend, without a call on reserves.

There is a significant saving in transport costs of £24,000. This is primarily as a result of increasing the budget following an equally significant overspend in 2011/12. Because of reduced maintenance costs this budget has not been required and will be realigned in 2013/14.

As previously reported there is unbudgeted income of £29,140 from Bristol Water and increased events income of £14,350.

Budget 2013/14

Appendix B sets out the draft budget for 2013/14. There are no inflationary allowances so the net budget remains at 262,090. There are however a number of adjustments to the base budget. These include the following,

-£12,000 Leasing budget
-£20,000 transport costs
+£10,000 increase general grounds maintenance budget

+£2,000 increase to utility budget
+£20,000 increase to plant and equipment budget to enable purchase rather than leasing.

Proposal

4. That the outturn report for 2012/13 is noted and that the draft budget for 2013/14 is approved.

Other Options Considered

5. Not applicable

Risk Assessment

6. Not applicable

Public Sector Equality Duties

- 8a) Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:
 - i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
 - ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

- iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.
- 8b) The Downs budget is part of the total precept forming part of the Council's overall budget for 2012/13. The Council's budget underwent a full equalities impact assessment.

Legal and Resource Implications

Legal

The Clifton and Durdham Downs (Bristol) Act 1861 provides that the Downs should remain as a place for the public resort and recreation of the citizens and inhabitants of Bristol, and that a committee should be appointed to manage them. The recommendation contained in this report is within the powers conferred by this statute.

Financial

(a) Revenue

As set out in the report

(b) Capital

None

(Financial advice provided by Tony Whitlock, Principal Accountant)

Land

Not applicable

Personnel

Not applicable

Appendices:

Appendix A – Estimated outturn position as at 31 March 2013

Appendix B – Draft budget for 2013/14

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

Budget working papers held in Corporate Finance.

DOWNS - OUTTURN 2012/13

APPENDIX A

	Original 2012/13 Budget £	Actual to end of Feb £	Projection £	Variation from Budget £
EMPLOYEES				
Basic	154,000	97,381	147000	-7,000
Overtime	45,560	32,790	46000	440
Superannuation	28,290	15,250	23000	-5,290
National Insurance	14,920	9,692	15400	480
Other Salary Costs	530	355	1410	880
	243,300	155,468	232,810	-10,490
PREMISES				
General Grounds Maintenance & Premises Costs	54,550	27784	57950	3,400
NNDR	2600	2589	2590	-10
Utility Costs	13000	9118	14200	1,200
	70,150	39,491	74,740	4,590
SUPPLIES & SERVICES				
General Supplies	6000	5417	4320	-1,680
Security Costs	25500	17222	25560	60
Protective Clothing & Uniforms	1700	586	660	-1,040
Equipment, Light Plant & Tools	8000	5089	15060	7,060
Leasing Charges	22450	20250	26350	3,900
	63650	48563.5	71950	8300
PROJECT COSTS				
Contribution to Avon Gorge & Downs Bio Ed Officer	15000	15000	15000	0
Seasonal Education Officer	10000	9981	9980	-20
Discover the wildlife of Avon Gorge book			6120	6,120
Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project	5400	1845	5400	0
Downs Day 2012 (Reserve funding approved)		3938	3940	3,940
	30,400	30,764	40,440	10,040
TRANSPORT				
Insurance	3200	3100	3100	-100
Direct Transport Costs	42000	9129	18000	-24,000
	45,200	12,229	21,100	-24,100
CENTRAL CHARGES				
Legal Services	4000	0	0	-4,000
Finance	1700	1650	1650	-50
	5,700	1,650	1,650	-4,050
GROSS EXPENDITURE	458,400	288,166	442,690	-15,710
INCOME				
Fees & Charges :-				
Zoo- Car Park	34660	34654	34654	-6
Catering Concession - Durdham Rd / Stoke Rd	18000	13500	18000	0
Events	46650	60940	61000	14,350
Club Bookings	39000	30491	38100	-900
Other Concessions	58000	0	58000	0
Bristol Waterworks		20888	29140	29,140
TOTAL INCOME	196,310	160,473	238,894	42,584
NET EXPENDITURE	262,090	127,693	203,796	-58,294

DOWNES - DRAFT BUDGET 2013/14**APPENDIX B**

	Original 2012/13 Budget £	Adjustments £	Draft 2013/14 Budget £
EMPLOYEES			
Basic	154,000		154,000
Overtime	45,560	1,000	46,560
Superannuation	28,290	-2,600	25,690
National Insurance	14,920	600	15,520
Other Salary Costs	530	1,000	1,530
	243,300	0	243,300
PREMISES			
General Grounds Maintenance & Premises Costs	54,550	10,000	64,550
NNDR	2600		2,600
Utility Costs	13000	2,000	15,000
	70,150	12,000	82,150
SUPPLIES & SERVICES			
General Supplies	6000		6,000
Security Costs	25500		25,500
Protective Clothing & Uniforms	1700		1,700
Equipment, Light Plant & Tools	8000	20,000	28,000
Leasing Charges	22450	-12,000	10,450
	63650	8,000	71650
PROJECT COSTS			
Contribution to Avon Gorge & Downs Bio Ed Officer	15000		15,000
Seasonal Education Officer	10000		10,000
Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project	5400		5,400
	30,400	0	30,400
TRANSPORT			
Insurance	3200		3,200
Direct Transport Costs	42000	-20,000	22,000
	45,200	-20,000	25,200
CENTRAL CHARGES			
Legal Services	4000		4,000
Finance	1700		1,700
	5,700	0	5,700
GROSS EXPENDITURE	458,400	0	458,400
INCOME			
Fees & Charges :-			
Zoo- Car Park	34660		34,660
Catering Concession - Durdham Rd / Stoke Rd	18000		18,000
Events	46650		46,650
Club Bookings	39000		39,000
Other Concessions	58000		58,000
TOTAL INCOME	196,310	0	196,310
NET EXPENDITURE	262,090	0	262,090