

Performance and Resources Committee

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 27 September 2023
Paper Title	GCRB Costs – 2022-23
Agenda Item	13
Paper Number	PRC1-H
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 the year ending 31 July 2023.

	Year ending 31 July 2023		Original Budget 2022-23	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income				
Allocated from Regional Grant	496		496	
Reallocated from Programme Budget	0		0	
Total		496		496
Expenditure				
Staffing	317		322	
Board Costs	79		94	
Audit	44		35	
Other	12		45	
Total		452		496
Surplus/(Deficit)		44		0

3.2. The key points to note:

- The cost of staffing includes an estimate of the pay increase (which remains outstanding from 1 September 2022). The forecast staff costs do not include the non-cash adjustments at the year end i.e. FRS102 for pensions.
- A reduction in board costs is the result 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 financial year.
- Audit costs have increased because of the higher external audit fee for 2022-23.
- 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:

	Year ending 31 July 2023		Original Budget 2022-23	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income				
Allocated from Regional Grant	419		419	
Brought forward funding	0		26	
Total		419		445
Expenditure				
Action for Children	105		112	
Young Enterprise Scotland	12		12	
ESOL	96		96	
Curriculum/Strategic Plan	0		100	
Regional Review	5		20	
Mental Health	0		5	
Climate Change/Sustainability	74		100	
Total		292		445
Surplus/(Deficit)		127		0

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

Expenditure

- **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 was not progressed in 2022-23 due to the timing of decisions regarding 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** – no expenditure was incurred in 2022-23.
- **Climate Change/Sustainability** – expenditure has been incurred on staff costs with some additional project support (e.g. Unesco project).

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 to learners 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.