

## EIP DEPARTMENT

### Revenue Operational Budget as at 31 March 2023

	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance (Overspend)</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Employees	7,130	6,845	285
Premises	32	28	4
Supplies & Services	2,661	2,732	(71)
Transport	43	46	(3)
School Transport	1,338	2,052	(714)
Commissioned Services	1,771	1,612	159
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	1,380	1,435	(55)
Independent School Fees	6,875	6,875	0
Inter Authority Special Needs	359	359	0
Pupil Premium Grant	92	92	0
Nursery Education Payments	5,906	5,906	0
Capital Finance	2,271	2,271	0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>29,858</b>	<b>30,253</b>	<b>(395)</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Fees & Charges Income	-93	-149	56
Government Grant	-5,348	-5,348	0
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-869	-822	(47)
Schools SLA Income	-358	-432	74
Transfer from Reserves	-1,047	-1,047	0
Dedicated Schools Grant	-17,840	-17,840	0
Inter Authority Income	-421	-421	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>-25,976</b>	<b>-26,059</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Net Operational Expenditure</b>	<b>3,882</b>	<b>4,194</b>	<b>(312)</b>
<b>Recharges</b>			
Premises Support	127	127	0
Transport Support	438	582	(144)
Central Support	2,308	2,310	(2)
Asset Rental Support	88	88	0
Recharge Income	-21	0	(21)
<b>Net Total Recharges</b>	<b>2,940</b>	<b>3,107</b>	<b>(167)</b>
<b>Net Departmental Expenditure</b>	<b>6,822</b>	<b>7,301</b>	<b>(479)</b>

### Comments on the above figures

The net departmental expenditure for EIP is £0.479m over the approved budget at the end of 2022-23. The main variance being school transport and staffing.

Core funded employee expenditure is £0.285m under budget at year end. As in 2021/22 there were a number of vacant positions across the department. The most notable of these was the Operational Director position. This was recently filled (internally) which leaves a vacant Divisional Manager position. The vacant DM position is currently being acted up until end of August 2023. It had been forecast that the majority of these vacancies would be filled by the end of the financial year but there are still a number of vacant positions, which will be filled early 2023/24, resulting in a small one off saving during the new financial year.

As has been the case during the course of the financial year, Schools Transport is the main budget pressure for Education, Inclusion and Provision. The Council has a statutory responsibility to provide Special Educational Needs (SEN) pupils with transport. The budget can be split into two main areas; between SEN pupils attending in borough schools and those attending out of borough schools. The demand for the School Transport service is increasing in line with the increasing number of pupils with SEN within the Borough.

The table below breaks down the split between the different areas, and how each areas spend compares to budget.

	<b>2022-23</b>				
<b>Area</b>	<b>No. of Users</b>	<b>Budget £'000</b>	<b>Actual Spend £'000</b>	<b>Variance £'000</b>	<b>Average Cost per User £</b>
In Borough	384	944	1160	(216)	£3,021
Out of Borough	126	394	892	(498)	£7,079
<b>Total</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>1,355</b>	<b>2,052</b>	<b>(714)</b>	

The number of service users this financial year is 510, with the majority attending schools within the borough, 384 compared to 126 out of the borough.

It is worth noting that this situation is not unique to Halton, it is a pressure across all Councils nationwide. This area is £0.714m over budget at year end.

School SLA income has as expected over achieved against budgeted income by £0.074m in this financial year. Certain services such as Educational Psychology and Education Welfare are in high demand from schools. As a result they are generating higher levels of income than initially targeted.

### **Capital Projects as at 31 March 2023**

<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>2022/23 Capital Allocation £'000</b>	<b>Actual Spend to 31 March 2023 £'000</b>	<b>Total Allocation Remaining £'000</b>
Asset Management Data	6	3	3
Capital Repairs	1,155	1,046	109
Asbestos Management	29	19	10
Schools Access Initiative	36	23	13
Fairfield Primary School	20	0	20
Kitchen Gas Safety	1	1	0
Small Capital Works	124	66	58
Cavendish School	469	36	433
SEMH Free School	237	231	6
The Grange	0	8	(8)
Family Hubs	34	0	34
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>2,111</b>	<b>1,433</b>	<b>678</b>

#### **Comments on the above figures**

Asset Management (CAD plan updates and Condition Surveys) works, and small capital works will continue in 2023/24 in response or in line with any emergency Health and Safety issues.

The majority of the Capital Repairs works took place during the summer holidays. The remaining programmed works were mainly single glazing replacements, which will be progressed in 2023/24.

Asbestos management surveys are updated annually and remedial work carried out where necessary.

The Cavendish school project has not commenced as Planning permission has not yet been agreed.