**Narrative for Forecast Budget Position -**

**FEB 2021**

**The current estimated carry forward figure is:**

**Revenue Total: £ 112,203** Previous Revenue: £ 126,421

**Capital: £ 0** Previous Capital: £ 0

**Total: £ 112,203** Previous Total: £ 126,421

You will notice a significant difference in Outturn figures on this report compared to the previous. This is because on reviewing the budget monitoring and reporting and benchmarking, I have now included the Astro Sinking Fund funds in the revenue figure. This is best practice as it is comparable to the DfE returns and what we are monitoring against.

The previous few years, the focus has been entirely on the free reserves not earmarked for anything else. Whilst it is important to have an understanding of that figure, the Outturn figure that is consistent with the accounts and DfE returns is the full revenue balance.

I am in the process of re-designing some of the management reports and monitoring processes, and this is part of that piece of work.

For clarity, the Astro Sinking Fund currently stands at £105,000.

**Budget Position**

The most significant variances from the previous report and budget are:

* Additional £23.5k ESFA income added to reflect the claim for covid costs which has been accepted
* Additional income of £4.1k AWPU relating to a student joining us mid-year
* Reduction of £15k forecast expenditure for Supply Staff
* Reduction in lettings income by £80k to reflect the likely loss this year
* £11.7k FSM grant received. This was supposed to end last year but it has been extended
* Additional £.5k apprenticeship grant income has been to reflect the incentive grant for taking on apprentices between Aug 20 and Mar 21

**Staffing**

Pay freezes for support staff from April 2021 taken into account.

Staff appointments as per the latest calculators have been added.

**Covid-19**

There is a possibility of a grant based around Pupil Premium numbers that will be issued to address recovery. Not enough info is available to include this yet but it could be around £20k

There is a possibility we may be able to recover some costs based on the impact of the testing program but I am awaiting further information on this.

We are also monitoring the costs associated with additional cleaning and sanitising to see what impact that may have.