

**BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL**

**Downs Committee**

**28 January 2013**

**Report of:** Director of Corporate Services

**Title:** Finance Report 2012/13

**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 consider for approval a list of potential works, which could be funded from the projected underspend.

**Summary**

Appendix A presents the estimated financial outturn position. This is largely based on actual figures to the end of November 2012. Overall there is likely to be a net underspend at the end of the year of £36,554.

**The significant issues in the report are:**

There is a current projected net underspend of £36,554 largely resulting from unbudgeted income received from Bristol Water in connection with their installation of a new water main across the Downs and increased events income of £15,350.

The report includes a list of potential items of expenditure which could be funded from the underspend.

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

## Policy

1. The Downs budget for 2012/13 was prepared in line with Council guidelines and approved by Council on 28 February 2012.

## 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 July 2012 and an estimated outturn position for 2012/13. An underspend of £36,554 is estimated for the end of the year.

There are only two major variations from budget to report. The first is associated with payments made to the Committee by Bristol Water. To date the Committee has received £20,888 from Bristol Water, comprising of £5,000 early start on site, £10,768 licence fee, £3,120 compensation for diminution of land value and £2,000 disturbance compensation. A further licence fee of £4,875 should be received by the end of the year.

There is also increased events income of £15,350.

The following items have currently been charged to revenue, but in the event of a potential overspend, have Committee approval to be met from reserves.

Project	Approval Date	Budget (£)	Exp to Date (£)
Engagement of a designer re Children's Playground	4 July 2011	£6,000	£6,000
Downs Day 2012	21 November 2011	£10,000	£6,670
<b>TOTAL TO DATE</b>		<b>£16,000</b>	<b>£12,670</b>

Generally any underspend is transferred to reserves at the end of the financial year. However in this instance the Downs Ranger has drawn up a list of potential projects which could be funded from the surplus;

Project	Estimated Cost £
Repair to Sea Walls (50% to Downs Committee)	6,000

Outstanding tree works	3,000
Additional work to Cliff Edge	5,000
Work to reinstate the washed out public footpath in the gully	5,000
Replacing redundant football kit	7,000
Further tree works	3,000
<b>Total Estimated Costs</b>	<b>29,000</b>

## Proposal

4. That the outturn report for 2012/13 is noted and the Committee gives approval to use the estimated underspend to fund the above projects.

## 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

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

### **Background Papers:**

Budget working papers held in Corporate Finance.

## DOWNNS - OUTTURN 2012/13

APPENDIX 1

	Original 2012/13 Budget	Actual to end of Nov	Projection	Variation from Budget
	£	£	£	£
<b>EMPLOYEES</b>				
Basic	154,000	97,381	150000	-4,000
Overtime	45,560	32,790	49000	3,440
Superannuation	28,290	15,250	25000	-3,290
National Insurance	14,920	9,692	14920	0
Other Salary Costs	530	355	530	0
	<b>243,300</b>	<b>155,468</b>	<b>239,450</b>	<b>-3,850</b>
<b>PREMISES</b>				
General Grounds Maintenance & Premises Costs	54,550	27784	54550	0
NNDR	2600	2589	2589	-11
Utility Costs	13000	9118	14600	1,600
	<b>70,150</b>	<b>39,491</b>	<b>71,739</b>	<b>1,589</b>
<b>SUPPLIES &amp; SERVICES</b>				
General Supplies	6000	5417	7000	1,000
Security Costs	25500	17222	24600	-900
Protective Clothing & Uniforms	1700	586	1700	0
Equipment, Light Plant & Tools	8000	5089	8000	0
Leasing Charges	22450		22450	0
	<b>63650</b>	<b>28313.5</b>	<b>63750</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>PROJECT COSTS</b>				
Contribution to Avon Gorge & Downs Bio Ed Officer	15000	15000	15000	0
Seasonal Education Officer	10000	9981	9981	-19
Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project	5400	1845	5400	0
Downs Day 2012 (Reserve funding approved)		6670	6670	6,670
	<b>30,400</b>	<b>33,496</b>	<b>37,051</b>	<b>6,651</b>
<b>TRANSPORT</b>				
Insurance	3200	3100	3100	-100
Direct Transport Costs	42000	9129	42000	0
	<b>45,200</b>	<b>12,229</b>	<b>45,100</b>	<b>-100</b>
<b>CENTRAL CHARGES</b>				
Legal Services	4000	0	4000	0
Finance	1700	1650	1650	-50
	<b>5,700</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>5,650</b>	<b>-50</b>
<b>GROSS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>458,400</b>	<b>270,648</b>	<b>462,740</b>	<b>4,340</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
Fees & Charges :-				
Zoo- Car Park	34660	34654	34654	-6
Catering Concession - Durdham Rd / Stoke Rd	18000	13500	18000	0
Events	46650	60940	62000	15,350
Club Bookings	39000	30491	39000	0
Other Concessions	58000	0	58000	0
Bristol Waterworks		20888	25550	25,550
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>196,310</b>	<b>160,473</b>	<b>237,204</b>	<b>40,894</b>
<b>NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>262,090</b>	<b>110,175</b>	<b>225,536</b>	<b>-36,554</b>