

STORMONT HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2025

ITEM	FOCUS/NOTES	LEAD	ACTION
1	Finance The committee discussed the variance in Teaching Assistant absence cover in detail. It was agreed that we need to clarify how we report TA costs. There is a lack of clarity over how items are coded. This may be a limitation of the financial system. The subtotal is clear, but not the individual line items. There is a budget surplus at the end of the year. It was remarked that the small surplus in the budget is due to the government grant. Budget 25-26. We are forecasting an in-year deficit of slightly above £29k. This is due to a slight drop in the number of prospective students, to 135. This is partly because we have four fewer sixth-form pupils. This is due to a variety of reasons, mainly the geographical relocation of those pupils. While more pupils are likely to enrol during the year, we are basing our budget on what we know for certain. The deficit will be covered by revenue carry forward, which is budgeted at slightly over £223k. The committee is discussing the budget for absence cover. There was also a discussion about utilities and whether we are budgeting for the right amount of prospective increase.	MB	To clarify whether we have budgeted enough for water

	There are questions about school catering. It seems that we subsidise that a lot. It is unclear in the budget how we receive income from catering. However, it is included in the budget in an different tab. In the three-year budget, we can plan how to spend the current carry-forward, which is too large. There is also a question about the FM contract and the high prospective increase. It seems that the provider is taking a cautious approach to budgeting for that contract. There is also a question about insuring staff absences. Although we spend a lot, we don't claim much because of the minimum threshold of 10 days. The committee is happy to recommend the draft budget to the board of governors.		
3	Human Resources and Premises. All the documents were thoroughly reviewed.		
4	Health and Safety and Wellbeing – no questions from the committee on the documents attached.		
5	On the Business and Policy planner has been progressing. Beatrice as chair of the FGB will work with MB to build on this.		
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Next Meeting: July 2025