

SOUTH WEST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE

23rd January 2024

Report of the Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 officer)

Report Title: Budget for financial year 2024/25

Purpose of Report	To agree and set the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee budget for financial year 2024/25, including agreeing the levy charge to constituent authorities.												
Recommendation(s)	<p>That the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee:</p> <p>(a) Consider and approve the budget requirement for the Joint Committee as £615,049 as set out in Appendix B (Continuity with 10% levy reduction).</p> <p>(b) Approve the Levy Charge based on population to the constituent authorities as follows:</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th><u>Local Authority Levy 2024/25</u></th><th><u>£</u></th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>City and County of Swansea Council (Levy)</td><td>191,188</td></tr><tr><td>Carmarthenshire County Council (Levy)</td><td>151,281</td></tr><tr><td>Neath Port Talbot CBC (Levy)</td><td>114,094</td></tr><tr><td>Pembrokeshire County Council (Levy)</td><td>99,414</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>555,978</td></tr></tbody></table>	<u>Local Authority Levy 2024/25</u>	<u>£</u>	City and County of Swansea Council (Levy)	191,188	Carmarthenshire County Council (Levy)	151,281	Neath Port Talbot CBC (Levy)	114,094	Pembrokeshire County Council (Levy)	99,414		555,978
<u>Local Authority Levy 2024/25</u>	<u>£</u>												
City and County of Swansea Council (Levy)	191,188												
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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report details the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee (SWWCJC) annual budget for the financial year 2024/25 with 3 funding options. Detailed information is set out in Appendix A, B and C.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (“the LGE Act”) created the framework for a consistent mechanism for regional collaboration between local government, namely Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs).
- 2.2 The CJC will exercise functions relating to strategic development planning and regional transport planning. They will also be able to do things to promote the economic well-being of their areas including an Energy plan.

- 2.3 Carmarthenshire County Council as the Accountable Body for the CJC is required to provide an annual costs budget for approval for the financial year 2024/25. The CJC had previously agreed and set a one-year operational budget for financial year 2023/24 (budget profile £617,753). The 2024/25 CJC operational budget - including the strategic planning functions - must be compiled and agreed no later than 31st January 2024.
- 2.4 Last year as part of a proactive approach, and in recognition of the challenging financial climate, an initial series of budget options were presented to the CJC in December 2022, and it was resolved that Option 2 – ‘Do Minimum’ – be endorsed as the preferred option for 2023/24. The financial outlook for 2024/25 and beyond continues to be hugely challenging and accordingly, there are three options attached to this report for consideration by the CJC, however considering the financial challenges that the constituent authorities are responding to the option that is recommended and is acceptable to the CJC officers is Option 2 – ‘Continuity budget minus 10%’.
- 2.5 Welsh Government have now provided a grant of £125k in 2023/24 and £100k in 2024/25 for the implementation of the Regional Transport Plan. This award is included in the Appendices and officers are working towards utilising this grant award.
- 2.6 The continuity budget minus 10% will allow the CJC to incorporate the corporate plan through the reserves held. Years two and three are indicative budgets, which will be amended and fine-tuned as the CJC functions and the budget develops.

Option 1 Continuity budget in 2024-25

Consideration could be given to the statutory minimum (continuity budget) that CJC must undertake.

Budgetary

The CJC is required by the LGE Act to set a budget to agree its aims.

The amounts that the CJC must calculate are:

- a) The amount which the CJC estimates it will spend in respect of the financial year in the exercise of its functions (including spending on administration and other overheads);
- b) The amount which the CJC considers appropriate to raise for contingencies arising in respect of the financial year;
- c) The amount which the CJC considers appropriate to be held as a reserve to meet expenditure it considers will be incurred in respect of future financial years;
- d) Any amount which the CJC considers is necessary to meet liabilities outstanding in respect of any earlier financial year.

Consideration of course must be given to potential officer commitments that have been given as part of funding i.e., some staff have been recruited to undertake CJC related work.

Statutory Minimum Requirements

The LGE Act stipulates that it is a requirement of the partners to:

- Take steps to promote or improve the economic wellbeing of its area.
- Prepare a strategic development plan.
- Preparation of a regional transport plan.

As a legal basis, provided steps are in place to monitor compliance with the Regional Economic Wellbeing Plan (and Energy Plan) then it would be contended that the CJC is fulfilling its statutory duty – it has established a plan and is now actively implementing it within individual authorities.

Meetings

From a governance perspective, as a statutory minimum, the CJC is required to hold the following meetings annually:

- One meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee to review the financial affairs of the CJC, review any financial statements and sign off any accounts and other matters which they are legally obliged to undertake.
- One meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- One meeting of the Standards Committee to agree the annual report.

There will clearly be a need for two meetings to develop and take decisions concerning the CJC Budget.

Policy Work

As CJs are part of the local government family, there is a statutory obligation that they comply with responsibilities under the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Equality Act 2010, Welsh Language Standards, and other corporate arrangements. There is a requirement for an overarching policy to be put in place. This work is nearing completion, once the Corporate Plan is in place which satisfies these elements, the CJC will only be required to monitor compliance or update as and when required.

Sub Committees cost profile

Reference should be made to Appendix A of this report. The identified sum of £220,000 will allow for incremental progress to be made by the CJC in 2024/2025 whilst also reflecting the challenging financial climate. A sum of £106,700 to a planning and programme management budget heading is seen as a suitable means of ensuring that the CJC can respond to any requirements emerging during the year.

A detailed breakdown of the continuity budget is presented in Appendix A. The continuity budget option would allow the levy to be maintained at a similar level to 2023/24. Reserves have been accumulated due to expenditure having not begun in the first year of operation and limited activity within 2023/24. It is anticipated that these reserves will be in the region of £729k at the end of 2023/24. If members desire, it is reasonable to apply up to £529k of these reserves in the following 2 – 3 years to keep the levy at a low figure, we would then plan to carry a reserve balance of £200k potential unknowns or variance in expenditure. I

would not advise discharging all the £729k balance in one year. This plan would facilitate a lower levy for 2 years.

Option 2 Continuity budget minus 10% in 2024-25

Given the budgetary pressured faced by local authorities it is suggested that the continuity budget have a further option of reducing the levy on the constituent local authorities by 10%, whilst recognising the reserves are available to fund the individual sub committees if the committee so choses to at a later date. This option is presented in Appendix B.

Option 3 Optimal - Full Cost Operational Budget in 2024/25

The draft budget for 2024/25 is demonstrating estimated expenditure of £2,082,899. This would be an increase of £1.465M on the current budget, which would fall on the Constituent Authorities. A detailed breakdown is presented in Appendix C. Details of budget requirements are highlighted below:

Joint Committee and Accountable Body

- The current budget for the Joint Committee and Accountable Body is estimated at £254,423. Assumptions used are demonstrated below:
- Local authority services – increased by 4% or as directed by the Local Authority undertaking the activity.
- Audit Wales – increased by 6.4%.
- Financial Services – aligned to CCC salary inflation rates.

CJC Sub Committees

- A key facet of the work of the CJC from a delivery perspective is the allocation of budget to the 4 sub committees. It should be noted that the CJC endorsed the Terms of Reference for the 4 Sub Committees at its meeting of 11 October 2022.
- In noting the above, for the CJC to meet its statutory duties and strategic priorities, sufficient budget will need to be allocated to each of the 4 sub committees and as such liaison has been ongoing between the CJC / Section 151 function and the Regeneration Directors from the Constituent Councils.

Economic Development Sub-Committee - Executive Lead – Carmarthenshire.

- The CJC has already endorsed the Regional Economic Development Plan (REDP) as its strategic economic wellbeing framework. A dedicated staff resource will be required to deliver the REDP. The indicative cost is estimated at £410k for 2024/25 to include a Project Manager, Programme Officers (4 Officers), and a Project Management Assistant. Support costs include Democratic services (£16k) and consultancy services (£103k).
- A five-year operational budget has been estimated at £1.755M. Further information is set out in Appendix C.

Strategic Planning Sub-Committee – Executive Lead – Neath Port Talbot

- There is a statutory duty upon the CJC to prepare the Strategic Development Plan (SDP). The 'optimal option' included therein is outlined below (year 1), with further information set out in Appendix C.
- The indicative cost is estimated at £581k for 2024/25 to include a Project Manager, 2 Principal Planning Officers, 2 Planning Officers, and a Technical/Administrative Assistant. Support costs include Projects & Activities expenditure (£70k) and consultancy services (£155k).
- A five-year operational budget has been estimated at £2.469M.

Transport Sub-Committee – Executive Lead – City and County of Swansea

- There is a statutory duty upon the CJC to prepare the Regional Transport Plan (RTP). The Transport Sub Committee budget will be directed at supporting the tasks required to undertake the initial stages of the development of the Regional Transport Plan as set out in the Implementation Plan submitted to WG in Oct 2023. For 2024/25 the WG grant of £100k has been included, however, further ongoing support and funding will be required from WG to complete the overall process.
- The indicative cost is estimated at £391k for 2024/25 to include a Regional Transport Plan Development and Programme Lead Officer and a Graduate Trainee. Consultancy services are expected to be £262k.
- A five-year operational budget has been estimated at £1.687M. Further information is set out in Appendix C.

Energy Sub-Committee – Executive Lead – Pembrokeshire

- The CJC has already endorsed the RES. Regional Energy Planning within the Southwest Wales CJC is moving into an exciting phase of delivery and implementation with the aim of meeting the region's vision of "Harnessing the region's low carbon energy potential across its on and offshore locations, to deliver a prosperous and equitable net zero carbon economy which enhances the well-being of future generations and the region's ecosystems, at a pace which delivers against regional and national emissions reduction targets by 2035 and 2050." The Regional Strategy adopted in 2021 and subsequent action plans are being finalised, the local area energy plans are due for delivery within the next few months and the scale of work towards Net Zero 2030 and 2050 is beginning to take shape. Against this backdrop there is also an incredible amount of regional energy work and projects being undertaken at local, national, and international levels and members of the CJC Energy Committee have been briefed on these projects.
- As the work towards delivery, implementation, monitoring, and reporting begins to ramp up there is a need to prioritise resource capacity and focus on sensible financial propositions to make delivery realistic and achievable. These new roles and funding will directly help support delivery of the regional

energy actions identified by the region as priority, using evidence from this work, and the Local Area Energy Plans, to build a viable investment prospectus and business cases to ensure delivery of the regional targets.

- The indicative cost is estimated at £305k for 2024/25 to include a Regional Energy Lead Officer and a Secretariat Support Officer. Consultancy services are expected to be £150k and Marketing & Advertising is expected to be £45k.
- A five-year operational budget has been estimated at £1.299M. Further information is set out in Appendix C.

Regional Management Office

- Salary Costs - aligned to CCC salary inflation rates.
- Consultancy and Specialist Support Fees – Increased to align to support requirements expected of Management Office.
- Work has commenced to streamline support for the CJC and City Deal arrangements. It is considered that there is scope to bring the support arrangements and further advice will be provided to Members once the work is further progressed.
- It is intended that the levy is split between 4 authorities based on population size (mid-year 2021 – Statswales.gov.uk).
- It should be noted that further consideration will be required as to any contribution from the National Park Authorities. Under the current legislation the National Park Authorities (NPAs) are only financially obligated to support the strategic planning aspects of the CJC.

Reserves have been accumulated due to expenditure having not begun in the first year of operation and limited activity within 2023/24. It is anticipated that these reserves will be in the region of £729k at the end of 2023/24. If members desire, it would be reasonable to apply up to £529k of these reserves in the following 2 – 3 years to keep the levy at a lower figure, we would then plan to carry a reserve balance of £200k for potential unknowns or variance in expenditure in the future. I would not advise discharging all the £729k balance in one year. This plan would facilitate a slightly lower increase in levy for the next 2 years but would rise more significantly after 2025/26.

4 Financial Impacts

- 4.1 The report presents 3 options for the operational budget for 2024/25. The first option, a continuity budget, is a minimal budget is costed at £615,049, the second option is the continuity budget costed at £615,049 with a reserve offset of 10%, and the third option, an optimal budget a total cost budget is £2,082,899. This report recommends that the budget is set based on Option 2 which is a continuity budget less ten percent reduction in line with the pressure that the constituent authorities are facing. Reserves are currently forecasted to stand at £729k, this will help to support the budget for 2024/25 and will also provide resilience to support the development of the CJC further

in 2024/25 and future years. If the committee agrees Option 2 the levy breakdown will be as follows.

<u>Local Authority Levy 2024/25</u>	£
City and County of Swansea Council (Levy)	191,188
Carmarthenshire County Council (Levy)	151,281
Neath Port Talbot CBC (Levy)	114,094
Pembrokeshire County Council (Levy)	99,414
	555,978

- 4.2 To ensure fairness and equality across the regional funding will be provided by local authority contributions through the form of a levy, based on population size. Surpluses that accrue in any year will be contained and ring-fenced within the CJC reserve account and will be utilised for future expenditure.

5 Integrated Impact Assessment

- 5.1 The CJC is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage.
 - Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.
 - Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
 - Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 5.2 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the ‘well-being goals.’
- 5.3 There is no requirement for an Integrated Impact Assessment for this report as the setting up of the CJC is underpinned by legislation and this report is to establish financial arrangements in accordance with legislation. With reference to Appendix C of this report, and the impending consultation on the Draft Corporate Plan, it is considered that the ratification of this budget can facilitate the delivery of the CJC’s emerging identified well-being objectives.

6 Workforce Impacts

- 6.1 Currently any employment within the CJC will be undertaken by constituent authorities and the financial arrangements relating to such are considered in this report.

7 Legal Impacts

- 7.1 There is a legal requirement for the CJC to agree its 2024/2025 budget, together with the levy charge apportionment by 31st January 2024. Furthermore, reference is made to the statutory duties placed upon the CJC in respect of regional transport and strategic development planning.

8 Risk Management Impacts

- 8.1 Failure to set a balanced budget would render the CJC in breach of its obligations exposing itself to legal challenge. In addition, suitable arrangements must be put in place to ensure that the constituent authorities and national park authorities are able to fulfil their legal obligations in establishing the CJC.
- 8.2 It is considered that the continuity budget as presented will meet the requirement to set a balanced budget. Furthermore, and in endorsing the content of the optimal budget, the CJC will be providing a platform upon which to start delivering upon the aspirations and objectives it has identified within the emerging Corporate Plan.

9 Consultation

- 9.1 There is no requirement for formal consultation however, constituent authorities have been consulted.

10 Reasons for Proposed Decision

- 10.1 To ratify the CJC budget as placed before Members for their approval to allow the CJC to meet its obligations to set its 2024/2025 budget no later than 31st January 2024.

11 Implementation of Decision

- 11.1 This decision is proposed for immediate implementation.


Appendices

Appendix A – Continuity budget 2024/25, option 1.

Appendix B – Continuity budget 2024/25 with 10% levy reduction, option 2.

Appendix C – Optimal budget 2024/25, option 3.

Appendix A

 South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee Continuity Budget <i>Financial Years 2023/24 to 2027/28</i>						
Description	Budget 2023-24 (£)	Provisional Outturn 2023/24 (£)	Indicative Budget 2024/25 (£)	Indicative Budget 2025/26 (£)	Indicative Budget 2026/27 (£)	Notes
Expenditure						
Joint Committee						
Democratic Services						
Democratic, Scrutiny and Legal Support Costs	73,700	73,700	76,648	78,564	80,528	Provided by NPT
Democratic Services Total	73,700	73,700	76,648	78,564	80,528	
Legal and Governance						
Monitoring Officer and Service Support	18,700	18,700	19,448	19,934	20,433	Provided by NPT
Legal and Governance Total	18,700	18,700	19,448	19,934	20,433	
Accountable Body						
Audit Wales Financial Audit	22,000	1,764	1,877	1,924	1,972	Based on audit costs of SBCE (independent audit of financial statements)
Section 151 Officer Recharge	20,693	20,693	21,521	22,059	22,610	Provided by CCC
Accountable Body Total	42,693	22,457	23,398	23,983	24,582	
Governance & Internal Audit						
Internal Audit	22,000	16,500	23,170	24,325	25,540	Provided by Pems
Sub-Committee Support Costs & Expenses	16,500	11,000	18,150	18,604	19,069	Provided by Pems
Governance & Internal Audit Total	38,500	27,500	41,320	42,929	44,609	
Support Services						
ICT & Data Protection Services	22,000	22,000	22,880	23,452	24,038	Provided by NPT
Financial Services	57,009	5,000	59,289	60,772	62,291	Provided by CCC
HR Services	11,000	2,000	11,440	11,726	12,019	Provided by NPT
Support Services Total	90,009	29,000	93,609	95,950	98,348	
Joint Committee Total	263,602	171,357	254,423	261,359	268,500	
SWWCJC - Sub Committees						
Economic Development SC	20,000	5,000	20,600	21,012	21,432	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Planning SC	20,000	-	20,600	21,012	21,432	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Transport SC	20,000	50,000	51,500	53,045	54,106	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Transport SC WG grant funded	-	125,000	100,000	-	-	
Energy SC	20,000	5,000	20,600	21,012	21,432	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Planning & Programme management	140,000	-	106,700	103,919	101,597	For future years this budget is used to balance to original budget of 2023/24
SWWCJC - Sub Committees Total	220,000	185,000	320,000	220,000	220,000	
SWWCJC - Regional Management Office						
Salary (Inc. On-costs)	60,135	29,126	64,390	66,213	68,085	Business Manager left 5/6/23, assumed 3 mths charge for replacement in 2023/24
Training of Staff	1,000	-	1,030	1,051	1,072	
Public Transport - Staff	250	-	258	263	268	
Staff Travelling Expenses	810	150	834	851	868	
Admin, Office & Operational Consumables	1,000	100	1,030	1,051	1,072	
Consultancy and Specialist Adviser Fees	51,206	10,000	52,742	53,797	54,873	
ICTs & Computer Hardware	1,250	1,250	1,288	1,313	1,340	
Subsistence & Meetings Expenses	1,000	520	1,030	1,051	1,072	
Conferences, Marketing & Advertising	-	-	-	-	-	
Projects & Activities Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	
Translation/Interpreter Services	15,000	1,000	15,450	15,759	16,074	
Printing & Copying	2,500	50	2,575	2,627	2,679	
Regional Management Office Total	134,151	42,196	140,626	143,974	147,402	
Contingency/Reserves						
Provision for Contingency/Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	
Contingency/Reserves Total	-	-	-	-	-	
Total SWWCJC Expenditure	617,753	398,553	715,049	625,333	635,902	
Funding Contributions						
Partner & Other Contribution						
Brecon Beacons NPA	-	-	-	-	-	
Pembrokeshire Coast NPA	-	-	-	-	-	
Co-Opt Partners	-	-	-	-	-	
Welsh Government Revenue Grant	-	125,000	100,000	-	-	Award of Funding in relation to SWWCJC to develop Regional Transport Plan
ERF Grant	-	-	-	-	-	
Total SWWCJC Income	617,753	742,753	717,753	617,753	617,753	
Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	-	344,200	2,704	(7,580)	(18,149)	
Movement to Reserves (Contingency)						
Description						
Balance Brought Forward from previous year	-	384,824	729,024	731,728	724,148	
Net Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	-	344,200	2,704	(7,580)	(18,149)	
Balance Carry Forward	-	729,024	731,728	724,148	705,999	
Use of £475k reserves in 2024/25 and carry a reserve of £200k						
Local Authority Levy						
City and County of Swansea Council (Levy)	212,431	212,431	154,929	124,078	218,672	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Carmarthenshire County Council (Levy)	168,090	168,090	122,591	98,179	173,029	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Neath Port Talbot CBC (Levy)	126,771	126,771	92,456	74,045	130,496	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Pembrokeshire County Council (Levy)	110,460	110,460	80,560	64,518	113,705	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Total SWWCJC Income	617,753	617,753	450,537	360,821	635,902	
Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	-	344,200	(264,512)	(264,512)	0	
Movement to Reserves (Contingency)						
Description						
Balance Brought Forward from previous year	-	384,824	729,024	464,512	200,000	
Net Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	-	344,200	(264,512)	(264,512)	0	
Balance Carry Forward	-	729,024	464,512	200,000	200,000	

Appendix B

	South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee Continuity Budget with 10% levy reduction Financial Years 2023/24 to 2027/28					
Description	Budget 2023-24 (£)	Provisional Outturn 2023/24 (£)	Indicative Budget 2024/25 (£)	Indicative Budget 2025/26 (£)	Indicative Budget 2026/27 (£)	Notes
Expenditure						
Joint Committee						
Democratic Services						
Democratic, Scrutiny and Legal Support Costs	73,700	73,700	76,648	78,564	80,528	Provided by NPT
Democratic Services Total	73,700	73,700	76,648	78,564	80,528	
Legal and Governance						
Monitoring Officer and Service Support	18,700	18,700	19,448	19,934	20,433	Provided by NPT
Legal and Governance Total	18,700	18,700	19,448	19,934	20,433	
Accountable Body						
Audit Wales Financial Audit	22,000	1,764	1,877	1,924	1,972	Based on audit costs of SBCD (independent audit of financial statements)
Section 151 Officer Recharge	20,693	20,693	21,521	22,059	22,610	Provided by CCC
Accountable Body Total	42,693	22,457	23,398	23,983	24,582	
Governance & Internal Audit						
Internal Audit	22,000	16,500	23,170	24,325	25,540	Provided by Pems
Sub-Committee Support Costs & Expenses	16,500	11,000	18,150	18,604	19,069	Provided by Pems
Governance & Internal Audit Total	38,500	27,500	41,320	42,929	44,609	
Support Services						
ICT & Data Protection Services	22,000	22,000	22,880	23,452	24,038	Provided by NPT
Financial Services	57,009	5,000	59,289	60,772	62,291	Provided by CCC
HR Services	11,000	2,000	11,440	11,726	12,019	Provided by NPT
Support Services Total	90,009	29,000	93,609	95,950	98,348	
Joint Committee Total	263,602	171,357	254,423	261,359	268,500	
SWWCJC - Sub Committees						
Economic Development SC	20,000	5,000	20,600	21,012	21,432	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Planning SC	20,000	-	20,600	21,012	21,432	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Transport SC	20,000	50,000	51,500	53,045	54,106	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Transport SC WG grant funded	-	125,000	100,000	-	-	
Energy SC	20,000	5,000	20,600	21,012	21,432	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Planning & Programme management	140,000	-	106,700	103,919	101,597	For future years this budget is used to balance to original budget of 2023/24
SWWCJC - Sub Committees Total	220,000	185,000	320,000	220,000	220,000	
SWWCJC - Regional Management Office						
Salary (Inc. On-costs)	60,135	29,126	64,390	66,213	68,085	Business Manager left 5/6/23. 2 mths charge for replacement, cover provided by NPT via invoice
Training of Staff	1,000	-	1,030	1,051	1,072	Due to replacement starting in Feb
Public Transport - Staff	250	-	258	263	268	Due to replacement starting in Feb
Staff Travelling Expenses	810	150	834	851	868	Due to replacement starting in Feb
Admin, Office & Operational Consumables	1,000	100	1,030	1,051	1,072	Reduced charge (10% of budget) comparable with previous year
Consultancy and Specialist Adviser Fees	51,206	10,000	52,742	53,797	54,873	Reduced charge forecasted at 20% of budget
ICTs & Computer Hardware	1,250	1,250	1,288	1,313	1,340	Potential ICT costs for replacement staffing
Subsistence & Meetings Expenses	1,000	520	1,030	1,051	1,072	Reduction of 50% in budget due to lower activity
Conferences, Marketing & Advertising	-	-	-	-	-	
Projects & Activities Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	
Translation/Interpret Services	15,000	1,000	15,450	15,759	16,074	Reduced translation costs expected
Printing & Copying	2,500	50	2,575	2,627	2,679	Notional charge included
Regional Management Office Total	134,151	42,196	140,626	143,974	147,402	
Contingency/Reserves						
Provision for Contingency/Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	
Contingency/Reserves Total	-	-	-	-	-	
Total SWWCJC Expenditure	617,753	398,553	715,049	625,333	635,902	
Funding Contributions						
Partner & Other Contribution						
Brecon Beacons NPA	-	-	-	-	-	
Pembrokeshire Coast NPA	-	-	-	-	-	
Co-Op Partners	-	-	-	-	-	
Welsh Government Revenue Grant	-	125,000	100,000	-	-	Award of Funding in relation to SWWCJC to develop Regional Transport Plan
ERF Grant	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	125,000	100,000	-	-	
Local Authority Levy						
City and County of Swansea Council (Levy)	212,431	212,431	191,188	191,188	191,188	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Carmarthenshire County Council (Levy)	168,090	168,090	151,281	151,281	151,281	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Neath Port Talbot CBC (Levy)	126,771	126,771	114,094	114,094	114,094	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Pembrokeshire County Council (Levy)	110,460	110,460	99,414	99,414	99,414	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Total SWWCJC Income	617,753	617,753	555,978	555,978	555,978	
Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	-	344,200	(59,072)	(69,355)	(79,924)	
Movement to Reserves (Contingency)						
Description						
Balance Brought Forward from previous year	-	384,824	729,024	669,953	600,597	
Net Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	-	344,200	(59,072)	(69,355)	(79,924)	
Balance Carry Forward	-	729,024	669,953	600,597	520,673	
Use of £475k reserves in 2024/25 and carry a reserve of £200k						
Local Authority Levy						
City and County of Swansea Council (Levy)	212,431	212,431	154,929	124,078	218,672	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Carmarthenshire County Council (Levy)	168,090	168,090	122,591	98,179	173,029	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Neath Port Talbot CBC (Levy)	126,771	126,771	92,456	74,045	130,496	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Pembrokeshire County Council (Levy)	110,460	110,460	80,560	64,518	113,705	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Total SWWCJC Income	617,753	617,753	450,537	360,821	635,902	
Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	-	344,200	(264,512)	(264,512)	0	
Movement to Reserves (Contingency)						
Description						
Balance Brought Forward from previous year	-	384,824	729,024	464,512	200,000	
Net Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	-	344,200	(264,512)	(264,512)	0	
Balance Carry Forward	-	729,024	464,512	200,000	200,000	

Appendix C

	South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee Optimal Budget <i>Financial Years 2023/24 to 2027/28</i>
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Description	Budget 2023-24 (£)	Provisional Outturn 2023/24 (£)	Indicative Budget 2024/25 (£)	Indicative Budget 2025/26 (£)	Indicative Budget 2026/27 (£)	Notes
Expenditure						
Joint Committees						
Democratic Services						
Democratic, Scrutiny and Legal Support Costs	73,700	73,700	76,648	78,564	80,528	Provided by NPT
Democratic Services Total	73,700	73,700	76,648	78,564	80,528	
Legal and Governance						
Monitoring Officer and Service Support	18,700	18,700	19,448	19,934	20,433	Provided by NPT
Legal and Governance Total	18,700	18,700	19,448	19,934	20,433	
Accountable Body						
Audit Wales Financial Audit	22,000	1,764	1,877	1,924	1,972	Based on audit costs of SBCD (independent audit of financial statements)
Section 151 Officer Recharge	20,693	20,693	21,521	22,059	22,610	Provided by CCC
Accountable Body Total	42,693	22,457	23,398	23,983	24,582	
Governance & Internal Audit						
Internal Audit	22,000	16,500	23,170	24,325	25,540	Provided by Pembs
Sub-Committee Support Costs & Expenses	16,500	11,000	18,150	18,604	19,069	Provided by Pembs
Governance & Internal Audit Total	38,500	27,500	41,320	42,929	44,609	
Support Services						
ICT & Data Protection Services	22,000	22,000	22,880	23,452	24,038	Provided by NPT
Financial Services	57,009	5,000	59,289	60,772	62,291	Provided by CCC
HR Services	11,000	2,000	11,440	11,726	12,019	Provided by NPT
Support Services Total	90,009	29,000	93,609	95,950	98,348	
Joint Committee Total	263,602	171,357	254,423	261,359	268,500	
SWWCJC - Sub Committees						
Economic Development SC	20,000	5,000	410,442	426,125	441,174	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Planning SC	20,000	-	581,029	602,480	622,408	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Transport SC	20,000	50,000	291,172	404,349	415,277	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Transport SC WG grant funded	-	125,000	100,000	-	-	
Energy SC	20,000	5,000	305,207	315,616	324,375	Based on information provided by sub committee leads
Planning & Programme management	140,000	-	-	-	-	For future years this budget has been utilised by the 4 sub committees
SWWCJC - Sub Committees Total	220,000	185,000	1,687,850	1,748,570	1,803,234	
SWWCJC - Regional Management Office						
Salary (Inc. On-costs)	60,135	29,126	64,390	66,213	68,085	Business Manager left 5/6/23, assumed 3 mths charge for replacement in 2023/24
Training of Staff	1,000	-	1,030	1,051	1,072	
Public Transport - Staff	250	-	258	263	268	
Staff Travelling Expenses	810	150	834	851	868	
Admin, Office & Operational Consumables	1,000	1,000	1,030	1,051	1,072	
Consultancy and Specialist Adviser Fees	51,206	10,000	52,742	53,797	54,873	
ICTs & Computer Hardware	1,250	1,250	1,288	1,313	1,340	
Subsistence & Meetings Expenses	1,000	520	1,030	1,051	1,072	
Conferences, Marketing & Advertising	-	-	-	-	-	
Projects & Activities Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	
Translation/Interpret Services	15,000	1,000	15,450	15,759	16,074	
Printing & Copying	2,500	50	2,575	2,627	2,679	
Regional Management Office Total	134,151	42,196	140,626	143,974	147,402	
Contingency/Reserves						
Provision for Contingency/Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	
Contingency/Reserves Total	-	-	-	-	-	
Total SWWCJC Expenditure	617,753	398,553	2,082,899	2,153,903	2,219,136	
Funding Contributions						
Partner & Other Contribution						
Brecon Beacons NPA	-	-	-	-	-	
Pembrokeshire Coast NPA	-	-	-	-	-	
Co-Opt Partners	-	-	-	-	-	
Welsh Government Revenue Grant	-	125,000	100,000	-	-	Award of Funding in relation to SWWCJC to develop Regional Transport Plan
ERF Grant	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Partner & Other Contribution	-	125,000	100,000	-	-	
Local Authority Levy						
City and County of Swansea Council (Levy)	212,431	212,431	681,874	740,678	763,110	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Carmarthenshire County Council (Levy)	168,090	168,090	539,546	586,077	603,827	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Neath Port Talbot CBC (Levy)	126,771	126,771	406,918	442,011	455,397	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Pembrokeshire County Council (Levy)	110,460	110,460	354,561	385,138	396,802	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Total Local Authority Income	617,753	617,753	1,982,899	2,153,903	2,219,136	
Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	617,753	742,753	2,082,899	2,153,903	2,219,136	

Movement to Reserves (Contingency)						
Description						
Balance Brought Forward from previous year	-	384,824	729,024	729,024	729,024	
Net Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	-	344,200	0	0	0	
Balance Carry Forward	-	729,024	729,024	729,024	729,024	

Use of £475k reserves in 2024/25 and carry a reserve of £200k

Local Authority Levy						
City and County of Swansea Council (Levy)	212,431	212,431	625,302	649,718	763,110	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Carmarthenshire County Council (Levy)	168,090	168,090	494,783	514,103	603,827	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Neath Port Talbot CBC (Levy)	126,771	126,771	373,158	387,729	455,397	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Pembrokeshire County Council (Levy)	110,460	110,460	325,145	337,841	396,802	Levy charged to local authorities based on Population Size
Total SWWCJC Income	617,753	617,753	1,818,387	1,889,391	2,219,136	
Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	617,753	742,753	1,818,387	1,889,391	2,219,136	
	0	344,200	(264,512)	(264,512)	0	

Movement to Reserves (Contingency)						
Description						
Balance Brought Forward from previous year	-	384,824	729,024	464,512	200,000	
Net Provision of Service - Surplus / (Deficit)	-	344,200	(264,512)	(264,512)	0	
Balance Carry Forward	-	729,024	464,512	200,000	200,000	