

ANGUS COUNCIL

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 7 DECEMBER 2021

INFORMATION REPORT

WATER ANNUAL REPORT

**ABSTRACT**

This report provides information to members with regard to services in the Infrastructure Services Directorate, albeit that a decision is not required in terms of the current Scheme of Delegation to Officers and the Order of Reference of Committees.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report presents the end of year status of the water consumption and water and drainage expenditure for the Council non-housing properties for 2020/21. Compared to the 2019/20 outcome it shows a 29,768 cubic meter reduction in water consumption and a decrease of £53,739 on the water and drainage expenditure for 2020/21.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 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 Infrastructure.
- 2.3 Assets currently manages the water and drainage contract for all non-housing properties within Angus Council and maintains an overview, in conjunction with Finance and Legal, of the rate of expenditure on the associated budgets.

**3. CURRENT POSITION**

**Water Consumption**

- 3.1 The water consumption status, as at 31 March 2021 is detailed in Table 1 and **Appendix 1**, these figures reflect only the consumption made against presented invoices.

<b>Table 1</b>	Budget Consumption m <sup>3</sup>	Metered Consumption m <sup>3</sup>	Difference m <sup>3</sup>	Percentage Consumption to Budget
2018/19	194,669	159,542	-35,127	82%
2019/20	181,108	149,690	-31,418	83%
<b>2020/21</b>	<b>178,011</b>	<b>119,922</b>	<b>-58,089</b>	<b>67%</b>
	Difference between years	<b>-29,768</b>	<b>-20%</b>	

See **Appendix 1** for the directorate breakdown of Table 1 above.

- 3.2 The performance by individual directorates, as detailed in **Appendix 1**, have notes added where there are significant differences between the budgeted and the metered consumption.
- 3.3 A graph showing the overall progress in reducing the Council's water consumption is detailed in **Appendix 3**. The graph shows that the water consumption has decreased from our original base year of 2011/12 with consumption of 257,500m<sup>3</sup> at that time by 53% to 119,922m<sup>3</sup> in 20/21, The original target was for a reduction to a consumption figure of 167,000m<sup>3</sup> by 19/20 which was exceeded. It is to be noted that the reduction in the consumption in 20/21 is affected by the impact on Covid-19 on the operation and occupation of the buildings, it is anticipated that the consumption will rise in the short term. New water consumption reduction and carbon emissions reduction targets based on the Scottish Governments Climate Change (Emission Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act are required,
- 3.4 The carbon emissions are directly linked to Scottish Water and their efforts at decarbonizing the energy used in the supply of water. The Council has no impact on this element however the Council will makes sure that the water consumption is as efficient as possible. In order to a water reduction target of 2.5% per annum based on 2019/20 consumption levels up to 2030 (total 25%) is to be applied in the future. This compares with the original target figures set in 2011, as the easier reduction options have already been taken it is envisaged that the reduction will mainly come from reducing baseloads, promoting water saving measures on sites and reductions in building stock.
- 3.5 Carbon emissions associated with water consumption and waste water are reported in the statutory Public Bodies Climate Change Duties report.

#### **Expenditure on Water and Drainage**

- 3.6 The expenditure status, as at 31 March 2021 is detailed in Table 2 and **Appendix 2**; these figures reflect only the payments made against presented invoices.

<b>Table 2</b>	Budget Volume	Total Spend	Difference	<b>Percentage Spend to Budget</b>
2018/19	£826,000	£754,492	£71,508	91%
2019/20	£806,000	£770,739	£35,261	96%
<b>2020/21</b>	<b>£778,000</b>	<b>£717,000</b>	<b>£61,000</b>	<b>92%</b>
	Difference between years	<b>-£53,739</b>	<b>-7.0%</b>	

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

- 3.7 Table 2 shows a £53,739 decrease in expenditure for 2020/21 compared with the previous financial year, but there is an underspend of £61,000 when compared to the Budget allowance for 2020/21. During the year, £78,000 was removed from the budget to allow for Covid-19 impacts; this reduced the budget from £856,000 to £778,000. The consumption figure for 20/21 in Table 1 was not adjusted at the time to take into account the reduction in the budget volume figure.
- 3.8 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.
- 3.9 The impact of Covid-19 resulting in reduced property occupation and operation across the whole Council estate, has been the main reason behind the decrease in expenditure of £53,739.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Table 2 and **Appendix 2** shows an underspend against the budget of £61,000 for 2020/21. This underspend has been progressed on a managed basis and absorbed within the cash limited budgets available to Council directorates.

**REPORT AUTHOR – Gavin Balfour Service Leader Assets**

**E-mail: [Assets@angus.gov.uk](mailto:Assets@angus.gov.uk)**

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1	2020/21 Water Consumption Status
Appendix 2	2020/21 Water Expenditure Status
Appendix 3	Overall Water Consumption Graph

## Appendix 1 2020/21 Water Consumption Status

Directorate	Budget Consumption m <sup>3</sup>	Metered Consumption m <sup>3</sup>	Percentage Consumption to Budget	Blank
People Directorate	89,882	63,821	71%	
Angus Health & Social Care Partnership	13,584	10,610	78%	
Place Directorate	52,490	29,789	57%	
HR, Digital Enablement & Business Support	20	60	300%	a
Legal & Democratic	100	169	169%	b
Facilities Management	8471	4183	49%	
Other Services	11	2	18%	
<b>Sub Totals</b>	<b>164,558</b>	<b>108,634</b>	<b>66%</b>	
Common Good	6	-48	-800%	c
Place Directorate - HRA	13,447	11,337	84%	
<b>Sub Totals</b>	<b>13,453</b>	<b>11,289</b>	<b>84%</b>	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>178,011</b>	<b>119,923</b>	<b>67%</b>	

End table.

### Notes:

**a** Although larger percentage increase due to the consumption level there is a very small cost affect at old Padanaram School – also used as school minibus base.

**b** Actual water consumption at the Digital Reprographics Unit – budget to be adjusted however due to the consumption level there is only a small impact on the budget.

**c** Credit received for over-estimated consumption at 5 Swan Street, Brechin (Vacant).

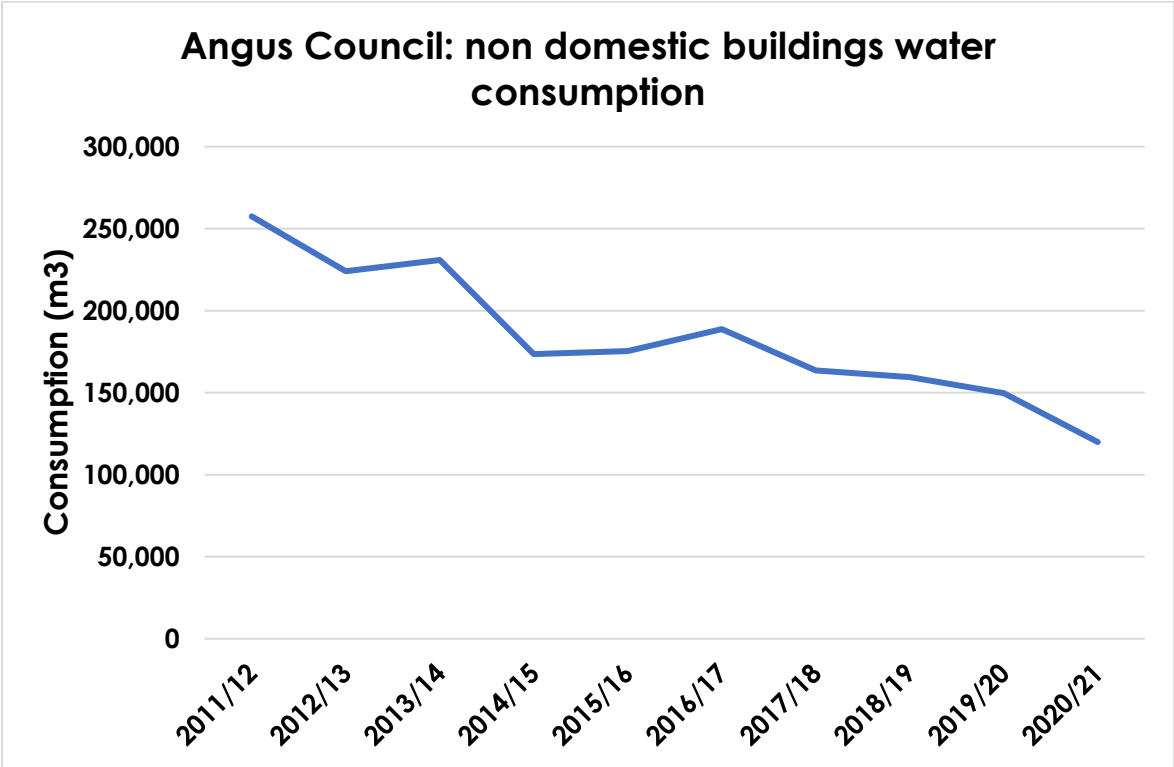
## Appendix 2      2020/21 Water Expenditure Status

Directorate	Budget Volume (£)	Total Spend (£)	Percentage Spend to Budget	
Centralised Water Management	£35,000	£5,110	15%	
SALIX Repayments - Water Efficiency Fund	£3,000	£2,853	95%	
People Directorate	£458,000	£430,511	94%	
Angus Health & Social Care Partnership	£47,000	£29,326	62%	
Place Directorate	£206,000	£156,754	76%	
HR, Digital Enablement & Business Support	£1,000	£0	0%	
Legal & Democratic	£1,000	-£1,744	-174%	a
Facilities Management	£69,000	£63,934	93%	
Other Services	£1,000	£242	24%	
Covid-19 impact budget reduction	-£78,000	£0	0%	b
<b>Sub Totals</b>	<b>£743,000</b>	<b>£686,986</b>	<b>92%</b>	
Common Good	£1,000	£955	96%	
Place Directorate - HRA	£34,000	£29,059	85%	
<b>Sub Totals</b>	<b>£35,000</b>	<b>£30,014</b>	<b>86%</b>	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£778,000</b>	<b>£717,000</b>	<b>92%</b>	

Notes:

- a Drainage charge refund for the Digital Reprographics Unit back to the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2018.
- b £78,000 was removed from the budget by Finance as the water budget was expected to underspend due to reduced property occupation and operation across the whole Council estate.

### Appendix 3 Overall Water Consumption Graph



The graph shows that the water consumption has decreased significantly - since 2011/12 water consumption has reduced by 137,578 cubic meters, equating to a 53.4% reduction.

During 2020/21, Covid-19 impacted property occupation and operation across the whole Council estate which resulted in less water demand. It is anticipated that the water consumption will increase in 21/22 and 22/23 as Council buildings return to full operation, however this is to be offset by the reduction of staff in offices through the implementation of the Agile Programme.

The Energy Team monitor the water use through Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) devices meaning issues can be identified, investigated, and resolved quickly. Without AMR, issues are either discovered through time by water damage, low pressure on site or when yearly manual meter reads are taken.

We currently have a group of problematic sites where water baseloads exist but there are no obvious issues on site. These sites need further investigation, but funding is required to commission more in-depth surveys and a further budget to then carry out the remedial works. Significant reductions over the years have been achieved however additional ongoing funding will be required to ensure that this is maintained, funding bids will be submitted through the appropriate processes.