

WRS Board
20th February 2025

WORCESTERSHIRE REGULATORY SERVICES REVENUE MONITORING April – Dec 2024

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board:

- 1.1 Note the final financial position for the period April – Dec 2024
- 1.2 That partner councils are informed of their liabilities for Apr – Dec 24 in relation to Bereavements

Council	Apr–Dec 24 Actual for Bereavements £000
Bromsgrove District Council	5
Malvern Hills District Council	4
Redditch Borough Council	7
Worcester City Council	1
Total	17



1.3 That partner councils are informed of their liabilities for 2024-25 in relation to additional Technical Officers

Council	Estimated Projected Outturn 2024/25 Envirocrime & Planning Enforcement £000	Estimated Projected Outturn 2024/25 Tech Officer Animal Activity £000	Estimated Projected Outturn 2024/25 Gull Control £000
Bromsgrove District Council	310	9	
Malvern Hills District Council		7	
Redditch Borough Council	174	2	
Worcester City Council		3	35
Wychavon District Council		15	
Wyre Forest District Council		9	
Total	485	45	35

1.4 Note that following the Government's guidance for reclaiming of National Insurance increases for 25-26 onwards, because these increases are linked to Revenue Outturn data forms, these increases are to be funded by partner councils as was outlined in the report approved at the meeting of the WRS Board on 21st November 2024, the financial summary of which is in the spreadsheet attached at Appendix 3.

Contribution to Priorities

Introduction/Summary

The robust financial management arrangements ensure the priorities of the service can be delivered effectively.

This report presents the financial position for Worcestershire Regulatory Services for the period April – Dec 2024. It also includes an update following Government issuing guidance on



Background

how it would provide financial relief from the impact of the national Insurance increases on local authorities.

Report

The financial monitoring reports are presented to this meeting on a quarterly basis.

The following reports are included for Joint Board's Attention:

- Revenue Monitoring - April – Dec 24 – Appendix 1
- Income Breakdown - April – Dec 24 – Appendix 2
- WRS Partner Budget Contributions 2025/26 – 2027/28 – Appendix 3

Revenue Monitoring

The detailed revenue report is attached at Appendix 1. This shows a projected outturn 2024/25 of £8k surplus. It is appreciated this is an estimation to the year-end based on following assumptions:

- The agreed pay award for 2024-25 is included in the revenue monitoring reports, the attached report also reflects the additional funding from partner councils of £21k agreed at Board in Nov 24.
- If April to Dec 24 spend on pest control continues on the same trend for the rest of year, there will be a overspend on this service of £19k. The projected outturn figure to be funded by partners is:-

Redditch Borough Council	£11k
Wychavon District Council	£8k

- The following is the actual bereavements costs Apr – Dec 24 to be funded by partners. These costs are charged on an as and when basis. Due to the nature of the charge, it is not possible to project a final outturn figure:

Bromsgrove District Council	£5k
Malvern Hills District council	£4k
Redditch Borough Council	£7k
Worcester City Council	£1k

This income is included in the income projected outturn.

- Appendix 2 shows the detail of the income achieved by WRS April – Dec 24
- Any grant funded expenditure is shown separate to the core service costs as this is not funded by the participating Councils.



- **National Insurance contributions 25-26 onwards**
The Government have confirmed that National Insurance increases have been allocated and recompensed to councils based on revenue outturn data. The snip below, from guidance circulated on 3rd February 2025 confirms this. Therefore, the allocations set out in the 2025-26 budget report discussed and approved on 21st November 2024 by the WRS Board are correct as the grant links financial reliefs to individual councils and not to Bromsgrove District Council as the host.

Employer National Insurance Contributions Grant – Explanatory Note

Allocations methodology and timing

Individual local authority allocations within the local government finance settlement have been determined based on the methodology below, noting in some instances we lacked the relevant, published RO data, and we have therefore used councils’ self-submitted expenditure data for 2023-24 where there were gaps in the data for specific authorities.

- Appendix 3 shows the partner budget contribution breakdown 2025/26 – 2027/28, that was agreed at WRS Board on 21st November 2024

Financial Implications

None other than those stated in the report

Sustainability

None as a direct result of this report

Contact Points

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Background Papers

Detailed financial business case

