



JOINT COMMITTEE – 18th November 2011

REVENUE BUDGET REVIEW 2011/2012

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR AND TREASURER

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 The Revenue Budget for 2011/2012 was approved at the meeting of the Joint Committee on 11th March 2011 and a revised budget was approved on 24th June 2011. The purpose of this report is to review the Revenue Budget for 2011/2012 to reflect developments that have occurred since the revised budget was approved.

2. Revenue Budget 2011/2012

2.1 The main variations are set out below for information and show in overall terms a net reduction in the use of the accumulated surplus of £18,300. This means that the general reserve for the Joint Committee is projected to increase to £93,090. Appendix A summarises the projected revenue outturn position for 2011/2012.

2.2 Line 2: Printing, Stationery & General Office Expenses (£3,800 decrease). Budget provision has been included for the cost of statutory Public Notices in local newspapers advertising the audit of the Statement of Accounts for 2011/2012. However, under the limited assurance audit regime there is no requirement to publish statutory Public Notices in local newspapers and therefore the budget provision can be removed.

2.3 Line 3: Services (£14,500 decrease). The Revenue Budget for 2011/2012 was approved on 11th March 2011. As the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011 did not come into force until 31st March 2011, the budget included a provision relating to external audit and inspection fees of £15,500, in line with previous years' fees. Members were subsequently advised at the meeting held on 6th May 2011 that the Joint Committee would be classified as a smaller body due to a revised threshold under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011, and that Joint Committee's accounts would be audited under the limited assurance audit regime. Members agreed to reduce the provision to £5,000 at the meeting held on

24th June 2011 to reflect the lower audit fees, although the Treasurer was still awaiting confirmation of the proposed fees from the external auditor.

The actual fees relating to the external audit and inspection for the Statement of Accounts 2010/2011 were £3,000. As the provision for fees was overstated by £2,000 for 2010/2011, it is proposed to net the credit amount of £2,000 against the estimated audit fees of £3,000 for the Statement of Accounts 2011/2012. Members are therefore advised to reduce the Services budget by £14,500 from £15,500 to £1,000.

2.4 In order to produce a break-even budget it will be necessary to use £21,608 from the accumulated surplus. The accumulated surplus is projected to be £93,090 after taking into account all of the budget revisions highlighted above.

3. Recommendations

3.1 Members are requested to:

- approve the revised Revenue Budget for the Joint Committee for 2011/2012 shown at Appendix A.

Richard Evans
Director

Malcolm Page
Treasurer