



2007/08 ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS

The figures below show the cost of the day to day running of Council services. Total expenditure was £435.8m. Amounts are shown in £m.

The Cost of Council Services	
Total Expenditure	2007/08
Education	145.6
Housing & Social Work	178.9
Development	22.1
Community	30.6
Corporate & Commercial	18.2
Other Services	17.0
Police, Fire & Valuation Boards	23.4
Total:	435.8

Where the Money Came From	
Fees, Charges & Other Income	49.0
Rents	47.5
Housing Benefit	31.3
Government Grants	253.5
Council Tax	58.5
Balances	(4.0)
Total:	435.8

How the Money Was Spent	
Employee Expenses	165.8
Property Expenses	40.8
Transport Expenses	6.7
Supplies & Services	31.3
Third Party Payments	114.7
Transfer Payments	34.2
Support Services	17.4
Capital Financing Costs	24.9
Total:	435.8



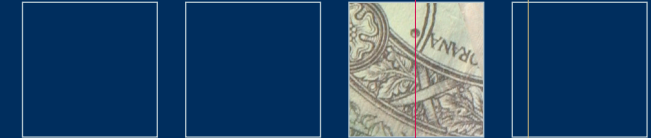
HOUSING RENTS

At 31 March 2008 the Council owned 16,415 properties. By law there is a requirement that all expenditure on these properties is financed from rent and other housing income.

The average weekly rent for the year was £46.93, an increase of 2.5% on the 2006/07 level. The average rent in Scotland throughout the year was £48.19. Amounts shown are in £m.

Income		2007/08
Rental Income		41.1
Other Income		2.2
Transfer from Reserves		0.7
Total Income:		44.0

Expenditure		2007/08
Repairs and Maintenance		21.2
Supervision and Management		11.9
Capital Financing Costs		10.0
Other Costs		0.9
Total Expenditure:		44.0



CAPITAL

Capital expenditure represents money spent on purchasing, upgrading and improving assets.

The Council has two separate capital programmes - Housing and General Services. Amounts are shown in £m.

Capital expenditure was spent on		2007/08
Council Housing		15.9
Roads & Other Infrastructure		7.8
Education		17.1
Other - mainly Transport & Depots		3.4
Community		4.0
Housing & Social Work		0.7
Total Expenditure:		48.9

Financed by		2007/08
Sale of Council Houses		12.3
Sale of other Land and Buildings		4.1
Public Sector Grants		6.4
Capital Financed from Revenue		4.2
Borrowing		19.1
Other Receipts		2.8
Total Income:		48.9

Major Capital Projects undertaken by the Council included:

£7.8m on roads, lighting and footpaths

£5.9m and £7.4m towards the creation of two primary schools - Maddiston and Kinnaird

£2.3m investment in economic development projects

£1.9m towards an upgrade at Wallacestone Primary School

£1.7m investment in community facilities



COUNCIL TAX

The Band D council tax was set at £1,070 for the year which was £79 lower than the average council tax in Scotland. In April 2007 council tax bills were sent to 68,378 properties.

In 2007/08 the Council collected 96.3% of council tax by March 2008 (2006/07, 96.2%). The ultimate collection rate for 2007/08 is anticipated at 97.5%.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

In setting the budget for the year the Council anticipated utilising £3.7m of reserves to restrict the council tax level. At the end of the year only £0.9m was required, a reduction of £2.8m. This was mainly due to lower Loan charges of £1.1m, Trading Account surpluses of £1.3m, additional Revenue Support Grant of £0.7m, with service delivery overspending by £0.3m. A provision of £4m was made for potential settlement of Equal Pay claims from employees.

Spending on Council housing services was £0.6m lower than planned, leading to reserves of £7.2m.

RESERVES

At the end of 2007/08 the Council had general fund reserves of £36.4m, an increase of £4m.

The largest part of the balance, some £15.0m, has been earmarked for the project to construct 4 new secondary schools. The Devolved Schools Reserve and other earmarked reserves account for £7.9m of the year end balance, leaving general reserves of around £13.5m, of which £1.9m is being utilised in 2008/09. The Council has a duty to maintain a prudent level of general reserves.

2007/08 Key Performance Information

All local authorities are required to publish a range of statutory performance indicators each year. To see the full range of indicators please visit our website at www.falkirk.gov.uk.

A full copy of the Council's 2007/08 accounts is also available on the website, www.falkirk.gov.uk



Falkirk Council