

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 16 AUGUST 2016

WATER ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

REPORT BY HEAD OF TECHNICAL AND PROPERTY SERVICES

ABSTRACT

This report presents the end of year status of the water consumption and water and drainage expenditure for the Council non-housing properties for 2015/16. It shows a slight year on year increase in water consumption of 1,821 cubic meters and an increase of £16,281 on the water and drainage expenditure for 2015/16.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) notes this annual report is required to be accessible to members of the public;
- (ii) notes the contents of this end of year report.
- (iii) to approve a Corporate 5% water consumption reduction target based on the 2011/12 consumption levels.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/COPORATE PLAN

2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

- Communities that are sustainable:
- Our natural built environment is protected and enjoyed
- Our carbon footprint is reduced

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Corporate Services committee at its meeting of 28 April 2011 approved Report No: 312/11, UPDATE OF MARKET PROCUREMENT OF WATER SERVICES. This introduced new contractual and corporate management arrangements for the provision of water and drainage services.

3.2 Service Directorates have provision within their budgets for water and drainage costs. However responsibility for the overall management of these budgets and the provision of budget monitoring information rests with the Head of Technical and Property Services.

3.3 Technical and Property Services currently manages the water and drainage contract for all non-housing properties within Angus Council and maintains an overview, in conjunction with Corporate Improvement and Finance, of the rate of expenditure on the associated budgets.

3.4 A new national contract for the provision of water and drainage services has been procured by Scottish Procurement. The contract has been awarded to Anglian Water Business and runs from 1 March 2016 until 28 February 2019 with an option to extend until 29 February 2020. The Council has initially opted to pay monthly in arrears for the first year to allow the new contract to settle in thereafter this decision will be reviewed.

- 3.5 Currently there is no formal target for reducing water consumption within the Council buildings however the budgets are based on a three year rolling profile for each water supply. A significant number of sites have been transferred to metered supplies and an exercise to install Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) devices was completed 2014. The AMR devices provide half hourly information on the flow of water through the meter, and this information can give an early indication of possible leaks within an installation as well as indicating when and how much water is being consumed.
- 3.6 The programme for the installation of urinal controls across the Council estate has now been completed and considerable water consumption reductions have been achieved.

4. CURRENT POSITION

Water Consumption

- 4.1 The water consumption status, as at 31 March 2016 is detailed in Table 1 and **Appendix 1**, these figures reflect only the consumption made against presented invoices.

Table 1

	Budget Consumption m ³	Metered Consumption m ³	Difference m ³	Percentage Consumption to Budget
2013/14	224,697	230,868	6,171	103%
2014/15	218,447	173,554	-44,893	79%
2015/16	216,657	175,375	-41,282	81%
Increase between years		1,821	1%	

See **Appendix 2** for the directorate breakdown of Table 1

- 4.2 Table 1 shows an increase of 1,821 cubic meters of water between the two financial years. This increase can be attributed to increased water consumption in the Sheltered Housing Complexes.
- 4.3 The performance by individual directorates, as detailed in **Appendix 2**, notes have been added where there are significant differences between the budgeted and the metered consumption.
- 4.4 The Council has increased the number of metered supplies to 261 leaving 68 un-metered supplies. We will continue to reduce the number of un-metered supplies as and when opportunities arise.

Expenditure on Water and Drainage

- 4.5 The expenditure status, as at 31 March 2016 is detailed in Table 2 and **Appendix 2**; these figures reflect only the payments made against presented invoices.

Table 2

	Budget Volume	Total Spend	Difference £	Percentage Spend to Budget
2013/14	£876,000	£864,723	£11,277	99%
2014/15	£948,000	£699,980	£248,020	74%
2015/16	£803,000	£716,261	£86,739	89%
Increase between years		£16,281	2.33%	

See **Appendix 2** for a directorate breakdown of Table 2.

- 4.6 Table 2 shows a £16,261 increase in expenditure for the 2015/16 compared with the previous financial year. This was due to increased water consumption in the Sheltered Housing Complexes compared to the budget provision.

- 4.7 The performance by individual directorates, is detailed in **Appendix 2**, notes have been added where there are significant differences between the budget volume and total spend figures.

5. PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The Council is currently accredited to the Carbon Trust Standard which covers the carbon emissions from buildings, transport and waste. The accreditation process for the standard ensures the Council creates and implements policies and procedures to ensure it continues to reduce its carbon emissions year on year. The regular external checks provided by the accreditation process ensure the Council continues to deliver the required carbon reductions.
- 5.2 It was agreed at the previous Carbon Reduction Member/Officer Working Group (11 June 2015) that the Council will apply for accreditation to the Carbon Trust Water Standard. The Standard calls for continued water consumption reductions.
- 5.3 In December 2015 the Council became the first local authority in the UK to attain the Carbon Trust Water Standard. A requirement of the standard is that the annual performance information relating to the water and drainage services be made available to the public. This is achieved through the submission of an annual report to Committee.
- 5.4 As stated in paragraph 3.5 the Council currently does not have a Corporate water consumption reduction target and to address this situation and comply with the requirements of the Carbon Trust Water Standard it was agreed at the recent Carbon Reduction Member/Officer Group (14 June 2016) to adopt a Corporate water consumption reduction target of 5% per annum based on the 2011/12 water consumption levels.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The national contract for the supply of water and drainage services was retendered through Scottish Procurement and the successful service provider was announced in December 2015. The detail arrangements and information about the contracts including discounts were made in December 2015 therefore certain assumptions were made when setting the budgets for 2015/16.
- 6.2 Table 2 and **Appendix 2** show a slight overspend of £16,281 when compared to the previous financial year. However compared to the budget provision for 2015/16 the outturn was a £86,739 underspend. This underspend has been progressed on a managed basis and absorbed within the cash limited budgets available to Council directorates.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

Ian Cochrane, Head of Property and Technical Services
E-mail: CommunitiesBusinessSupport@naus.nov.uk

List of Appendices:

- Appendix 1** 2015/16 Water Consumption Status
- Appendix 2** 2015/16 Water Expenditure Status

Appendix 1 2015/16 Water Consumption Status

	Budget Consumption m ³	Metered Consumption m ³	Percentage Consumption to Budget	
People Directorate	130,256	95,857	74%	
Chief Executive	2,927	1,249	43%	a
Resources Directorate	2,724	2,934	108%	b
Communities Directorate	70,897	63,222	89%	
Other Services	15	11	73%	
Sub Totals	206,819	163,273	79%	
Common Good	6	1	17%	c
Communities Directorate (HRA)	9,832	12,101	123%	d
Sub Totals	9,838	12,102	70%	
Totals	216,657	175,375	81%	

Notes:

Compared to the previous financial year there has been a slight increase in the water consumption which can in the main be attributed additional water consumption within the Councils sheltered Housing complexes.

- a The lower than expected water consumption was due to the transfer of staff out of the offices in the Cross.
- b The slight increase is due to the Print and Design Unit/Data Centre now being classed as a metered supply and a small increase in the water consumption in Angus House due to additional staff numbers.
- c The low consumption is for the William Lamb Studio in Montrose. The water consumption varies between years.
- d The high percentage consumption is due to additional water consumption within the Sheltered Housing Complexes.

Appendix 2 2015/16 Water Expenditure Status

	Budget Volume (£)	Total Spend (£)	Percentage Spend to Budget	
People Directorate	456,000	428,418	94%	
Chief Executive	14,000	8,360	60%	a
Resources Directorate	30,000	22,528	75%	
Communities Directorate	253,000	209,553	83%	
Other Services	300	0	0%	
Sub Totals	753,300	668,859	89%	
Communities Directorate (HRA)	34,000	30,906	91%	
Common Good	336	319	95%	
Sub Totals	34,336	31,225	91%	
Totals	787,636	700,084	89%	

Notes:

Compared to the previous financial year there has been a slight increase in expenditure.

- a The lower than expected expenditure due to the transfer of staff out of the offices in the Cross.