
Performance and Resources Committee

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 7 June 2023
Paper Title	GCRB Costs – 2022-23
Agenda Item	11
Paper Number	PRC5-G
Responsible Officer	Jim Godfrey, Finance & Resources Director
Status	Disclosable
Action	For Noting

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report compares actual income, and expenditure, for the academic year against the GCRB budget for 2022-23.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Committee is asked to **note** the actual outturn compared with budget for 2022-23.

3. GCRB Running Costs 2022-23

3.1. The table below provides a summary of the actual income and expenditure for 2022-23 at 30 April 2023. The forecast full-year outturn and original budget are also shown.

	Month ending 30 April 2023		Revised Forecast 2022-23		Original Budget 2022-23	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income						
Allocated from Regional Grant	372		496		496	
Reallocated from Programme Budget	0		0		0	
Total		372		496		496
Expenditure						
Staffing	195		334		322	
Board Costs	57		89		94	
Audit	22		35		35	
Other	14		20		45	
Total		288		478		496
Surplus/(Deficit)		1		18		0

3.2. The key variances are:

- An increase in staff costs due to the forecast increase in pay (effective from 1 September 2022) is now forecast at 5%. This is higher than the level assumed within the original budget, which was based upon public sector pay policy in 2022.
- A reduction in board costs because of lower costs relating to the allowance payable to the Board Chair. This is partly offset by the additional costs relating to the interim Board Secretary in the first months of the current academic year.
- Other costs are significantly below budget because actual expenditure on staff development and marketing is much lower than budgeted. The budget for staff development was £10,000, and communications/marketing was £12,000, at the start of the financial year.

4. GCRB Programme Costs 2022-23

4.1. The regional Programme of Action is part of the Outcome Agreement for 2022-23. The cost of delivering the programme is detailed in the table below:

	Month ending 30 April 2023		Revised Forecast 2022-23		Original Budget 2022-23	
	£'000	£'000			£'000	£'000
Income						
Allocated from Regional Grant	314		419		419	
SFC Strategic Funding	0		0		0	
Brought forward funding	0		0		26	
Total		314		419		445
Expenditure – Strategic Funding						
Gaelic	0		0		0	
Child Poverty	0		0		0	
		0		0		0
Expenditure						
Action for Children	79		105		112	
Young Enterprise Scotland	9		12		12	
ESOL	72		96		96	
Curriculum/Strategic Plan	0		0		100	
Regional Review	5		5		20	
Mental Health	0		5		5	
Climate Change/Sustainability	60		75		100	
Total		225		298		445
Surplus/(Deficit)		89		121		0

4.2. The following comments are provided in respect of the Programme of Action budget:

Income

- **Scottish Funding Council (SFC) strategic funding** – there is no strategic funding at present. Previously, funding for child poverty was provided as strategic funding but, in January 2023, SFC advised that this would now form part of the Young Persons Guarantee and is funded via an alternative funding stream for 2022-23.

Expenditure

- **SFC strategic funding** – expenditure will be incurred if, and when, projects are approved.
- **Action for Children** – the expanded project is progressing well and the service provision is supported by additional external funding (in addition to our regional contribution).

- **Young Enterprise Scotland** – the core project is now funded directly by the Scottish Government. The additional funding, provided by GCRB, supplements the core project.
- **ESOL** – funding continues to be provided by GCRB as in previous years.
- **Curriculum/Strategic Plan** – this project has not been undertaken and is now considered unlikely in 2022-23 due to the timing of decisions in respect of the regional review.
- **Regional Review** – an amount of £4,740 was used in September/October 2022 to engage a consultant in conjunction with the Scottish Funding Council.
- **Mental Health** – there has not been any expenditure so far in this financial year.
- **Climate Change/Sustainability** – expenditure has been incurred on staff costs with some additional project support (e.g. Unesco project and white ribbon event).

5. Risk and Compliance Analysis

- 5.1. There are no specific risks, or legal implications, associated with this report. The delivery of the regional programme of action addresses key elements of the strategic plan and mitigates some of the regional risks.

6. Financial and Resource Analysis

- 6.1. The financial implications associated with the year 2022-23 are set out in the body of the report.

7. Equalities Implications

- 7.1. The regional programme of action provides support many learners access college who are at risk of exclusion.

8. Learner Implications

- 8.1. The resources utilised for the purpose of GCRB, and the regional Programme of Action, contribute to the achievement of the agreed learner outcomes in 2022-23.