6.genesis

the Annual Report

Introduction

Beginning after six full years of the Ministry have occurred; this is a financial look back at the sixth year of the Ministry of Ginger, taking place early into the seventh year of agenesis.

Because of the prior year's decision by the Department of Business and Employment to initiate an employment break in the latter half of that year; this year's budget was set out with this employment break continuing in mind. Therefore the budget was designed to allow up to the first half of the year's Income to be provided by an alternative source from the Treasury's Reserves; with the aim to have a more traditional form of employment Income by the time half of this year had passed.

Summary

	Budget		Received		Variance	
Income	**MG|**	**26,000.00**	**MG|**	**30,187.12**		**4,187.12**

Expenditure by Department	**Budget**		**Spend**		**Variance**	
the Treasury	MG|	1,451.84	MG|	1,436.84	-	15.00
the Internet and Communications	MG|	984.83	MG|	731.25	-	253.58
Art and Entertainment	MG|	1,263.56	MG|	3,662.57		2,399.01
Business and Employment	MG|	25.00	MG|	-	-	25.00
Care and Health	MG|	3,253.95	MG|	3,064.36	-	189.59
Development	MG|	15.00	MG|	-	-	15.00
Energy and Food	MG|	8,610.37	MG|	8,030.32	-	580.05
Foreign Aid and Diplomacy	MG|	2,019.11	MG|	726.39	-	1,292.71
History and Legacy	MG|	15.00	MG|	-	-	15.00
Infrastructure and Transport	MG|	8,316.34	MG|	7,915.76	-	400.59
Justice	MG|	15.00	MG|	-	-	15.00
Space and Time	MG|	15.00	MG|	-	-	15.00
Dissociation From the United Kingdo	MG|	15.00	MG|	-	-	15.00
	MG|	**26,000.00**	**MG|**	**25,567.49**	-	**432.51**

Total Income	**MG|**	**30,187.12**
Total Expenditure	**MG|**	**25,567.49**
		4,619.63

Income

Whilst on paper the above suggests that this year's predicted Income was comfortably exceeded, the detail of the MG|30k Income is important to break down:

- MG|10k of that was forecast to come from the Reserve, over the first half of the year; only MG|6k of that was utilised, as employment was found within 5 Gregorian months of the year (and less used from the Reserve for a later reason)
- MG|13.5k was forecast over the second half of the year, with only MG|11k employment Income over *two-thirds* of the year
- An additional MG|12k came from unbudgeted sources; the most significant two-thirds coming from the criminal loss of transportation – a MG|8k car insurance payout/tax refund – and another MG|1k income tax refund, due to the reduced amount of employment in the prior tax year

So, whilst the income appears higher than budgeted; the sustainable income is lower than expected (by almost 50%) – explained by the reduced days of employment – and this current year's budget has been adjusted accordingly to reflect that.

In addition, the Ministry was again fortunate to continue to receive small and regular familial investments, along with semi-regular Premium Bonds dividends, and interest on bank accounts.

Expenditure

Only the Department of Arts and Entertainment saw overspend throughout the year; however, it was a significant overspend (details below).

The only significant underspend came in the Department of Foreign Aid and Diplomacy, due to the reduced amount of tax incurred, as a direct consequence of a lower income threshold.

What follows is a brief summary by department:

the Treasury

All savings followed the expected trajectory this year, despite the Income fluctuations. The Department spent none of its MG|15 Nominal Spend budget.

the Internet and Communications

All communication channels were sustained throughout; the spend was slightly lower due to not as many hosting costs as budgeted for.

Art and Entertainment

This department's spending increased by nearly three-fold; with the main culprit being the spend relating to Magic the Gathering – that spend was increased by seven times the amount forecast – however, some justification is now made: At least a third of that spend was funded by the sale of Magic cards (captured under Income), and the amount of joy that Magic in particular has brought over the last year (including a solo trip to the Netherlands to participate in an enjoyable tournament), is – in the Director's eyes – worth the spend.

Other notable, non-Magic expenditure, included the Leeds International Film Festival and Leeds Queer Film Festival; a birthday trip, and bonus laps to my Formula Renault experience.

Business and Employment

No spend.

Care and Health

Overall spend in this department came in just below budget; however, there were certain specific variations we would like to highlight: Less than half of the budgeted dental and optical costs were spent, with another MG|500 saved from the Holiday Accommodation & Travel line; all of this was offset with the addition of a new spend line – namely Therapy.

Development and Education

No spend.

Energy and Food

For the second year in a row, this department came in under budget – though this was made possible by the budgeted amount following a similar (if slightly lower) amount than last year.

Home energy spend remained low; only two-thirds of the budgeted amount was spent – leaving Food & Drink to ever so slightly overspend.

Foreign Aid and Diplomacy

Due to employment only beginning part of the way through the UK tax year, and mainly because the number of days worked in a given week is lower than the anticipated five; UK Income Tax and National Insurance contributions were significantly lower than budgeted for. The refund anticipated in last year's report did in fact arrive during this year and was recorded as Income.
Whether any further rebates are expected as a result of the partially employed tax year, remain to be seen by the end of ebb.

A tangible increase in Charitable Donations has led towards an increase in the budget for 7.agenesis, and the only other unexpected spend was a one-in-ten-year cost of a UK passport.

History and Legacy

No spend.

Infrastructure and Transport

Once again, the fact that this department's spending came in just slightly lower than what was budgeted, belies the nature of the spending.

Following the unexpected loss of the Director's personal transport, all car costs budgeted came in at around a quarter of what was budgeted.

Whilst the deficit of this was broadly made up of alternative transport costs – including two car hires – mainly bus tickets; a bulk of these bus tickets were purchased in advance, to combat price rises; and so, these costs could easily be regarded as being spread into at least the first half of 7.agenesis. So, whilst the budget for this incoming year allows for a much greater shift in focus on public transport costs; the overall spend across both years should broadly be lower than a full year of car ownership.

An additional one-off Infrastructure cost to be noted here is a new sofa for the Director's current residence.

Justice

No spend required.

Space and Time

No spend.

Dissociation From the United Kingdom

No spend.

Conclusions

Naturally the main story of this past year has been the varying levels of income, both based on what was forecast/expected, and what was actually received over a longer period of time, but in lower amounts.

There may be a further dive into exactly what impact a lower income, partnered with less time spent working, actually has on the Director as a whole – but the Treasury in particular still remains healthy enough to allow the Director to continue to explore their experimentation of living on a lower income, but also spending less time working.

We project that at the end of the incoming fiscal year the Director will need to re-assess their position and mindset before budgeting further; but – when there are little unexpected excessive costs involved – this year has at least partially proved that there is success to be had.

A further assessment of the Ministry's position should be undertaken in the second half of 7.agenesis.