

Title of Report:	Period 4 ES Management Accounts and Financial Positions 2025/26
Committee Report Submitted To:	Environmental Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	14th October 2025
For Decision or For Information	For Information
To be discussed In Committee YES/NO	NO

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Leader and Champion
Outcome	Provide Civic Leadership
Lead Officer	Director of Environmental Services

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	N/A
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	
Staffing Costs	

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	YES/NO
Legal Opinion Obtained	YES/NO

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report to provide Members with information on the current financial position of Environmental Services Directorate at the end of Period 4.

2.0 Background

Council has approved the annual budget for Environmental Service and delegated authority to officers to utilise this budget in the provision of services to the rate payers. ES budget for 2025/26 is **£32,689,479.07**. This is based on expenditure budget of **£39,511,868.06** and income budget of **£6,822,388.99**.

The Environmental Services position at Period 4 shows a **£192,681.52 adverse variance** (P3 was a £63k adverse variance).

The main costs and income attributing to the ES P4 position are summarised as follows as variances against budget.

- Employee costs are £63k adverse
- Premises costs are £64k favourable
- Transport Costs are £131k adverse
- Supplies and Services are £283k adverse
- Support Services are £28k adverse
- Third Party Payments are £2k favourable
- Income is £12k adverse

Head of Service	Actual Net Expenditure	Budgeted Net Expenditure	Net	Annual	Remaining Net Expenditure
			Expenditure Variance	Budgeted Net Expenditure	
Estates	2,724,516.14	2,476,719.43	(247,796.71)	7,651,860.02	4,927,343.88
Health and Built Environment	874,785.95	899,130.68	24,344.73	2,672,847.00	1,798,061.05
Infrastructure	(236,298.39)	(190,713.62)	45,584.77	(66,593.79)	169,704.60
Operations	6,730,676.88	6,743,770.72	13,093.84	21,544,580.48	14,813,903.60
ES Business Support	258,261.87	237,267.89	(20,993.98)	733,302.20	475,040.33
Environmental Services Centrally Managed	52,006.08	45,091.91	(6,914.17)	153,483.16	101,477.08
	10,403,948.53	10,211,267.01	(192,681.52)	32,689,479.07	22,285,530.54

Estates

P4 Actual Expenditure	P4 Budget Expenditure	P4 Actual Income	P4 Budget Income	Net Expenditure Variance
2,808,433.05	2,569,614.94	(83,916.91)	(92,895.51)	(247,796.71)

£248k adverse, with an overspend of £239k in material costs primarily and a shortfall in income of £9k. Premises are adverse by £12k and Employee costs are adverse by £82k. Transport related cost are £65k favourable.

Health and Built Environment

P4 Actual Expenditure	P4 Budget Expenditure	P4 Actual Income	P4 Budget Income	Net Expenditure Variance
1,454,652.54	1,519,379.53	(579,866.59)	(620,248.85)	24,344.73

£24k positive. Employee costs are £128k positive due to unfilled posts, especially in Building Control. Fee Income is adverse by £40k including a shortage of £95k from Building Control, with over-budget income in Licensing & Emergency Planning (£30k), HBE Gen Mgmt (£15k), Air Quality (£6k) and Food Safety (£6k).

Infrastructure

P4 Actual Expenditure	P4 Budget Expenditure	P4 Actual Income	P4 Budget Income	Net Expenditure Variance
729,531.07	835,038.65	(965,829.46)	(1,025,752.27)	45,584.77

£46k positive. Total income is £60k adverse, £15k adverse in Car Parks and £45k in Harbours & Marinas. Employee costs are £108k favourable, of which £92k is in H&M.

Operations

P4 Actual Expenditure	P4 Budget Expenditure	P4 Actual Income	P4 Budget Income	Net Expenditure Variance
7,328,282.25	7,243,120.62	(597,605.37)	(499,349.90)	13,093.84

£13k favourable variance at end of Period 4. Employee costs are £190k adverse. A breakdown of the variances is as follows:

Function	Variance	Comments
Waste Collection & Street Cleansing	£9k adverse	£96k adverse on labour costs. £87k favourable on all other costs, of which £76k is vehicle-related savings.
Landfill & Compost Site	£15k favourable	£34k adverse on labour costs (including £10k adverse on OT). Other costs are £49k favourable, including £33k below budget in electricity costs.
HRCs & Civic Amenities	£57k adverse	£36k over on materials costs. £23k over budget on labour costs.
Waste Disposal Contracts	£90k Favourable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Black Bin Contract - £151k favourable ○ Blue Bin Contract - £40k favourable ○ Brown Bin Contract - £110k adverse ○ Other Waste Contracts - £8k favourable 	Brown bin contract has gone from being on target at end of P3 to £110k over budget at end of P4. Bin contracts finished under plan in 224/25 and is predicted to do the same this year.
Transfer Stations & Depots	£28k favourable	Loughanhill depot is over by £32k (inc. £22k over plan on Protective Clothing) while the others are under, e.g. £17k under in Craigahulliar T/fer, £15k under in Ballyquin and £13k under in Market Street.
Public Conveniences	£30k adverse	£18k over on agency costs, £16k over budget on electricity. Some smaller savings, eg electrical repairs and pension contributions.
Garages	£10k favourable	£16k under on labour costs, £7k over budget on non-labour costs, particularly vehicle parts.
Ops Management	£37k adverse	All labour – £14k sick pay, £12k OT, £11k EE NIC.

ES Business Support

£21k adverse – agency costs to cover sickness.

ES Centrally Managed

£7k positive variance – agency costs.

3.0 In-year Savings

Officers have and will continue to manage and scrutinise the budget to identify opportunities for reducing expenditure and increasing income in order to get back on budget. At the end of Period 4, ES financial position has an adverse variance of **£192,681.52**.

4.0 Capital Expenditure

The table below sets out the capital expenditure that has been approved through Council thus far for the 2025/26 Financial Year:

Environmental Services

Month/Year	Agenda Item No.	Fleet/Project	Amount
April 2025	19	Repair Works to Portstewart Harbour Breakwater	c. £35,838
May 2025	6	Operations and Estates fleet, plant and renewal programme for 2025-26.	£2,174,000
June 2025	16	Generator for Emergency Control Centre	c. £23,811
June 2025	17	Festive Light Upgrades and Repairs 2025	c. £92,222.24
September 2025	26	Portrush Harbour Footbridge Repairs	£274,468.50
Total			£2,600,339.74

5.0 Recommendation

Members are requested to note the paper.