The Highland Council

Agenda Item	6.a
Report No	RES/33/24

Committee: Corporate Resources

Date: 5 December 2024

Report Title: Corporate Revenue Monitoring to 30 September 2024

Report By: Chief Officer – Corporate Finance

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of the budget monitoring position for the 2nd quarter of financial year 2024/25, and a forecast year-end position.
- 1.2 Net spend on General Fund services in the second quarter of financial year 2024/25 totalled £312.490m.
- 1.3 Based on present expenditure trends a net year end overspend of £4.607m against budget is forecast. Budgetary overspends, unless addressed over the remainder of the financial year, will lead to a year end deficit position, and reduce the Council's level of General Fund reserves. It is therefore essential that the Council continues to take steps to address and mitigate the forecast overspend position.
- 1.4 The main factors in the projected overspend are described within the report, and relate to overspends in Communities and Place, Health, Wellbeing and Social Care, and Infrastructure, Environment and Economy, as described below in section 6. These Service monitoring forecasts have been presented to the relevant Strategic Committees as part of the quarter 2 monitoring process.
- 1.5 It is important to note that overspending not only has an impact in the current financial year, but unless addressed, can becomes cost pressures and risks impacting the next and possibly subsequent financial years. There remain broader economic risks relating to inflation/pay awards/interest rates which persist in the current and into future years.
- 1.6 After taking account of a forecast improvement in council tax income of £0.507m, a net deficit against budget of £4.100m is estimated, which will require to be funded from the Council's general fund non earmarked reserve unless addressed over the remainder of the financial year.
- 1.7 The report also provides a summary of progress in the delivery of approved budget savings required to deliver a balanced budget in 2024/25 along with an explanation of the forecast position of the Council's reserves at the year end.

- 1.8 The forecast position for the Housing Revenue Account, is a net overspend of £0.232m at year-end. This would result in reserves of £4.449 by year end. The HRA reserves position will require careful monitoring and management going forward to ensure a sufficient level of reserves is held.
- 1.9 This reflects the first reporting to Strategic Committees using the new Corporate Financial System implemented in April. Members will note from **Appendix 6** an example of the style of blended graphical/tabular data available from the new system to budget holders, with further development work over the course of this year to realise further benefits from the new system. This Appendix is provided as a work-in-progress illustration given aspects of the reporting dashboards are still being developed

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- Consider and **note** the financial position of the General Fund and HRA revenue budgets as at 30th September 2024 and note the estimated year end forecast;
- ii. **Note** the status of delivery of budget savings in the year.

3. Implications

- 3.1 **Resource:** Implications are as noted in this report. If an overspend position is reported at year end this will need to be funded from the Council's reserves. Section 8 of this report provides more information on the Council's reserves position.
- 3.2 **Legal:** The contents of this report aim to satisfy the requirement of Sections 6 and 7 of the CIPFA Financial Management Code- 'Monitoring financial performance' and 'External financial reporting'.
- 3.3 **Risk:** At this stage in the year there is a risk that unforeseen events occur which carry an additional cost burden. Services that are demand-led, such as social care or winter maintenance may see significant moves in cost forecast over the year from that currently forecast. Other risks relating to unexpected items, such as adverse weather, may emerge during the year for which no specific contingencies are held, however via the Council's reserves strategy the Council does retain its minimum 3% contingency, in addition to earmarked reserves for other purposes.

Staff pay awards – As you will be aware Council Leaders made the decision to implement the latest SJC pay offer for 2024/25 to ensure employees received their pay uplift and backpay without further delay. The pay offer made on the 9th August had been accepted by two of the three Unions. Discussions are still ongoing and it is hoped a collective agreement will be reached shortly bringing the negotiations for 2024/25 to a conclusion.

Teacher Numbers – members will recall from the 29 February Budget report to Council that a risk was highlighted regarding Teacher numbers and Scottish Government funding. Since that report, Scottish Government has been in writing that £145.5m of grant funding (Highland share £6.2m) would only be released to Councils on condition of Councils accepting terms and conditions of the funding offer, which includes the maintaining of teacher numbers at Census 2023 levels. The Council has budgeted for the receipt of that £6.2m of grant and national discussions on this matter continue, and

pending the outcome of which there remains some uncertainty to the status of that assumed funding.

Other areas of risk were considered when identifying budget pressures and setting a target level for reserves in March 2024 as part of the budget process. In relation to any of these risks it is important to note that whilst there may be a financial impact in the current financial year which would need to be managed, there could also be an ongoing impact on the baseline budget into future years which would need mitigated to avoid impact on the budget gap forecast.

- 3.4 Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people): No particular implications to highlight.
- 3.5 **Gaelic:** No particular implications to highlight.

4. Impacts

- 4.1 In Highland, all policies, strategies or service changes are subject to an integrated screening for impact for Equalities, Poverty and Human Rights, Children's Rights and Wellbeing, Climate Change, Islands and Mainland Rural Communities, and Data Protection. Where identified as required, a full impact assessment will be undertaken.
- 4.2 Considering impacts is a core part of the decision-making process and needs to inform the decision-making process. When taking any decision, Members must give due regard to the findings of any assessment.
- 4.3 This is a monitoring and update report and therefore an impact assessment is not required.

5. Overall position 2024/25

5.1 The table below provides a summary of the figures in **Appendix 1** to give an overall forecast position for the 2024/25 year-end outturn. This is reflective of the under-lying Service Quarter 2 forecasts considered by Strategic Committees.

	Annual	Year-end	Year-end
	Budget	forecast	variance
	£m	£m	£m
Expenditure			
Service budgets (Appendix 1, Table	657.482	668.411	10.929
A- top half)			
Other budgets (Appendix 1,Table A-	92.875	86.553	-6.322
bottom half)			
Contribution to investment funds	8.864	8.864	0.000
and other reserves (Appendix 1,			
Table C)			
Total (X)	759.221	763.828	4.607
Income (Table D- top part)			
Government income	589.574	589.574	0.000
Budgeted Council tax income	151.210	151.717	0.507
Confirmed use of earmarked	2.510	2.510	0.000
reserves			

Total (Y)	743.294	743.801	0.507
	4-00-		4 400
Difference between expenditure and income to be funded from	15.927	20.027	4.100
non-earmarked reserves- 'Budget (surplus)/deficit' (=X-Y)			

- 5.2 The bottom line of the table above shows that the current forecast for the overall year end position is for a deficit (or net overspend) of £4.100m which if not addressed over course of the year, will need to be funded from the Council's non-earmarked reserve. This being over and above planned or any further use of reserves over the course of the year.
- 5.3 As shown in the top row of the table at 5.1, net service expenditure is forecast to be overspent by £10.929m with variances across a number of service areas. Section 6 of this report provides more details of the forecast service budget variances.
- 5.4 The second row of the table comprises a number of other budget lines and shows a positive variance (underspend against budget) of £6.322m.
- 5.5 The third row of the table shows contributions to investment funds and other reserves. A break-even position has been forecast.
- 5.6 The first row in the income section of the table at 5.1 reflects the funding the Council receives from government. In any year this may change as the year progresses, with additional or revised allocations of funding being confirmed.
- 5.7 An over-achievement of council tax income against budget is being forecast.
- 5.8 The third row of the income section of the table shows the draw-down of Earmarked balances to support in-year expenditure.
- 5.9 Overall, the combined impact of the net service overspend plus other budget pressures less excess corporate income gives a forecast £4.100m overspend for the year.

 Appendix 5 and section 8 of this report provide more detail on the Council's reserves position.

6. Service Budget Variances

- 6.1 **Appendix 1** provides the usual monitoring statement format with **Table A** providing variance detail by service and other significant budget heads. Details of individual service positions are reported to the respective strategic committees. The structure of budget monitoring reflects the service structure at the start of the financial year, with changes to reflect the new Corporate Management Team structure to be reflected going forward. Overall, the Council is reporting a net overspend of £10.929m against service budgets.
- 6.2 At Quarter 2 an underspend of £3.900m is being shown against the Loan Charge budget line. This takes account of capital expenditure and treasury management forecasts. Members will be aware from past reports to Council with regard to the Highland Investment Plan, the intention that Council in December will be asked to consider recommendations on Phase 1 of the HIP. It is expected such decisions will result, in due course, in capital commitments which will require this loan charge budget

capacity, and additional revenue funding in future years to be available. Therefore, the underspend in the current year is considered a short-term and temporary position. Detailed monitoring in relation to Treasury Management activity, and risks relating to interest rates and other factors, are covered in other reports on this meeting agenda.

- 6.3 **Appendix 2** provides a summary of forecast variances by service and expenditure and income type. Forecast overspends mainly relate to non-staffing expenditure and income shortfalls.
- 6.4 The Communities and Place budget is forecasting an overspend of £2.845m. The current forecast outturn relates primarily to overspends in Fleet and Plant (£2.2m) and Service General (£1.4m). These are partially offset by underspends in the other sections in the Service. In relation to Fleet, the main causes relate to an increase in fleet requirements from services and associated increases in maintenance, increases in lease contract costs, increases in parts costs, insurance charges and undelivered savings. The Service General code in the main holds corporate staff savings from past year which are being met through vacancies and staff underspends in other parts of the budget, and will be allocated against the appropriate budget lines for the next quarter's report.
- 6.5 The former Depute Chief Executive service (which is now ICT and Digital Services) is forecasting an underspend of £0.124m. This is mainly due to vacancies as the service progresses with its restructure and recruitment, these are partially offset by increases cost of certain contract renewals which are necessary as the service works towards fully delivering the IT provision inhouse.
- 6.6 The Performance and Governance service is forecasting an underspend of £0.356m, this is as a result of staff vacancies.
- 6.7 The Resources and Finance service is forecasting an overspend of £0.280m. In the main this is due to the underachievement of tourism income which is partially offset with staff vacancies. This is the first year of implementation of the tourism projects and budgeted to generate £0.800m of additional income to the Council however this is currently forecasting a shortfall of £0.470m. Progress is being reported and monitored at the Income Generation Board.
- 6.8 The Education and Learning service is forecasting an underspend of £0.506m. This underspend is due to staff turnover, vacancies and secondments in ASL, ELC and Service Management Support Team, offset with historical staff pressures in Special Schools, and inflationary pressures relating to grants to voluntary organisations.
- 6.9 The Health and Social Care budget is forecasting an overspend of £2.268m. This is due to historical savings and in year savings still be delivered, offset with a reduced number of vacant posts. Historically the Service has had reliance on vacancies to balance the budget, and it is hoped that the overspend will be further reduced as a result of these this year, however it needs to be noted that although these savings help to achieve a balanced budget there is work still to be done to achieve these savings.
- 6.10 The Infrastructure, Environment and Economy service is forecasting an overspend of £5.872m. The main areas contributing to this overspend are Trading Operations (£2.497m), Climate Change and Energy (£1.600m), and the Directorate area (£1.359m). Trading Operations (Harbours and Ferries) is currently forecasting an overspend of £2.497m this is due to Harbours income and margin (£1.432m), and Corran Ferry repairs and refit costs (£1.000m). The Climate Change and Energy team is now reported through the Infrastructure, Environment and Economy service. A

significant overspend (£1.600m) is projected due to a number of historical funding issues and forecast saving achievement, officers are working with finance colleagues to see if any of this can be mitigated by the use of the pressure funding for the multiplier, accelerating unmet savings, and staffing and budgeting structures through use of Earmarked Balances. The Directorate and Business Team includes all of the Service's corporate and efficiency savings which are yet to be allocated permanently to other budget headings in the Service.

- 6.11 The Property and Housing service is forecasting an overspend of £0.464m which is due to income under-recovery in the Project Delivery and Property Management Team and an overspend of utility costs. This is partly offset with an underspend in CCFM due to staff turnover and recruitment challenges through the year.
- 6.12 The Welfare budget is forecasting an overspend of £0.186m. This is due to increased pressure on rent rebates and rent allowances offset by an increase in subsidy.
- 6.13 At this point of the year there is an underspend anticipated for Non Domestic Rates Reliefs. No variance is being forecast against the Valuation Joint Board budget.
- 6.14 The unallocated budget line is showing an underspend of £4.590m. This budget consists of a number of elements which are held centrally pending allocation out to Services as a result of certain matters being clarified. The main elements held unallocated at this time include: -
 - Pay award funding (being allocated to service budgets for Q3)
 - Utilities pressure funding
 - Various other agreed 2024/25 pressures, pending review of needs

The underspend shown relates to elements of this funding which will be allocated against service budgets, for specific cost and pressure areas, and will address or mitigate some of the specific service pressures being shown. This includes £2m of 'capital multiplier' pressure funding approved by the Council which will directly mitigate some of the related Service pressures. There is also a net underspend forecast in relation to some centrally held staffing and related pressure funding.

6.15 The unallocated savings line shows a negative variance (overspend) of £2.193m, this is reflective of current assessment of savings delivery, and some current or legacy savings where there is an expected level of slippage or delivery risk this year.

7. Housing Revenue Account

7.1 As shown in **Appendix 3** the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is forecast to deliver a net overspend of £0.232m. Overspends are currently projected on housing repairs, and other rent void loss. Action is being taken to reduce the net overspend and return a balanced budget by year end.

8. Reserves and Balances

8.1 **Appendix 5** summarises the movements on the Council's earmarked and non-earmarked balances during the course of the year and the impact of the forecast revenue budget outturn position on reserves. The level of overspend forecast will further reduce reserves from earlier estimates unless addressed over the remainder of the year.

- 8.2 The Council's non-earmarked general fund reserve is expected to sit at £33.282m at 2024/25 year end.
- 8.3 Earmarked reserves, which are reserves held for specific and agreed purposes, currently sit at £109.099m. A significant element of that sum may still be drawn down at financial year end to match expenditure incurred in the year across a number of agreed projects and priorities. The remainder of that earmarked sum will be used to meet existing expenditure commitments that extend into 2025/26 and beyond. A review of Earmarked Balances is underway and will support an updated assessment as the year progresses.

9. Budget Savings

9.1 In order to deliver a balanced budget for the year approved savings of £31.379m, which includes a target of £5.300m from second home council tax, need to be delivered. A summary of the delivery of those savings by portfolio or theme can be seen at **Appendix 7.** Reporting of progress with service savings and Delivery Plan progress is considered at the respective Strategic Committees. Relative to the report at Quarter 1, considered by the last Corporate Resources Committee, the forecast shortfall or slippage in savings is £2.978m compared with £2.509m as at Q1. Respective Services are considering appropriate actions to address/mitigate.

Designation: Chief Officer – Corporate Finance

Date: 18 November 2024

Authors: Brian Porter, Chief Officer – Corporate Finance

Carolyn Maxwell, Strategic Lead – Financial Services (Place Cluster)

Background Papers:

Appendices:

2024/25 Quarter 2

Appendix 1 – 2023/24 General Fund service summary

Appendix 2 – 2023/24 General Fund subjective (spend type) summary

Appendix 3 – 2023/24 HRA summary

Appendix 4 – 2023/24 General Fund budget movements/reconciliation

Appendix 5 – 2023/24 General Fund balances summary

Appendix 6 – Revenue Developing Reporting Format

Appendix 7 – 2024/25 Saving status summary

Revenue Expenditure Monitoring Report -Ge	nerai i unu su	mmary		
1 April to 30 September 2024				
Table A: By Service	Actual Year to Date £000	Annual Budget £000	Year End Estimate £000	Year End Variance £000
	07.705	44.000	44.400	0.045
Communities & Place Depute Chief Executive	27,765 9,655	41,323 12,545	44,168 12,421	2,845 (124)
Education & Learning	125,101	268,543	268,037	(124) (506)
Health, Wellbeing & Social Care	76,938	188,679	190,947	2,268
Infrastructure & Environment and Economy	13,834	38,355	44,227	5,872
Performance & Governance	3,266	6,338	5,982	(356)
Property & Housing	39,743	80,146	80,610	464
Resources & Finance	10,188	13,720	14,000	280
Welfare Services	6,000	7,833	8,019	186
Service Total	312,490	657,482	668,411	10,929
Valuation Joint Board	1,648	3,296	3,296	0
Green Freeport	458	458	458	0
Non Domestic Rates reliefs	1,700	1,725	1,700	(25)
Loan Charges	0	67,696	63,796	(3,900)
Unallocated Budget	0	26,010	21,420	(4,590)
Unallocated Corporate Savings	0	(6,310)	(4,117)	2,193
Total General Fund Budget	316,296	750,357	754,964	4,607
	, ,	,	,	,
Table B: By Subjective		•		
Staff Costs	211,344	439,069	433,424	(5,645)
Other Costs	211,632	531,487	542,111	10,624
Gross Expenditure	422,976	970,556	975,535	4,979
Grant Income	(48,725)	(79,106)	(80,175)	(1,069)
Other Income	(57,955)	/1/11 (1023)		, ,
LLOTAL INCOMO	, ,	(141,093)	(140,396)	697
Total Income	(106,680)	(220,199)	(140,396) (220,571)	697
Total Revenue Expenditure	, ,	` '	` '	• •
Total Revenue Expenditure	(106,680)	(220,199)	(220,571)	697 (372)
Total Revenue Expenditure Table C: Appropriations to Reserves	(106,680) 316,296	750,357	(220,571) 754,964	697 (372) 4,607
Total Revenue Expenditure Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances	(106,680) 316,296	750,357	754,964 830	697 (372) 4,607
Total Revenue Expenditure Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances Contribution to non-earmarked balances	(106,680) 316,296	750,357 830 0	(220,571) 754,964 830 0	697 (372) 4,607
Total Revenue Expenditure Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances	(106,680) 316,296	750,357	754,964 830	697 (372) 4,607
Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances Contribution to non-earmarked balances Affordable housing contribution from 2nd homes council tax	(106,680) 316,296	(220,199) 750,357 830 0 6,015	(220,571) 754,964 830 0 6,015	697 (372) 4,607
Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances Contribution to non-earmarked balances Affordable housing contribution from 2nd homes council tax Contribution to Other reserves	(106,680) 316,296	(220,199) 750,357 830 0 6,015 2,019	(220,571) 754,964 830 0 6,015 2,019	697 (372) 4,607
Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances Contribution to non-earmarked balances Affordable housing contribution from 2nd homes council tax Contribution to Other reserves Total Contributions to Balances Table D: Financed By	(106,680) 316,296	(220,199) 750,357 830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864	697 (372) 4,607
Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances Contribution to non-earmarked balances Affordable housing contribution from 2nd homes council tax Contribution to Other reserves Total Contributions to Balances Table D: Financed By Aggregate External Finance as notified	(106,680) 316,296 0 0 0 0 0	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864	697 (372) 4,607
Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances Contribution to non-earmarked balances Affordable housing contribution from 2nd homes council tax Contribution to Other reserves Total Contributions to Balances Table D: Financed By Aggregate External Finance as notified Additional resources	(106,680) 316,296 0 0 0 0 0 221,437 0	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864 579,924 9,650	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864 579,924 9,650	697 (372) 4,607
Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances Contribution to non-earmarked balances Affordable housing contribution from 2nd homes council tax Contribution to Other reserves Total Contributions to Balances Table D: Financed By Aggregate External Finance as notified Additional resources Additional resources - GCG - Pay award	(106,680) 316,296 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864 579,924 9,650 0	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864 579,924 9,650 0	697 (372) 4,607
Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances Contribution to non-earmarked balances Affordable housing contribution from 2nd homes council tax Contribution to Other reserves Total Contributions to Balances Table D: Financed By Aggregate External Finance as notified Additional resources	(106,680) 316,296 0 0 0 0 0 221,437 0	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864 579,924 9,650 0 151,210	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864 579,924 9,650 0 151,717	697 (372) 4,607
Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances Contribution to non-earmarked balances Affordable housing contribution from 2nd homes council tax Contribution to Other reserves Total Contributions to Balances Table D: Financed By Aggregate External Finance as notified Additional resources Additional resources - GCG - Pay award Council Tax	(106,680) 316,296 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 94,859	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864 579,924 9,650 0	830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864 579,924 9,650 0	697 (372) 4,607
Table C: Appropriations to Reserves Contribution to earmarked balances Contribution to non-earmarked balances Affordable housing contribution from 2nd homes council tax Contribution to Other reserves Total Contributions to Balances Table D: Financed By Aggregate External Finance as notified Additional resources Additional resources - GCG - Pay award Council Tax Use of earmarked balances	(106,680) 316,296 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 94,859 0	750,357 830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864 579,924 9,650 0 151,210 2,510	754,964 830 0 6,015 2,019 8,864 579,924 9,650 0 151,717 2,510	697 (372) 4,607 0 0 0 0 0 507 0

Revenue Expenditure Monitoring Report - General Fund Summary

1 April to 30 September 2024

Table A: By Service
Communities & Place Depute Chief Executive Education & Learning Health & Social Care Infrastructure, Environment & Economy Performance & Governance Property & Housing Resources & Finance Welfare
Valuation Joint Board Non Domestic Rates reliefs Loan Charges
Unallocated Budget Unallocated Corporate Savings
Total General Fund Budget

Staff Costs	Other Costs	Grant Income	Total	
Variance	Variance	Variance	Variance	Variance
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
(===0)		(1)		
(779)		(175)		2,845
(138)		0	(288)	(124)
(917)	293	59	59	(506)
(522)	2,789	0	0	2,267
(1,875)	5,138	1,425	1,184	5,872
(501)	1,052	(5)	(902)	(356)
(936)	3,175	(2)	(1,772)	465
23	142	(115)		280
0	2,432	(2,256)	10	186
	·	,		0
0	0	0	0	0
0	(25)		0	(25)
0	(3,900)		0	(3,900)
	(3,300)	Ŭ	Ŭ	(5,500)
0	(4,590)	0	0	(4,590)
0	2,193	0	0	2,193
	2,193	U	U	2,193
(5,645)	10,624	(1,069)	697	4,607

Revenue Expenditure Monitoring Report - Housing Revenue Account Summary

1 April to 30 Septemb	per 2024			
	Actual Year to Date £000	Annual Budget £000	Year End Estimate £000	Year End Variance £000
Staff Costs	6,807	15,612	13,548	(2,064)
Other Costs	12,385	23,456	25,704	2,248
Loan charges and interest	0	29,500	29,500	0
Gross Expenditure	19,192	68,568	68,752	184
House Rents	(32,365)	(64,861)	(64,866)	(5)
Other rents	(1,550)	(3,294)	(3,134)	160
Other income	908	(351)	(458)	(107)
Interest on Revenue Balances	0	(62)	(62)	0
Gross Income	(33,007)	(68,568)	(68,520)	48
Total HRA	(13,815)	0	232	232

Revenue Expenditure Monitoring Report - General Fund Budget

1 April to 30 September 2024

	£m	£m
2024/25 Budget as Agreed by Highland Council on 29 February 2024		775.442
Less : Contributions to Reserves included in Agreed Budget		
Affordable housing contribution from 2nd homes council tax	(6.015)	
Contribution to earmarked balances (Elections Fund)	(0.085)	
Contribution to earmarked balances (SALIX)	(0.555)	(0.074)
Contribution to other reserves	(0.019)	(6.674)
Less : Ring-fenced Grants (Gaelic, Criminal Justice, PEF Attainment Funding, Support for Ferries)		(9.434)
Grant Funding Redeterminations		
Share of additional £62.7m GRG (agreed for Highland Investment Plan)	2.785	
Retained Teacher Support (amended from GRG to specific grant)	(6.163)	
Discretionary Housing Payments (excess over HC 29/02/24 estimate)	0.255	
Scottish Disability Assistance (excess over HC 29/02/24 estimate)	0.052	
Funding allocation changes between FC 8/2023 and FC 2/2024	0.002	
ELC in Private and Third Sectors	0.007	
PEF (ring-fenced grant)	(0.006)	
Removal of Fees for Instrumental Music Tuition	0.001	
NPAF and Former Excellence Fund	0.016	
Social Work Workforce Capacity and Winter Planning	0.003	
Whole Family Wellbeing	(0.064)	
SINA	0.014	
"2008-24 Changes" Column	(0.209)	
Main Floor	(0.188)	
Gaelic (ring-fenced grant)	0.010	
Caolio (ring forteca grant)	(3.487)	
Adjust : Ring-fenced Grant Changes	(0.004)	(3.491)
Use of Non-earmarked Balances		0.000
Use of Earmarked Balances		
Green Freeport	0.458	
		0.458
Use of Other Reserves		
		0.000
Contribution to Non earmarked Balances		
Contribution to Non earmarked Balances		
		0.000
Contribution to Earmarked Balances		
SALIX Savings	(0.190)	
2024/25 One-off Pressures - HLH	(2.764)	
2024/25 One-off Pressures - Property Maintenance	(2.000)	
2024/25 One-off Pressures - Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS)	(1.500)	
2024/25 One-off Pressures - New Finance/HR/Payroll system	(0.750)	
2024/25 One-off Pressures - Treasury Management	(3.000)	(10.204)
Constribution to Other Bearings		(10.204)
Contribution to Other Reserves	(0.000)	
Insurance Fund	(2.000)	(2.000)
	1	()
Presentational Adjustments		
Review of council tax discounts (HC 29/02/24 savings R&F-1) *	0.260	
1	0.260 6.000	6.260
Review of council tax discounts (HC 29/02/24 savings R&F-1) *		6.260
Review of council tax discounts (HC 29/02/24 savings R&F-1) *		6.260 750.357

^{*} These two amounts are included as reductions in budgeted expenditure in the HC 29/02/24 budget report but are incorporated into the budget as increases in funding (£0.260m council tax income, £6m Use of Other Reserves)

Revenue Expenditure Monitoring Report - General Fund Budget

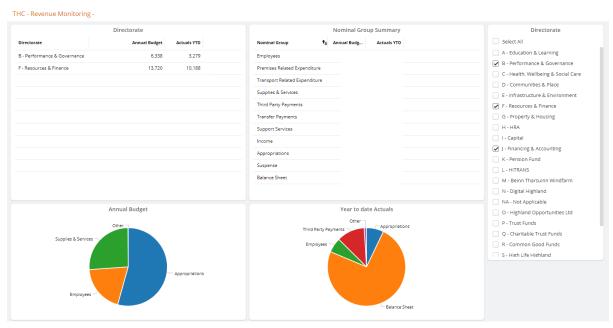
1 April to 30 September 2024

General Fund Balance

General Fund Balance	Earmarked balances £m	Non- earmarked balances £m	Total £m
General Fund Balance at 1 April 2024	110.779	47.309	158.088
(Use of)/contribution to balances included in budget as agreed by Highland Council on 2 March 2023	(11.426)	(9.927)	(21.353)
Use of balances per Appendix 4	(0.458)	0.000	(0.458)
Contribution to balances per Appendix 4	10.204	0.000	10.204
Removal of earmarking	0.000	0.000	0.000
Budget movement in balance per Appendix 1	(1.680)	(9.927)	(11.607)
Net service underspend/(overspend) per Appendix 1	0.000	(4.607)	(4.607)
Appropriations to other reserves	0.000	0.000	0.000
Additional resources	0.000	0.000	0.000
Council tax	0.000	0.507	0.507
Rounding			0.000
General Fund Balance at 30 September 2024	109.099	33.282	142.381

Appendix 6

Revenue Developing Reporting Format



		Monitoring	g Line	a
Monitoring Line AP1 Description	Annual Budg	Actuals YTD		
Corporate Audit & Performance				
Corporate Communications				
Corporate Finance				
Democratic Services				
Directorate				
Elections				
Emergency Planning				
General Fund Balance Sheet				
General Fund Suspense				
Government Grant & Local Ta				
HC Operational Delivery Plan:				
Legal				
Licensing				
Loans Fund				
Members				
Parliamentary Elections Mana				
n				

Savings Forecast Month 6/7, 2024/25 (all figures £m)

	Forecast	Annual	Forecast
	Annual	Saving	(over)/
	Savings as	Target	under
	at Month 6/7	2024/25	target
Corporate Solutions Portfolio Total	6.644	7.686	1.042
Income Generation Portfolio Total	8.660	8.692	0.032
Net Zero, Energy Investment/Innovation Portfolio Total	0.300	1.230	0.930
Reconfiguring our asset base portfolio total	0.000	0.100	0.100
Workforce for the future portfolio total	2.000	2.000	-
Person centred solutions portfolio total	7.300	7.900	0.600
DELIVERY PLAN PORTFOLIOS SUB-TOTAL	24.904	27.608	2.704
Other savings outwith Delivery Plan	3.497	3.771	0.274
TOTAL SAVINGS 2024/25	28.401	31.379	2.978

Commentary – Main areas of shortfall/slippage.

Corporate Solutions – Forecast delay in realisation of cash savings 24/25 from Terra Tracker and Data & Digital solutions projects.

Income Generation – Shortfall in motorhomes/campervans income partly mitigated by other income generation streams.

Net Zero – Slippage in Solar PV and Batter storage savings/income.

Asset Base – Slippage in asset rationalisation saving.

Person Centred – Shortfall in projected Family First savings.

Other Savings – Shortfall in savings in Fleet vehicle parts efficiencies and car parking income.