

# MID WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE

**Report Title:** Report of the Section 151 Officer with regard to the Budget Outturn for 2022/23 and the Budget for 2023/24.

**Date of Meeting:** 12 October 2023

<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To note the Outturn position for 2022/23 and the update on the Budget for 2023/24.
<b>Report Author</b>	Duncan Hall
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Duncan Hall
<b>Legal Officer</b>	Clive Pinney

## **1. Outturn 2022/23:**

- 1.1 The Budget for 2022/23 was approved on the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2022. The General Budget totalled £120,000 and the Strategic Planning Budget totalled £40,000.
- 1.2 The expenditure for 2022/23 is detailed on Appendix A. The expenditure on the General Budget was £61,342 which resulted in an underspend of £58,658 which has been transferred into a earmarked reserve. The expenditure on the Strategic Planning Budget was £15,334 which resulted in an underspend of £24,666 which has been transferred into a specific earmarked reserve. The main reason for the underspends was the concerns regarding the MWCJC's ability to reclaim VAT – this was resolved successfully towards the end of the financial year.
- 1.3 The Annual Return has been completed and sent to Audit Wales for them to audit. When the audit is complete the MWCJC will be asked to approve the return.

## **2. Budget 2023/24**

- 2.1 The MWCJC Budget for 2023/24 was approved on the 19 January 2023. The General Budget totals £131,255 and the Strategic Planning budget totals £43,745.
- 2.2 Appendix B details the original budget and also proposals to update some of the budget headings. The proposed amended budget requirement for the general budget increases from £131,255 to £146,255 – with the additional £15,000 being funded from earmarked reserves. The proposed amended budget requirement for the strategic budget increases from £43,745 to £53,745 – with the additional £10,000 being funded from earmarked reserves.

## **3. Integrated Impact Assessment:**

- 3.1 There is no requirement for an Integrated Impact Assessment for this report as the setting up of the CJC is underpinned by legislation and this report is to establish financial arrangements in accordance with legislation.

## **4. Workforce Impacts:**

- 4.1 Currently any employment within the MWCJC will be undertaken by constituent authorities and recharged back to the MWCJC taking due account of any associated taxation issues.

## **5. Legal Impacts:**

- 5.1 Part 5 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 provides for the establishment, through regulations, of CJsCs and compliance will be had with this and other legislative obligations in the establishment of CJsCs. In particular the Mid Wales Corporate Joint Committee Regulations came into force on 1st April 2021 and set out that the CJC should be established and the timeframes for the discharging of specific functions.

## **6. Risk Management Impacts:**

- 6.1 Failure to set a balanced budget would render the MWCJC in breach of its obligations exposing itself to legal challenge. In addition, suitable arrangements must be put in place to ensure that the constituent authorities and the national park authority are able to fulfil their legal obligations in establishing the MWCJC.

## **7. Consultation:**

- 7.1 There is no requirement for public consultation in respect of this report.

## **8. Reasons for Proposed Decision:**

- 8.1 To provide an update on the outturn position for 2022/23 and to ensure the financial budget for 2023/24 is updated for the MWCJC in line with relevant legislative requirements applicable to CJs.

## **9. Recommendations**

### **9.1 It is recommended that Ceredigion and Powys Council MWCJC Members approve the following with regard to the General Budget:**

- (a) To note the Outturn for the General Budget for the MWCJC for 2022/23 of spend of £61,342 as outlined in Appendix A.
- (b) To approve the General Expenditure Budget for the MWCJC for 2023/24 of £146,255 as outlined in Appendix B.

### **9.2 It is recommended that all MWCJC Members approve the following with regard to the Strategic Planning Budget:**

- (a) To note the Outturn for the Strategic Planning Budget for the MWCJC for 2022/23 of spend of £15,344 as outlined in Appendix A.

(b) To approve the Strategic Planning Expenditure Budget for the MWCJC for 2023/24 of £53,745 as outlined in Appendix B.