

COMMITTEE	Special Educational Needs Joint Committee
DATE	20 November 2015
TITLE OF REPORT	2015/16 Accounts Review
REPORT BY	Head of Finance Service

2015/2016 Accounts Review

1.0 The Joint Committee's permanent staffing establishment is -

- 8.1 psychologists
- 7.6 specialist teachers
- 6.4 administrative staff

The budget is based on this staffing establishment.

2.0 To date, these are the staffing changes during 2015/16.

2.1 Psychologists –

- 6.7 permanent and 1.0 temporary post who finished in August 2015 and 2 trainees
- **Savings of approx £60k** planned partly to finance training costs.

2.2 Team Specialist Teachers –

- At the beginning of the financial year 6.9 permanent teachers and 3.2 temporary teachers were employed
- In August 2015 1.2 temporary teachers finished
- In December 2015 one permanent teacher 0.9 will finish
- The situation in January 2016 is likely to be 6.0 permanent teachers and 2.0 temporary
- Teaching assistants were employed to support the team – 1.6 permanent and 0.6 temporary
- In August 2015 the temporary appointments finished
- **Overspend of approx £121k**

2.3 Administrative Staff –

- 5.9 staff at the beginning of the year
- 0.5 vacant post for the full year
- Position of Senior Administrative Officer was vacant for nearly 4 months
- 0.4 vacancy from January 2016 onwards
- **Savings of approx £25k**

2.4 Net overspend on staff costs of £36k in 2015/16 in comparison with the budget.

3.0 Approximately **£9k** training costs to be funded from the savings on psychologists' salaries – strategic plan to ensure Welsh qualified psychologist in the future.

4.0 The Joint Committee is now based in Penrallt, Caernarfon. Due to the increased space occupied, there is nearly **£17k** increase in the rent. Permanent savings need to be identified to fund this increase in costs. Approx **£4k** in one-off costs of the relocation in 2015/16 (carpets and blinds).

5.0 The Joint Committee has tightened spending on resources due to the overspend – net savings of approx. **£11k** in total.

6.0 By now the income target has become unrealistic, due mainly to the staffing situation and lack of capacity to conduct training as has happened in the past. There is likely to be a **£8k** deficit in income this year with the need to identify savings permanently to bridge the gap.

7.0 The above leads to an overspend of **£65k** in 2015/16.

8.0 The balance of the Joint Committee (Gwynedd and Anglesey combined) at the end of the 2014/15 financial year was **£150k**.

9.0 Applying **£65k** of the balances to reconcile the overspend for 2015/16 leaves a balances of approx £85k in 31 March 2016.

10.0 Anglesey has implemented a 10% cut which leaves a real terms gap of **£55k** for the Joint Committee to find on a permanent basis. A differentiating provision needs to be identified between Gwynedd and Anglesey to deal with this cut.

Recommendation

1. The Joint Committee is requested to accept the report and agree to the use of £65k of the combined balances to fund the overspend in 2015/16.
2. To ask officers to move quickly to identify the reduction in services for Anglesey in order to find the £55k savings required.
3. To quickly project the financial situation in 2016/17 and to take steps to resolve any financial problems.
4. Ask Gwynedd and Anglesey councils for guidance regarding the 2016/17 budget.

SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS JOINT COMMITTEE

2015/16 ACCOUNTS REVIEW

	staffing establishment	Budget 2015/2016 £	estimated increase / decrease(-) £	Accounts Review 2015/2016 £
Expenditure				
Employees	April			
Salaries	2014			
- Psychologists	(8.1)	536,310	-60,430	475,880
- Specialist Teachers	(7.6)	390,400	121,420	511,820
- Administration	(6.4)	193,380	-25,180	168,200
Training		9,520	12,520	22,040
Liability Insurance		3,000	0	3,000
Building				
Rates		4,940	270	5,210
Rent and Services		11,630	16,670	28,300
Relocation Costs		0	3,830	3,830
Transport				
Travelling Expenses		50,780	0	50,780
Supplies and Services				
Resources / Office Supplies		17,480	-7,440	10,040
Notice of Final Accounts		0	1,080	1,080
Audit Fee		0	1,000	1,000
Telephone		8,960	-5,960	3,000
Post		1,880	100	1,980
Central Charges Ynys Môn		1,630	0	1,630
Central Charges Gwynedd		4,960	0	4,960
Savings to be found - Anglesey		-55,210	55,210	0
Total Expenditure		1,179,660	113,090	1,292,750
Income				
External Income		9,440	-8,240	1,200
Llôg ar balansau		0	400	400
Cyngor Gwynedd Contribution	64.27%	752,046	0	752,046
Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn Contribution	35.73%	418,174	0	418,174
Total Income		1,179,660	-7,840	1,171,820
Total Net Expenditure		0	120,930	120,930

Joint balances Gwynedd and Anglesey 31 March 2015 £150,530