



## Finance and Resources Committee

**10.00am, Thursday 30 October 2014**

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

# Finance and Resources Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Convener Cllr Alasdair Rankin</p>  <p>Vice – Convener Cllr Bill Cook</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cllr Adam McVey</li> <li>▪ Cllr David Walker</li> <li>▪ Cllr Denis Dixon</li> <li>▪ Cllr Paul Edie</li> <li>▪ Cllr Frank Ross</li> <li>▪ Cllr Gavin Corbett</li> <li>▪ Cllr Iain Whyte</li> <li>▪ Cllr Joan Griffiths</li> <li>▪ Cllr Ricky Henderson</li> <li>▪ Cllr Paul Godzik</li> <li>▪ Cllr Allan Jackson</li> <li>▪ Cllr Andrew Burns (ex officio)</li> <li>▪ Cllr Steve Cardownie (ex officio)</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Veronica Macmillan</a> Committee Officer Tel: 0131 529 4283</p> <p><a href="#">Linda Fraser</a> Professional Support Manager Tel: 0131 469 3928</p> <p><a href="mailto:budgetcommittee@edinburgh.gov.uk">budgetcommittee@edinburgh.gov.uk</a></p>

Recent news	Background
<p><b>Draft Scottish Budget 2015/16</b></p> <p>Following the announcement in July of provisional grant allocations for 2015/16 as part of the Local Government Settlement, the Cabinet Secretary’s statement on the Draft Scottish Budget on 9 October was in line with the revenue and capital assumptions underpinning the Council’s budget framework. The announcement confirmed that receipt of full grant funding in 2015/16 will be contingent upon a further year’s Council Tax freeze and demonstration of improvement across a range of education-related outcome indicators, the latter honouring a previous agreement with COSLA to consider measures going beyond (input-based) teacher numbers.</p> <p>While, as with any announcement, the detailed implications will only become clear upon receipt of full supporting</p>	<p>Hugh Dunn, Head of Finance, 469 3150</p> <p><a href="mailto:hugh.dunn@edinburgh.gov.uk">hugh.dunn@edinburgh.gov.uk</a></p>

information, the accompanying letter issued to Council Leaders indicates intended continuing provision in 2015/16 of £35m of additional funding for Discretionary Housing Payments. Given the Scottish Government's stated aim of mitigating in full the impacts of Underoccupancy Regulations, the precise sum can only be finalised upon confirmation of the equivalent DWP funding. The distribution amongst authorities of these additional sums will be considered as appropriate by the Settlement and Distribution Group on which the Head of Finance sits.

Following devolution of the setting of Landfill Tax rates to the Scottish Government with effect from April 2015, the announcement also confirmed that the standard rate per tonne will initially be in line with that for the rest of the United Kingdom at £82.60.

### **Support for Edinburgh Guarantee – half-yearly update**

Following reappointment of The Royal Bank of Scotland for the provision of the Council's core banking services in August 2013, the Finance and Resources Committee requested six-monthly updates on its support for the Edinburgh Guarantee. Since the first update in May, the Bank has once again operated its summer internship programme, taking on thirty young people and providing valuable experience in improving participants' future employability prospects. Across the city as a whole, 45 apprentices are currently employed by the Bank, with the intention that further recruitment take place in the autumn. The Bank also continues to be represented on the Guarantee's Leadership Group and is looking at ways of providing further support to the initiative across the city.

Going forward, updates will be incorporated in treasury management-related reports considered by the Finance and Resources Committee.

Hugh Dunn, Head of Finance, 469 3150

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**Forthcoming activities:**

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