



PAPER C - FINANCE REPORT

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

13 MAY 2025

The purpose of this Report is to provide Members with information regarding the budget monitor. There has not been an updated budget monitor since the meeting of 28 April 2025. Consequently, the budget monitor to be presented has not changed. An updated budget monitor will be presented at the next meeting.

BUDGET MONITOR & VARIANCES FROM BUDGET

A list of payments and receipts against budget heads for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 is attached to this report for Members' information. Note that the reported spend is based on the cash book. At the end of the year, our accounts are converted into income and expenditure as is required for a council of our size.

Notable variances include Administrative Salaries, Cleaning, and Maintenance, which were explained in the Finance Report to the October 2024 meeting. Variances relating to Miscellaneous, Public Toilets, Paddling Pool, Car Parks, No.31 Bus, Business Development, Community Development, Youth Service, and Salisbury Gardens were explained in the Finance Report that went to the December 2024 Town Council Meeting. The variances relating to Warmer Ventnor and Ventnor Library were explained in the Finance Report which went to the February 2025 meeting.

In light of the financial position that VTC has found itself in, expenditure for stationery, equipment, etc. has been deferred wherever possible to Financial Year 2025/26 where there is sufficient budget to cover the expenditure, in order to not deplete the reserves.

We have been fortunate that bank interest has been higher than the budget by some £2,087.

The large payments in January predominantly to the Isle of Wight Council meant that we paid out quite a lot in VAT during the final quarter of the year. We are due to claim back approximately £14,000 which should arrive in the bank account in May.

Due to some issues with installing CCTV at the Esplanade toilets, this project has not yet progressed, the budget will be carried over to next year.

The apparent overspend relating to the Wellbeing Café was due to an insufficient budget. With a change to the group's anticipated operating style in 2025/26, it is less likely that there will be an overspend in the next financial year.

A reported underspend in relation to Ventnor Park is due to the annual contribution to the Isle of Wight Council for the partnership-managed Grounds Maintenance was not as large as expected.
