Report to the Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee

Date: **14 March 2024**

Report of: **Mel Creighton, Executive Director – Corporate Service, Southampton City Council**

Subject: **BUDGET MONITORING 2023/24 AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2024/25**

SUMMARY

This report provides an update for the Joint Committee on the position against the approved budget for 2023/24 and sets out the proposed revenue budget for 2024/25 alongside the annual partnership contributions from members.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee:-

a) NOTES the budget monitoring position for 2023/24, as set out in the report;

b) NOTES that the forecast outturn from the 2023/24 budgets is provisional and may be subject to change in the final outturn budget report;

c) APPROVES the proposed revenue budget for 2024/25, as set out in the report; and

d) APPROVES the partner contributions for 2024/25 as shown on table 4.

INTRODUCTION

1. This report provides an update for the Joint Committee on the position against the approved budget for 2023/24.

2. The report also sets out the proposed revenue budget allocations for 2024/25 in line with the budget arrangements approved by the Joint Committee as part of the partnership's Business Plan.

REVENUE BUDGET

3. Table 1 below, sets out the final revenue budget for 2023/24 as approved by the Joint Committee in July 2023. The table also shows spend in the current financial year to the end of February 2024, and the forecast outturn for the year.

Table 1: Revenue Allocations

	Approved Budget	Actual spend to Feb 24	Forecast Outturn
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Culture, Creative Industries and the Built Environment	15	15	15
Solent Waders & Brent Goose Strategy	14	14	14
Bird Award – Summer Bird Study	15		
Core Projects & Central Costs	104	41	98
Total	**148**	**70**	**127**
Unallocated balances available	127		153
Total revenue resources	**275**		**280**

4. The **Culture, Creative Industries and the Built Environment Delivery Panel** budget is for a £15,000 contribution to Creative Network South.

5. The **Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy** budget is an annual contribution towards the cost of a post to facilitate the delivery the strategy, as agreed by the Joint Committee in February 2022.

6. The **Summer Bird Study** budget covers the potential cost of a review of summer breeding birds to see if the scope of Bird Aware activity should expand to also cover summer breeding birds. This was added to the 2023/24 budget as part of the July Joint Committee report to be funded from unallocated balances.

7. The **Core Projects & Central Costs** budget covers the costs of meetings, the programme office, along with legal and financial support. The relatively low actual spend to date is due to supporting authorities tending to invoice for services provided towards the end of the financial year.

8. **Unallocated Balances** are forecast to be £153,000 at the end of 2023/24. It was previously agreed by the Joint Committee that an unallocated budget would be maintained to enable the partnership to have resources available to react to potential future opportunities as they arise.

Table 2: Unallocated balances

	£000
Balance brought forward from 2022/23	142
To fund forecast 2023/24 expenditure	(127)
Contribution income 2023/24	133
Interest income forecast 2023/24	5
Forecast balance 2023/24	**153**

2024/25 BUDGET

9. Proposals for the 2024/25 budget are set out below for approval. The proposed budget is based on the Funding and Subscription arrangements approved by the Joint Committee as part of the PfSH Business Plan. Under the budget arrangements in the plan all existing PfSH members are to contribute to maintain the Panel budgets and core central costs covering meetings, the programme office, along with legal and financial advice. Specific project work is then funded by those local authorities participating within any work undertaken.

10. The Core projects and central costs budget has reduced slightly overall to £102,400. This includes an inflationary increase but is offset by a slight reduction following a review of actual charges based on activity levels.

11. A budget is proposed for the Culture, Creative Industries and the Built Environment Delivery Panel of £15,000 for a contribution to Creative Network South.

12. In addition to this, a budget of £14,000 is proposed to cover the annual contribution towards the cost of the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy for the region.

13.

Table 3: Revenue Allocations 2024/25	**2024/25 Proposed Budget**
	£000
Culture, Creative Industries & the Built Environment	15
Solent Waders & Brent Goose Strategy	14
Core Projects & Central Costs	102
Total Core and Panel Budgets	**131**

14. It is proposed that the revenue contributions for 2024/25 fund the total Core Project and Panel budgets. Partnership contributions are proportioned based on the percentage of population within each authority area. Consideration is also giving to the population of the relevant areas for the authorities that are partly included within the PfSH boundary. For 2024/25 the population data used is the same as 2023/24 and is based on the 2021 Census and MYE data for part in authorities.

15.

Table 4: Revenue contributions 2024/25	**2024/25**
	£
Partner contributions:	
Southampton City Council	27,000
Portsmouth City Council	22,600
Hampshire County Council	40,300
Eastleigh Borough Council	7,400
Fareham Borough Council	6,200
Gosport Borough Council	4,400
Havant Borough Council	6,700
Test Valley Borough Council	2,500
Winchester City Council	2,400
East Hampshire District Council	1,200
New Forest District Council	9,500
New Forest National Park Authority	1,200
Total	**131,400**

16. Unallocated balances will be maintained at existing levels to support potential future opportunities as the arise and also includes a potential £10,000 to cover the cost of the Bird Aware summer birds survey in 2024/25

Table 5 Unallocated balances 2024/25

	£000
Forecast balance 2023/24	153
To fund 2024/25 budget	(131)
Contribution income 2024/25	131
Interest income forecast 2024/25	5
Summer bird study contingency	(10)
Forecast balance 2024/25	**148**

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Joint Committee:-

a) NOTES the budget monitoring position for 2023/24, as set out in the report;

b) NOTES that the forecast outturn from the 2023/24 budgets is provisional and may be subject to change in the final outturn budget report;

c) APPROVES the proposed revenue budget for 2024/25, as set out in the report; and

d) APPROVES the partner contributions for 2024/25 as shown on table 4.

Background Papers:

Joint Committee 11 July 2023 – Item 11: Statement of Accounts.
Joint Committee 4 April 2023 – Item 9: PfSH Budget Monitoring Report.
Joint Committee 4 June 2019 – Item 10: Review of PUSH and Business Plan

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