

Blackpool Council

6 December 2016

To: Councillors Mrs Callow JP, Galley, Hobson, Hunter, Matthews, Roberts, Ryan, Singleton and L Williams

The above members are requested to attend the:

TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 15 December 2016 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room A, Town Hall, Blackpool

A G E N D A

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

- (1) the type of interest concerned; and
- (2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Governance in advance of the meeting.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2016 (Pages 1 - 10)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 27 October 2016 as a true and correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING

To consider any applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

4 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS (Pages 11 - 18)

To consider the Executive and Cabinet Member Decisions within the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council, taken since the last meeting of the Committee.

5 FORWARD PLAN (Pages 19 - 32)

To consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, December 2016 – March 2017, relating to the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council.

6 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 7 2016/2017 (Pages 33 - 84)

To consider the level of spending against the Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for the first seven months to 31 October 2016.

7 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 2 2016/2017 (Pages 85 - 96)

To consider performance against the Council Plan 2015-2020 for the period 1 July – 30 September 2016.

8 LANCASHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY (Pages 97 - 102)

To provide an overview of recent activity and progress toward the formation of a Lancashire Combined Authority.

9 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES (Pages 103 - 108)

To consider an overview of key economic development initiatives aiming to drive the growth and viability of the local economy.

10 REPORTING THE USE OF EXTERNAL CONSULTANTS (Pages 109 - 112)

To consider a revised approach for the reporting of consultancy spend whereby Members receive an annual report at the end of each financial year on actual spend as opposed to projected spend.

11 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN (Pages 113 - 124)

To consider the Workplan and to monitor the implementation of Committee recommendations, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review topics.

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date and time of the next meeting as Thursday, 2 February 2017 commencing at 6pm.

Venue information:

First floor meeting room (lift available), accessible toilets (ground floor), no-smoking building.

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Chris Kelly, Acting Scrutiny Manager, Tel: 01253 477164, e-mail chris.kelly@blackpool.gov.uk

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Agenda Item 2

MINUTES OF TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2016

Present:

Councillor Hunter (in the Chair)

Councillors

Mrs Callow JP
Critchley

Galley
Hobson

Matthews
Ryan

L Williams

In Attendance:

Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)

Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Municipal Assets

Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Business and Economic Development

Mr Paolo Pertica, Head of Visitors Services

Mr Phil Redmond, Chief Accountant

Mrs Hurst, Head of Democratic Governance

Mrs Ruth Henshaw, Engagement and Intelligence Officer

Mr Steve Sienkiewicz, Clerk to the Committee.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2016

The Committee agreed that the minutes of the last meeting held on 15 September 2016 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Committee noted that there were no applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

4 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

The Committee considered the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions within the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council, taken since the last meeting of the Committee.

Councillor Jackson, Cabinet Member for Municipal Assets, responded to questions from the Committee regarding decision EX/42/2016 'Transport for the North'. He considered that Transport for Lancashire and Blackpool would become part of the Transport for the

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North body and that it was important for Blackpool's issues to continue to be heard. He anticipated that Blackpool's good representation would continue and that confidence remained high, going forward.

The Committee requested further details be provided in connection with decision PH/64/2016 'Purchase of Property – 148 Church Street and 1 Caunce Street'. Councillor Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council, confirmed that there would be a further Cabinet Member decision taken on the matter in due course.

The Committee agreed to note the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions.

5 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the items contained within the Forward Plan, November 2016 – February 2017, that related to the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council.

The Committee requested further details be provided in connection with decision reference 22/2016 'Executive Decision Making Procedure'. Councillor Campbell explained that it would be considered by the Executive as a constitutional change and that the papers in relation to it would become available at a later date.

A number of questions were raised in connection with decision reference 25/2016 'Future options for Central Station site'. Councillor Smith, Cabinet Member for Business and Economic Development, explained that the situation was looking more positive going forward and that interest in the redevelopment was being shown from a number of interested bodies. In connection with the re-location of the County and Magistrates courts, a feasibility study was currently being undertaken.

The Committee agreed to note the Forward Plan items.

6 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2016/2017

The Committee considered the financial performance monitoring report, which set out the summary revenue budget position for the Council and its individual directorates for month 4, the period April 2016 – July 2016, together with an outlook for the remainder of the year. The report was complemented with an assessment of progress to date against the latest capital programme.

The report was presented by Mr Redmond, Chief Accountant. He outlined the headline situation, which was an overall overspend of £3.2m at month 4, compared with £2.6m at month 3. That was largely due to the increased number of looked after children and the associated costs, particularly in relation to external placements. As a result, the Children's Services Department was forecast to be £3.1m overspent, although the national trend was showing a similar upward trajectory. Mr Redmond added that there had been a significant increase in anti-social behaviour in the town, which had contributed to the increased numbers and cost of residential places.

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Mr Redmond went on to outline the overspend within Property Services of just under £500,000, which was based mainly on the current pace of property rationalisation and pressure from rental income within the Central Business District. He also referred to the overspend on Concessionary Fares, which was mainly due to the increased patronage of buses and the impact of fare increases. He also made reference to the favourable position within Treasury Management of just over £1m due to the ongoing temporary windfall from the short-term interest rates that were currently being paid to finance recent capital expenditure. Those savings were helping to offset the forecast overspend within Children's Services.

Mr Redmond responded to a number of questions from the Committee. Referring to a section of the report which stated that within the remaining eight months of the financial year, there ought to be sufficient time to redress the current position, Mr Redmond was asked how that would be achieved in terms of working balances. He explained that the statement was a forecast but plans were in place with individual directorates to achieve the savings and the Director of Resources was involved in regular meetings to monitor those plans. Upon being asked about whether an overall strategy existed to bring about the required savings, Mr Redmond pointed to the Medium Term Financial Strategy, where the budget pressures were being reviewed.

Referring to individual service overspends, the Committee raised questions about Print Services, the Grundy Art Gallery and Governance and Partnerships. Asked whether Print Services were able to carry out any commercial activities, Mr Redmond confirmed that the service actively sought external work and income. The £63,000 forecast overspend by the Art Gallery was due to a loss of grant funding, which the service was now looking to replace via other means. Within Governance and Partnerships Services, the forecasted pressure of £34,000 within Legal Services was mainly due to an unachieved Priority Led Budgeting savings target and an income shortfall.

Responding to a question about how to reconcile increased demand for Council services against a reducing budget, Mr Redmond explained that as part of the budget process, a risk analysis would identify the pressures and a judgement would be made about savings targets. Upon questions being raised whether the £6m was a realistic target, Mr Redmond stated his belief that it was, although it might not be achievable due to the demands within Children's Services.

The Committee made reference to the unidentified savings of £122,000 in the Visitor Economy within the Places Directorate and requested a more detailed explanation. Mr Redmond explained that the savings were as yet unidentified and were yet to be delivered. The matter would be picked up with the Directorate.

The Committee raised the issue of the £856,000 PFI grant within Community and Environmental Services being no longer available. Mr Redmond confirmed that was the amount which Blackpool had lost in PFI credits at the time when the waste disposal operating company 'Global Renewables' went into liquidation. The amount was being considered along with Lancashire County Council in the review of recycling plants with the risk being covered against the specific waste PFI reserve.

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The Committee asked about the reason for the overspend of £42,000 within the Resources Directorate, which the report stated was due to staffing costs and income pressures. Mr Redmond confirmed that that was not due to agency costs and was as a result of the need to provide additional staff support for the reception areas at Municipal Buildings and Bickerstaffe House.

The Committee discussed the Council Tax Reduction Scheme and the deteriorating collection rate. Members agreed that it would be helpful if the actual costs could be illustrated within the report, as well as percentage figures. It was confirmed that the Revenues Department pursued arrears and non-payments, but also provided as much help and support as possible for people who were struggling to pay.

Mr Redmond was asked about the reduction in Business Rates collection, down from 35.7% last year to 33.8% as at month 4, 2016. He explained that was mainly due to a change in the phasing of payments and an extended period from 10 to 12 months which now applied. Going forward, he confirmed that the greatest risk to revenue collection was the appeals and back dated appeals processes.

Referring to the section of the report on the Summary Cash Flow Statement, and the interest charged by Lancashire County Council on the Local Government Reorganisation Debt, Mr Redmond was asked about the actual figure of the debt and he confirmed this to be approximately £19m.

The Committee agreed:

1. To note the report.
2. To request that in future, the actual costs involved within the Council Tax Reduction Scheme, in addition to percentage figures, were illustrated within the report.

Background papers: None.

7 WASTE SERVICES AND STREET CLEANSING PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered the Waste Services and Street Cleansing Performance Report, together with the results from the Council's Household Waste and Recycling Public Satisfaction Survey of 2015.

Councillor Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council, responded to questions from the Committee regarding the content of the report.

On the subject of timetabled waste collection from properties, Councillor Campbell confirmed that only items that were placed within the collection bins would be taken away and the leaving of additional items was discouraged. Upon being asked what would happen if Euro bins (otherwise known as large commercial bins) were full, Councillor Campbell stated she was not aware of this being a problem, but the street cleansing department would always strive to keep the town tidy.

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The Committee queried whether the Selective Licensing Scheme could do anything to encourage landlords of Houses in Multiple Occupation to purchase Euro bins, it was pointed out that there were conditions as to where residents could store waste, although every effort was being made to encourage the take up of Euro bins. It was explained that a number of older buildings that had been converted from hotels and guest houses into Houses in Multiple Occupation, did not have adequate room to accommodate Euro bins. Therefore, the Planning Department had made it a requirement that any application for a conversion of premises into a Houses in Multiple Occupation, had to indicate where adequate storage for waste bins would be allocated within the converted building. In addition, Councillor Campbell agreed to find out how many Houses in Multiple Occupation currently had Euro bins in use and to report back in due course.

Referring to a section of the report which stated the reduction in cleansing frequencies to residential streets was at breaking point if held to account on the frequency for regular cleaning, the Committee asked for an explanation of the term 'breaking point'. Councillor Campbell explained that very difficult conditions currently existed and that residential street cleansing had been reduced. Where possible, the frequency was now being aligned in to follow bin collections, so that anything left over or blown away would be cleaned up, but there simply were not the finances available to carry out the job as previously. The Committee made specific reference to the reducing budget as detailed within the report and asked about the possibility of delivering on all of the current aspirations, given the difficult circumstances. Councillor Campbell acknowledged the difficulties that lay ahead but pointed out the hard work undertaken by all of the staff. Referring to the start of the current budget process, she confirmed that the Executive would undoubtedly have to take difficult decisions and that unfortunately, it was not possible to give any reassurances currently.

On the subject of the Keep Blackpool Tidy campaign, Councillor Campbell confirmed that proactive work was being undertaken with primary schools. A recent meeting had taken place with Keep Britain Tidy and various stakeholders and there would be an official launch of the campaign in February 2017.

The Committee agreed that the general state of cleanliness on the Promenade was very good and asked for its compliments to be passed to the Street Cleansing Team.

The Committee agreed to note the report.

Background papers: None.

8 COMMUNITY SAFETY PERFORMANCE REPORT APRIL 2016 - AUGUST 2016

Mr Pertica, Head of Visitors Services, presented the Committee with the Community Safety Performance Report for April – August 2016. The report considered the performance of the Community Safety Partnership's 2016-2019 priorities during that period. These were detailed as: violence against the person, anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, sexual offences and rape and child sexual exploitation. The report also made reference to additional ongoing work such as counter terrorism, serious organised crime, hate crime and modern day slavery.

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The Committee considered the content of the report and put a number of questions to Mr Pertica in relation to it. He was asked about the Town Centre Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) and its impact, specifically whether there was anything that could be added to it. Mr Pertica explained that work was ongoing to consider whether its coverage and prohibitions could be extended. Upon being asked whether it would be necessary to carry out a further public consultation if that was to be the case, Councillor Campbell confirmed that whilst relevant stakeholders and partner organisations would be consulted, it would not be necessary to carry out a further public consultation. Mr Pertica added that all Alleygates and Dog Control Orders would need to be converted to Public Space Protection Order by October 2017. In connection with that piece of work, the Committee asked whether some of the job roles would become more universal. Mr Pertica advised that a number of officers could enforce Public Space Protection Orders, for example all Public Protection, Community Safety, Street Scene and Civil Enforcement officers all had delegated authority to enforce against the existing prohibitions of the Town Centre Public Space Protection Order. However, Mr Pertica explained that officers were often extremely busy with their core roles and therefore had limited capacity to assist with other duties.

On the subject of the Park Public Space Protection Order, the Committee enquired about the need for relevant signage and were advised that signs were on order, but that in most cases, enforcement action could already be undertaken by the Police as the behaviours covered by the Public Space Protection Order could also be classified as criminal damage. The Committee pointed out that anecdotal evidence had been received that the Police consider such action to be a Council matter and Mr Pertica agreed to pursue the matter further.

The Committee raised questions in relation to progress in relation to the methadone use reduction programme. Mr Pertica explained that commissioners of drug treatment services had made attempts to reduce the number of people on long term methadone use. He advised that ultimately, decisions regarding an individual's methadone prescription was a clinical decision to be taken by appropriate professionals. Mr Pertica explained the differences between chronic or acute conditions, noting that for some problematic drug users, their addiction was of an acute nature and could therefore be treated accordingly. It was noted that other users may be chronic users and would therefore require different approaches to treatment, which in some cases required long term methadone treatment. Mr Pertica advised that the contract was out to tender for drug and alcohol services and referred to an ideal period for the maximum length methadone prescription.

Referring to the Counter Terrorism section of the report, the Committee asked who the main targets were in terms of prevention measures. Mr Pertica explained that Prevent was part of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and any prevention measures were part of the overall strategy to prevent radicalisation and terrorism. Mr Pertica also explained that there were a number of types of terrorist activities that could occur, which included animal welfare and environmental issues, as well as religious and political. However, Mr Pertica explained that one of the main targeted audience were schools and students. He pointed out the changing nature of terrorism risks and how difficult it was to envisage where a risk might arise, particularly due to the use of the internet.

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Noting the merger of the sexual offenses and rape BSafe Blackpool working group, with the prostitution BSafe Blackpool working group, the Committee raised questions relating to the membership of the new group. Mr Pertica explained that there had been a substantial amount of cross-membership between the two groups, which had been a key reason for merging the groups. The agencies represented in the group included the local authority, the Police and a number of third sector organisations that operated in the area.

The Committee noted and pointed out that there had been an increase in crimes of violence and theft, both in Blackpool and across Lancashire. Mr Pertica explained that recording procedures for crimes of violence against the person had recently changed which had contributed to the increased figures. He added that the increase in Blackpool had been less than across the County and that although the figures for less serious assault had increased, there had been a reduction in more serious assaults.

The Committee agreed to note the report.

Background papers: None.

9 ANNUAL CUSTOMER FEEDBACK REPORT

The Committee considered the Annual Customer Feedback Report which covered the period from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016. The report included a breakdown of the comments, compliments and complaints received by the Council during that period. It summarised the Council's performance in dealing with complaints and explored the themes within customer feedback. It also included an overview of complaints made to the Local Government Ombudsman. The report concluded by identifying a number of actions that could be taken to improve the way that customer feedback is dealt with and to increase understanding of the causes of complaints.

The report was presented by Mrs Henshaw, Delivery Development Officer, who responded to questions from the Committee in connection with the content of the report. On the subject of building resilience into the community and encouraging residents to carry out more activities themselves, Mrs Henshaw explained that whilst there were limits on the extent of volunteering, efforts were underway to promote this type of activity wherever possible, an example being the excellent work carried out by friends groups within parks. Elected Members were also encouraged to try to persuade members of the public to do more themselves. Mrs Hurst, Head of Democratic Governance, added that an exercise was being undertaken to map out Community Groups within areas and meetings were taking place with Councillors in connection with that initiative.

The Committee agreed to note the report.

Background papers: None.

**MINUTES OF TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING -
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The Committee considered the establishment of a Budget Scrutiny Panel.

Mrs Hurst explained that the establishment of a Budget Scrutiny Panel would enable improved scrutiny of budget proposals, with a particular focus on the budget savings across directorates and their likely impact. It was further explained that the Panel would consist of nine non-Executive members, comprising of six Labour and three Conservative Members, to be appointed by the Group Leaders. The aim for the Panel would be to complete the review in a day on a date in December or early January, with an additional meeting to be scheduled later in January, if required, to follow up any unanswered queries. It was intended that the response from the Scrutiny Panel would be forwarded to the Executive in time for its first budget meeting on 6 February 2017.

Responding to questions from the Committee, Mrs Hurst confirmed that the Panel would be supplementary to the current scrutiny process which involved meetings with Non-Domestic Rate Payers and Trades Unions.

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendation to establish a Budget Scrutiny Panel.

Background papers: None.

11 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

The Committee considered its Workplan for the remainder of the current Municipal Year. The Chairman explained that it was a flexible, working document and he was open to suggestion from members for Workplan items at any time. He added that any issues raised by the Committee would be taken to the Workplan meetings which were held with Directors.

The Committee also considered the monitoring recommendations table which had been included, enabling Members to monitor progress on the implementation of scrutiny recommendations.

The Committee noted that a new Community Safety Group had been formed in October and asked if a report could be brought to the Committee in due course. The Chairman agreed to take the matter forward accordingly.

Members discussed the impact of the scrutiny review on Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriages that concluded towards the end of 2015. It was considered that the recommendations from the review did not appear to have progressed with sufficient vigour. Particular concern was raised in connection with the amount of horse droppings on the promenade which was considered to be at totally unacceptable levels, despite the recommendations following the scrutiny review. Councillor Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council, explained that she recognised the extent of the problem and assured the Committee that action was being taken.

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The Committee asked questions around the Council's Transience Programme and a suggestion was made that it would be a suitable topic for scrutiny activity in due course. The Chairman agreed to raise the matter at the next Workplan meeting.

The Committee agreed:

1. To note the Workplan and scrutiny recommendations table.
2. To request that a detailed update on progress of the recommendations from the Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage be brought to a Committee meeting at the earliest opportunity.

Background papers: None.

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed to note the date of the next meeting as Thursday 15 December 2016, at 6.00pm.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 7.35 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
Chris Kelly, Acting Scrutiny Manager
Tel: 01253 477164
E-mail: chris.kelly@blackpool.gov.uk

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Report to:	TOURISM, RESOURCES AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Chris Kelly, Acting Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	15 December 2016

EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions within the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council, taken since the last meeting of the Committee.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the Leader of the Council or the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to the decisions taken.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure that the opportunity is given for all Executive and Cabinet Member decisions to be scrutinised and held to account.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool".

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Attached at the appendix to this report is a summary of the decisions taken, which have been circulated to Members previously.

5.2 This report is presented to ensure Members are provided with a timely update on the decisions taken by the Executive and Cabinet Members. It provides a process where the Committee can raise questions and a response be provided.

5.3 Members are encouraged to seek updates on decisions and will have the opportunity to raise any issues.

5.4 Witnesses/representatives

5.4.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the decisions taken in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council
- Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Highways
- Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Business and Economic Development
- Councillor Christine Wright, Cabinet Member for Housing, Procurement and Income Generation

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 4 (a) Summary of Executive and Cabinet Member decisions taken.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p>SOCIAL VALUE POLICY The Executive agreed the recommendations as outlined above namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To consider the analysis from the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities benchmarking study and support participation in a further similar study to be undertaken by Centre for Local Economic Strategies in 2016. 2. To agree the prescriptive outputs and outcomes detailed in Appendix 3c, to the Executive report, for consideration and inclusion in all future Council tenders. 3. To agree the introduction of a new criterion in the Council’s Evaluation Model for assessment of tenders measuring Sustainability and Social Value with a mandatory score of 20% applied to the category. 	<p>To consider the benchmarking research analysis by the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) on behalf of Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) which will provide important baseline information on current performance in relation to the delivery of the key objectives in the Council’s Social Value Policy. To build on the work undertaken to date and maximise the delivery of Social Value through commissioning and procurement activity through the publication of prescriptive outputs and outcomes linked to the priorities in the Council Plan 2015-20 which can be included in all Council tenders. To consider the introduction of a new criterion (in addition to Quality and Price) in the Council’s evaluation model for assessing tenders which will allow the Council to examine the ability of prospective suppliers to deliver Sustainability and Social Value.</p>	EX47/2016	7 November 2016	<p>Councillor Christine Wright, Cabinet Member for Housing, Procurement and Income Generation</p> <p>Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Business and Economic Development</p>
<p>BLACKPOOL TRAMWAY EXTENSION TO BLACKPOOL NORTH STATION (SECOND REPORT) The Executive resolved as follows: To recommend Council to confirm the resolution of the Council made at its meeting on 29 June 2016 to promote a Transport and Works Act Order under the Transport and Works Act 1992 to authorise an extension of the Blackpool Tramway to Blackpool North Station; and to authorise:</p>	<p>Following the resolution by Full Council on 29 June 2016 an application for an Order under the Transport and Works Act 1992 to authorise an extension of the Blackpool Tramway to Blackpool North Station was submitted to the Secretary of State for Transport on 13 July 2016. In accordance with section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972, a second approval is required from Full Council to confirm its resolution to promote the Order.</p>	EX48/2016	7 November 2016	<p>Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)</p>

DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p>(1) The Director of Place, after consultation with the Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs), to take all such steps as required for the Council to promote the Order, including dealing with any objections to the application, entering into agreements or commitments in relation to the Order.</p> <p>(2) The corporate seal of the Council being affixed to any documents required to be sealed in connection with the promotion of the Order.</p>				
<p>ACQUISITION OF PROPERTIES- 2, 4, 6 AND 8 LEOPOLD GROVE</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as outlined above namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve the purchase, at market value, and demolition of 2,4,6 and 8 Leopold Grove funded using Prudential Borrowing on the terms as set out in paragraph 9.1. 2. To surface the cleared area and use for parking and site compound. 	<p>Purchase of properties adjacent to the Winter Gardens Blackpool which would complement any future development of Winter Gardens.</p>	<p>EX49/2016</p>	<p>7 November 2016</p>	<p>Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Business and Economic Development</p>
<p>FOXHALL VILLAGE SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE WORKS</p> <p>The Cabinet Member agreed the recommendations as outlined above namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Council enter into a contract with Bethell for the delivery of the Foxhall Village surface water drainage works for a 	<p>Further to decisions EX3/2011 and EX17/2013 to seek approval to enter into a contract for works to enable the surface water drainage of the Foxhall Village residential development.</p>	<p>PH69/2016</p>	<p>25 October 2016</p>	<p>Councillor Mrs Christine Wright, Cabinet Member for Housing, Procurement,</p>

DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p>sum not exceeding £760,000.</p> <p>2. To note that if United Utilities' contribution is not received by end of the financial year another report will be submitted to the Executive explaining how United Utilities' contribution of £400,000 is to be funded.</p>				and Income Generation
<p>SOUTH SHORE (BLOOMFIELD WARD) PERMIT PARKING SCHEME</p> <p>The Cabinet Member agreed the recommendations as outlined above namely:</p> <p>Page 17</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As a result of feedback not in favour of the scheme during the statutory consultation period, not to progress with the wider Bloomfield resident parking scheme. 2. As a result of feedback during the informal and formal parts of the process in favour of the scheme, that consultation with the following streets takes place in order to determine whether to proceed with a proposal to introduce a resident permit parking scheme to include these streets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crystal Road - Shaw Road - Kirby Road - Lonsdale Road - Miller Street. 3. As part of 2 above, consultation on Crystal Road and Shaw Road to include feedback in relation to potentially increasing parking 	The recommendations are based on feedback from the wider community of the area.	PH73/2016	24 November 2016	Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Highways

DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p>provision through footway strengthening works.</p> <p>4. In relation to 2.2, if a number or all of the streets request resident parking then, along with Haigh Road, a report to outline a proposal to incorporate them into the wider Lytham Road resident parking scheme is pursued.</p> <p>5. Resident parking signage and markings require upgrading generally and therefore, it is recommended that this happens within the existing wider scheme area.</p>				

Report to:	TOURISM, RESOURCES AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Chris Kelly, Acting Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	15 December 2016

FORWARD PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the content of the Council’s Forward Plan, December 2016 to March 2017, relating to the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the Leader of the Council and / or the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to items contained within the Forward Plan within the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council.

2.2 Members will have the opportunity to consider whether any of the items should be subjected to pre-decision scrutiny. In so doing, account should be taken of any requests or observations made by the relevant Cabinet Member.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To enable the opportunity for pre-decision scrutiny of the Forward Plan items.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council’s approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is “The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Forward Plan is prepared by the Leader of the Council to cover a period of four months and has effect from the first working day of any month. It is updated on a monthly basis and subsequent plans cover a period beginning with the first working day of the second month covered in the preceding plan.

5.2 The Forward Plan contains matters which the Leader has reason to believe will be subject of a key decision to be taken either by the Executive, a Committee of the Executive, individual Cabinet Members, or Officers.

5.3 Attached at Appendix 5 (a) is a list of items contained in the current Forward Plan. Further details appertaining to each item is contained in the Forward Plan, which has been forwarded to all members separately.

5.6 Witnesses/representatives

5.6.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the Forward Plan items in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council
- Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Business and Economic Development
- Councillor Mrs Christine Wright, Cabinet Member for Housing
- Councillor Ivan Taylor, Cabinet Member for Projects and Partnerships

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 5 (a) – Summary of items contained within Forward Plan December 2016 to March 2017.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS

(DECEMBER 2016 to MARCH 2017)

* Denotes New Item

Page N ^o	Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
1	December 2016	To approve the Built Heritage Strategy	23/2014	Executive	Cllr Campbell
3	December 2016	Social housing lettings – New Partnership Agreement with housing associations and neighbouring authorities to continue to deliver the My Home Choice Fylde Coast system, and updated policies for letting social housing	25/2015	Executive	Cllr Mrs Wright
5	December 2016	Article 4 Direction Order Raikes Parade	15/2016	Executive	Cllr Campbell
6	December 2016	Development and promotion of Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone	24/2016	Executive	Cllr Smith
7	December 2016	Future options for Central station site	25/2016	Executive	Cllr Smith
12	February 2017	To consider the level of rents and service charges to be made in connection with Housing Revenue Account dwellings during 2016/17.	30/2016	Council	Cllr Campbell
*14	December 2016	Hotel Development Talbot Gateway	32/2016	Executive	Cllr I Taylor
*15	December 2016	Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy	33/2016	Executive	Cllr Campbell
*16	December 2016	Review of Sex Establishment Policy	33/2016	Executive	Cllr Campbell

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision Ref N° 23/2014	To approve the adoption of the Built Heritage Strategy
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	December 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	The draft strategy will be considered by the Executive which will then agree a consultation exercise.
How representations are to be made and by what date	As outlined above
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Report as outlined
Name and address of responsible officer	Carl Carrington, Service Manager Built Heritage e-mail: carl.carrington@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 476242

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision Ref N° 25/2015	Social housing lettings - New Partnership Agreement with housing associations and neighbouring authorities to continue to deliver the My Home Choice Fylde Coast system, and updated policies for letting social housing
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Mrs Christine Wright, Cabinet Member for Housing
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	December 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	Housing association partners have been consulted on proposed changes to the Blackpool Area Lettings Plan. Users of the My Home Choice system have been surveyed to understand how well it is working for them.
How representations are to be made and by what date	Representations can be made to andrew.foot@blackpool.gov.uk by the day before the Executive meeting.
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Report together with new Partnership Agreement and Blackpool Area Lettings Plan.
Name and address of responsible officer	Alan Cavill, Director of Place e-mail: alan.cavill@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 477006

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision *Ref N^o 15/2016	Permission to produce an article 4 direction order to remove permitted development rights in Raikes Hall Conservation Area. This will bring minor development within the planning system to ensure sensitive change which will not erode the character of the area.
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economy and Jobs)
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	December 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	Ward councillors, Talbot Ward PACT group, local residents association, Blackpool Civic Trust, Heritage Forum – via meetings
How representations are to be made and by what date	In writing to the Built Heritage and Conservation Team – date to be decided
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Conservation Area Management Plan, sample article 4 direction
Name and address of responsible officer	Antony Lockley, Strategic Head of Development e-mail: antony.lockley@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 477267

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision Ref N° 24/2016	Development and promotion of Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone – including appointment of consultants, property acquisition, disposal, and management and approval of Memorandum of Understanding and delivery plans.
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	December 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	Fylde Borough Councillors and officers, Lancashire Local Economic Partnership, landowning stakeholders within designated Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone boundary.
How representations are to be made and by what date	The master plan production for Blackpool Airport will include extensive stakeholder consultation – details have yet to be confirmed as to be agreed with selected external consultant once appointed.
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Memorandum of Understanding , Interim delivery plan and property valuation reports.
Name and address of responsible officer	Antony Lockley, Strategic Head of Development e-mail: antony.lockley@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 477267

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision Ref N ^o 25/2016	Future options for Central station site – including external consultant appointment, site assembly, feasibility studies site investigation and marketing.
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Business Development and Economic Development
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	December 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	Internal officer and member consultation –possible workshop format.
How representations are to be made and by what date	None at present
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Options report, with costed feasibility studies and consultants reports on site constraints and market analysis reports.
Name and address of responsible officer	Antony Lockley, Strategic Head of Development e-mail: antony.lockley@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 477267

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision Ref N° 30/2016	To consider the level of rents and service charges to be made in connection with Housing Revenue Account dwellings during 2017/178.
Decision making Individual or Body	Council on recommendation from Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	February 2017
Who is to be consulted and how	N/A
How representations are to be made and by what date	In writing to the responsible officer, at the address shown below, by 1 February 2017.
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Joint Report of the Director of Resources and the Director of Place.
Name and address of responsible officer	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources, Resources Directorate, Blackpool Council, Number 1 Bickerstaffe Square, Talbot Road, Blackpool, FY1 3AH. e-mail: steve.thompson@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 478505

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision *Ref N° 32/2016	Hotel Development Talbot Gateway
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Ivan Taylor, Cabinet Member for Projects and Partnerships
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	December 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	Potential Operators Stakeholders in the
How representations are to be made and by what date	None at present
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Options report, with costed feasibility studies and consultants' reports on site constraints and market analysis reports.
Name and address of responsible officer	Antony Lockley, Strategic Head of Development e-mail: antony.lockley@blackpool.gov.uk Tel: (01253) 477267

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision *Ref N° 33/2016	Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	December 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	Consultation has already been undertaken during June 2016 and through the Landau Liaison Group.
How representations are to be made and by what date	None
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Report Consultation responses
Name and address of responsible officer	Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Services Tel: 01253 47 8508 Email: sharon.davies@blackpool.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - KEY DECISION:

Matter for Decision *Ref N° 34/2016	Review of Sex Establishment Policy
Decision making Individual or Body	Executive
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)
Date on which or period within which decision is to be made	December 2016
Who is to be consulted and how	Consultation has already been undertaken during June 2016
How representations are to be made and by what date	None
Documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration	Report Consultation responses
Name and address of responsible officer	Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Services Tel: 01253 47 8508 Email: sharon.davies@blackpool.gov.uk

Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Date of Meeting	15 December 2016

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 7 2016/2017

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the level of spending against the Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for the first seven months to 31 October 2016.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To consider the report and to identify any further issues for scrutiny as appropriate.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure financial performance against the Council's Revenue and Capital Budget is kept under review by members.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

Not applicable.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is 'The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool.'

5.0 Background Information

5.1 This report is the standard monthly financial performance monitoring report, which sets out the summary revenue budget position for the Council and its individual directorates for month 7, the period April 2016 – October 2016, together with an outlook for the remainder of the year. The report is complemented with an assessment of progress to date against the Council’s latest capital programme.

5.2 The report is due to be considered by the Executive at its meeting of 15 December 2016. Committee Members are advised that the Executive is recommended:

1. To note the report
2. To require the respective Directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage financial and operational performances, specifically Children’s Services, Strategic Leisure Assets, Concessionary Fares and Property Rationalisation.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Report

Appendix 1- Revenue Summary

Appendix 2- Schedule of Service forecast overspendings

Appendix 3a- Chief Executive

Appendix 3b- Deputy Chief Executive

Appendix 3c- Governance and Regulatory Services

Appendix 3d- Ward Budgets

Appendix 3e- Resources

Appendix 3f- Places

Appendix 3g- Strategic Leisure Assets

Appendix 3h- Community and Environmental Services

Appendix 3i- Adult Services

Appendix 3j- Children’s Services

Appendix 3k- Public Health

Appendix 3l- Budgets Outside the Cash Limit

Appendix 4- Capital Monitoring

Appendix 5- Cash Flow Summary

Appendix 6- General Fund Balance Sheet Summary

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment was produced as a part of the budget setting process and remains relevant.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 See reports and appendices to this report.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Impact of financial performance on Council balances.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

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BLACKPOOL COUNCIL
REPORT
of the
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
to the
EXECUTIVE
15 DECEMBER 2016

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 7 2016/17

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report is the standard monthly financial performance monitoring report, which sets out the summary revenue budget position for the Council and its individual directorates for the first 7 months of 2016/17, i.e. the period to 31st October 2016, together with an outlook for the remainder of the year. The report is complemented with an assessment of performance to date of balances and reserves, income collection, the Council's latest Capital Programme and statements relating to Cash Flow Summary and Balance Sheet Summary.

2. Report Format

- 2.1 Separate reports have been prepared for each of the Council's core areas of responsibility:
- Appendix 3a - Chief Executive
 - Appendix 3b - Governance and Partnership Services
 - Appendix 3b/c - Ward Budgets
 - Appendix 3d - Resources
 - Appendix 3e - Places
 - Appendix 3f - Strategic Leisure Assets
 - Appendix 3g - Community and Environmental Services
 - Appendix 3h - Adult Services
 - Appendix 3i - Children's Services
 - Appendix 3j - Public Health
 - Appendix 3k - Budgets Outside the Cash Limit.

These incorporate summary financial statements which continue to be prepared on a full accruals basis and focus on the forecast revenue outturns for 2016/17. There is an accompanying narrative to explain any areas of significant variance from budget and to highlight any areas of potential pressure along with action plans agreed with service managers to address them.

2.2 The combined effect of the directorates' financial performances is aggregated in a summary financial statement at Appendix 1 which mirrors the Council's Revenue Budget Book and reflects the disestablishment of the Deputy Chief Executive's Directorate with teams moving to other directorates. This summary allows proactive month-on-month monitoring of the Council's forecast working balances to be undertaken to ensure appropriate and prudent levels are maintained. Appendix 2 highlights on a 12-month rolling basis those services which trip the designated overspending reporting threshold.

3. Directorates' Budget Performance

3.1 As a supportive measure to give services every chance to deliver a break-even budget, the Executive agreed at its meeting on 23rd May 2016 to write-off all service overspends and carry forward the 2015/16 underspends of £279k on Ward Budgets (£246k), Governance and Partnership Services (£19k) and Community & Environmental Services (£14k).

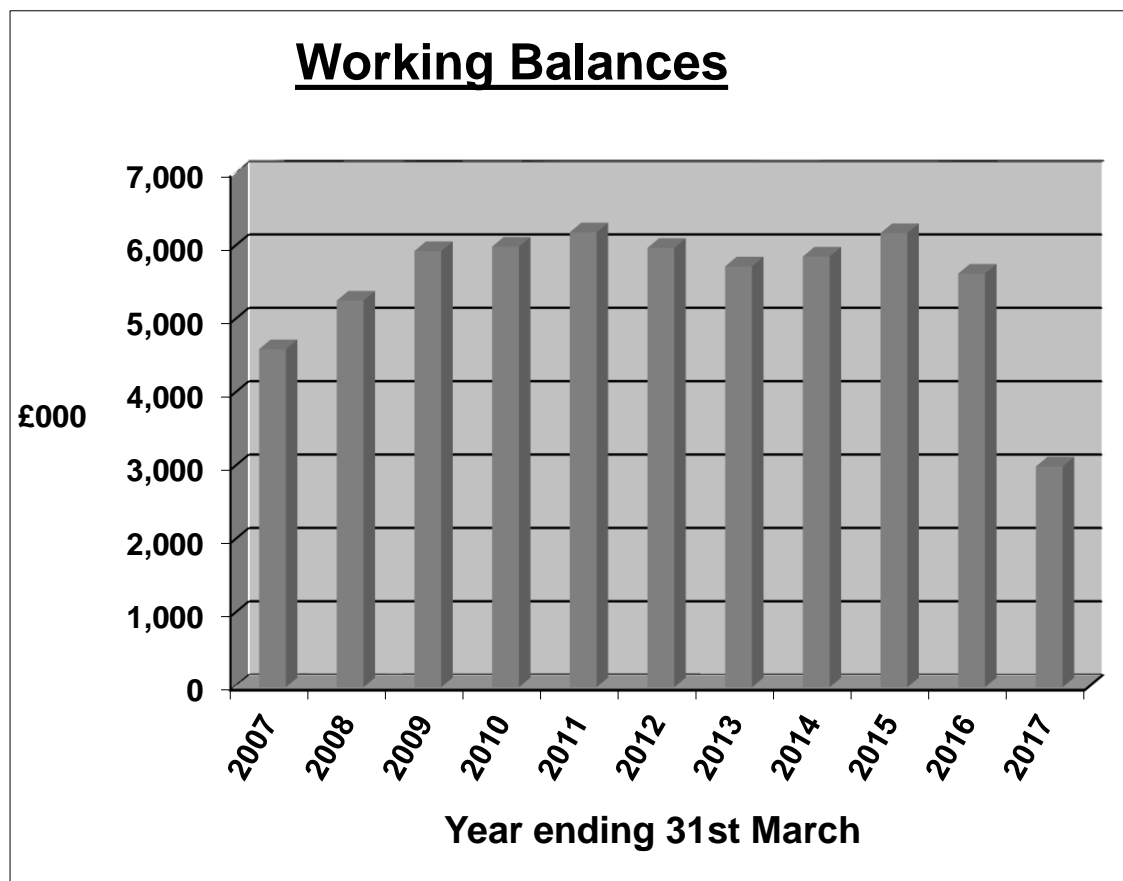
3.2 The impacts of directorates' revenue budget performance and progress in achieving planned savings fall upon the Council's working balances. The main areas accounting for the month 7 forecast overspend of £2,628k for 2016/17 are summarised below:-

Directorate	Service	Forecast Variance £000
Children's Services	An overspend of £3,988k is forecast. Children's Social Care is forecast to overspend by £3,939k, £2,935k is due to increases in the numbers by over 10% in the last year to 509 and average placement cost of Looked After Children (LAC), £650k is due to a shortfall in meeting the challenging 2016/17 Priority Led Budgeting (PLB) savings target of £1,222k arising from the ongoing implementation of the review recommendations and £294k is due to legal and court costs and other miscellaneous overspends of £60k. There are overspends in Lifelong Learning and Schools of £213k due to increased demand and the Education Services Grant of £83k due to the anticipated loss of funding arising from in-year academy conversions. These are mitigated by savings of £270k in Early Help for Children and Families. A number of solutions to try and mitigate the above pressures are being explored and implemented. Expressions of interest for three innovation bids were submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) in July, which proposed new ways of working in partnership with neighbouring authorities as well as local providers and partners to support children with complex and therapeutic needs. At least two of the bids were unsuccessful however bids will be submitted to a further round of innovation funding. Work is also taking place in-house to redesign and strengthen services, including the creation of the Vulnerable Adolescent Hub which will offer a single point of contact for young people, and the conversion of one of our children's homes into an adolescent support unit, or 'crash-pad', which will both support young people on the edge of	3,988

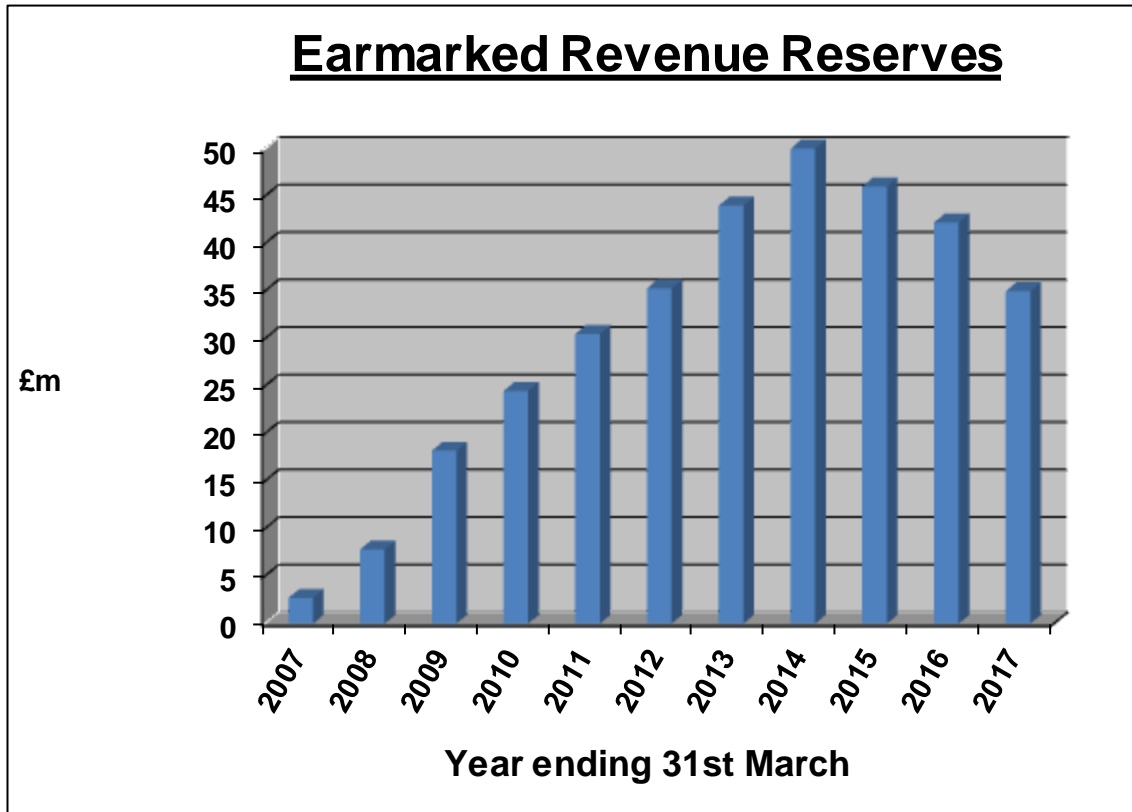
	care and provide short-term crisis care. In addition, now that the division's internal reviews are nearing completion, there will be a refocus of the children's commissioning team on the local provider market, in an attempt to drive down placement costs. The Council's internal audit department recently carried out a review of external placements (the final report with recommendations is pending), and a review of children's legal costs is planned.	
Places	The directorate has a pressure of £366k. Print Services is forecasting an overspend of £100k due to an income target that needs to be reviewed as part of a wider service review and there is still a savings pressure of £100k in Visitor Economy. Other pressures are due to funding issues, prudential borrowing, staffing costs and reduced income.	366
Resources	An overspend of £195k is forecast. Property Services is forecasting a £283k overspend based on the current pace of property rationalisation and pressure from rental income within the Central Business District. This has been mitigated by net savings in other areas of the directorate.	195
Governance and Partnership Services	An overspend of £64k is forecast. This is due to a combination of service demand, a PLB target which is expected to be met by year-end and income pressures.	64
Community and Environmental Services	An underspend of £62k is forecast. This is mainly due to cost pressures offset by income savings. The £856k PFI Grant is no longer available and is being considered along with Lancashire County Council in the review of the operation of the recycling plants with the risk being covered against the specific Waste PFI reserve.	(62)
Adult Services	An underspend of £524k is forecast. Adult Safeguarding is forecasting an overspend of £157k as a result of additional legal and staffing costs, relating to Deprivation of Liberty (DoLs) case law, which is not covered by New Burdens funding of £102k and a pressure of £55k relating to the timing of a staffing restructure in Adults and Children's Safeguarding. These are mitigated by an underspend of £708k on Adult Commissioning Placements due to higher residential income and one-off savings. Other net pressures are due to staffing.	(524)
Budgets Outside the Cash Limit	An underspend of £592k is forecast. Concessionary Fares are forecasting a pressure of £499k mainly due to increased bus patronage and the impact of fare increases. Parking Services is £250k down due to a challenging income target of £6,262k. The cost to the Council of supporting the Subsidiary Companies is an underspend of £138k due to the reducing balance payback of prudentially borrowed schemes. Treasury Management has a £1,203k favourable position due to the ongoing temporary windfall from the short-term interest rates currently being paid to finance recent capital expenditure.	(592)

Strategic Leisure Assets, Contingencies / Reserves	Strategic Leisure Assets is forecasting a £668k pressure. In accordance with the original decision for this programme by the Executive on 7 th February 2011, the projected overspend on Strategic Leisure Assets will be carried forward and transferred to Earmarked Reserves. The forecast accumulative deficit as at 31 st March 2017 is £5,479k. This incorporates the increased debt financing costs associated with the former Tower Lounge development and essential Tower steel structure renewal, together with increased marketing costs and revised income profile and the application of a composite rate to prudential borrowing. The Leisure Assets portfolio is currently forecast to break-even, in-year, during 2021/22. A review of contingencies has released £807k.	(807)
Total		2,628

3.3 The graph below shows the impact on the level of Council working balances in-year together with the last 10 years' year-end balances for comparison:



3.4 Whilst the Council maintains working balances to address any in-year volatilities, it also maintains a number of Earmarked Revenue Reserves for such longer-term commitments as future Private Finance Initiative payments and uncertainties within the new Localised Business Rate system. In order to present a complete picture of the Council's strong financial standing an equivalent graph to the above is shown on the following page:



4. Directorate Budget Savings Performance

- 4.1 As at 31st October 2016 83% of the 2016/17 savings target has already been delivered. The full-year forecast predicts that 90% (87% last month) will be achieved by the year-end, which takes into account anticipated pressures and savings.
- 4.2 The full-year effect of the 2016/17 savings in 2017/18 amounts to 92% of the 2016/17 target which reflects any non-recurrent savings. This excludes any in-year pressures/savings.

5. Collection Rates

5.1 Council Tax

At the end of month 7 the amount collected for Council Tax (excluding Police and Fire precepts) was £28.9m and the collection rate was 59.8%. This compares to £27.5m and 60.5% at the same point in 2015/16. The reduction of 0.7% compared to the previous year equates to £0.3m. The amount collected has actually risen by £1.4m and the movement of £1.7m is mainly due to increases in both the Council Tax rate and base.

In the light of the reductions in discount and the introduction of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme the target collection rate is 97.5% over a 4-year collection period as approved on 25th January 2016 as part of the setting of the Council Tax Base for 2016/17.

5.2 Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)

The Council Tax Reduction Scheme was introduced on 1st April 2013. The Scheme ensures that support to pensioners continues at existing levels. Working-age claimants are means tested to establish entitlement and a percentage reduction (currently 27.11%) is applied at the end of the assessment to establish the level of support provided.

At the end of month 7 the amount collected for Council Tax Reduction Scheme (excluding Police and Fire precepts) for those who have to pay CTRS, either for the first time or in addition to a proportion of their Council Tax, was £1.71m and the collection rate was 39.1%. This compares to £1.78m and 41.7% at the same point in 2015/16 and is the principal cause of the overall collection rate deteriorating.

The likely impact for 2016/17 is that the underlying rate of collection of Council Tax Reduction Scheme will be under greater pressure than 2015/16 due to accumulated arrears and limits on the amount that can be recovered from Attachment of Benefits.

5.3 Business Rates

Prior to 1st April 2013 Business Rate income was collected by billing authorities on behalf of central government and then redistributed among all local authorities and police authorities as part of Formula Grant. From 1st April 2013 the income relating to Blackpool is shared between central government (50%), the Council (49%) and the Fire Authority (1%). Consequential adjustments were made to the Formula Grant equivalent.

At the end of month 7 the amount collected for Business Rates was £31.9m and the collection rate was 58.5%. This compares to £31.4m and 58.9% at the same point in 2015/16. The reduction of 0.4% compared to the previous year equates to £0.2m. The amount collected has actually risen by £0.5m and the movement of £0.7m is mainly due to increases in both the Business Rate multiplier and base. The Council's share of these is 49%.

From April 2014 Business Ratepayers have been entitled to elect to pay by 12 monthly instalments instead of over 10 months. This has allowed businesses more time to pay.

The audited Business Rate cumulative deficit as at 31st March 2016 is £4.58m. The Council's share of this is £2.24m (49%) and provision has been made for this.

6. Capital Monitoring Performance

6.1 All active capital schemes have been included within Appendix 4. The purpose is to present the overall position of capital spend. The schemes are shown individually where total scheme budget is greater than £500k and grouped as "other schemes" otherwise. As in previous financial years the emphasis regarding capital monitoring will be on scheme variance rather than in-year progress since many schemes cross financial years such as the major housing developments. Therefore, some degree of flexibility for the management of slippage is necessary in order to balance the overall capital programme each year to the funding allocations available.

6.2 As at month 7 an overall nil variance on capital schemes is anticipated.

7. Summary Cash Flow Statement

- 7.1 As part of the reporting format for this financial year a summary cash flow statement is included at Appendix 5. This provides a comparison of the actual cash receipts and payments compared to forecast for 2016/17.
- 7.2 During the first 7 months of the year, the Council's net cashflow has resulted in fluctuations in short-term net investment/borrowing balances. However, overall temporary borrowing has decreased since 31st March 2016 due to the change in the timing of the receipt of grant income in the first seven months. The Council is currently using temporary borrowing to finance prudentially funded capital expenditure. While temporary investment rates and temporary borrowing rates are low the treasury team is delaying taking any new long-term borrowing to fund planned capital expenditure. The interest charged by Lancashire County Council on the Local Government Reorganisation Debt is lower than anticipated. As a result, the delay in taking new long-term borrowing and the lower interest charge from Lancashire County Council mean that a favourable credit variance is once again forecast for 2016/17.

8. Summary Balance Sheet

- 8.1 In order to provide a complete picture of the Council's financial performance, Appendix 6 provides a snapshot of the General Fund balance sheet as at the end of month 7. The key areas of focus are any significant movements in debtors, cash and cash equivalents, bank overdraft and creditors, as these impact upon the Council's performance in the critical areas of debt recovery, treasury management and Public Sector Payment Policy.
- 8.2 From 1st April 2016 local authorities were told that they must account for the Highways Network Asset in line with International Accounting Standard 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment*. The Highways Network Asset includes carriageways, footways, cycle paths, street furniture, traffic management and land and had been brought onto the balance sheet in previous months under Property, Plant and Equipment for 2016/17. However, on 14th November 2016 CIPFA took the decision to delay the implementation of the accounting for Highways Network Asset until 2017/18. Therefore these amounts have now been removed from the balance sheet.
- 8.3 Over the 7-month period there has been an increase in spend on Capital schemes included within Property, Plant and Equipment of £24.4m and a decrease in cash and cash equivalents of £11.1m, which in the main reflects the timing of the receipt of capital grants and the phasing of the capital programme.

9. Conclusion and Recommendations

- 9.1 There has been an improvement in the position compared to month 6 by £548k, although the Council is still predicting a significant deterioration in its financial standing in comparison with Budget. Working balances are estimated to fall by £2,628k against the budgeted position over the year. This fall is in the context of the audited working balances at the start of the year of £5,636k, a reduction of 46.6%.

9.2 If this forecast position became the actual outturn, then in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules within its Constitution, the forecast revenue outturn 2016/17 within this report no longer contravenes either of the two specific conditions that excess spending does not:

1. exceed 1% (i.e. £4.3m) of the authority's total gross revenue expenditure;
or
2. have the effect of reducing the authority's Working Balances below 50% of their normal target level (i.e. £3.0m).

In the context of £35.0m of Earmarked Revenue Reserves and with 5 months of the financial year remaining there should still be sufficient time to improve the position further and revised service and financial plans are underway to do so.

9.3 In response to the financial position the Director of Resources is holding regular meetings with individual Directors to discuss the robustness and integrity of current year budget forecasts and the plans in place to deliver an in-year breakeven position.

9.4 The Executive is asked:

- i) to note the report; and
- ii) to require the respective Directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage financial and operational performances, specifically Children's Services, Strategic Leisure Assets and Concessionary Fares.

Steve Thompson
Director of Resources

17th November 2016

Blackpool Council

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

BLACKPOOL COUNCIL							2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
FORECAST GENERAL FUND POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2017							
SUMMARY							
APP.	GENERAL FUND NET REQUIREMENTS	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE		VARIANCE		
		ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
3(a)	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	(125)	1,501	(1,626)	(125)	-	-
3(b)	GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	1,425	1,141	348	1,489	64	(19)
3(b/c)	WARD BUDGETS	516	118	398	516	-	(246)
3(d)	RESOURCES	1,153	(5,519)	6,867	1,348	195	-
3(e)	PLACES	4,030	180	4,216	4,396	366	-
3(f)	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	1,355	1,988	35	2,023	668	-
3(g)	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	45,142	17,590	27,490	45,080	(62)	(14)
3(h)	ADULT SERVICES	45,542	16,482	28,536	45,018	(524)	-
3(i)	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	37,660	20,010	21,638	41,648	3,988	-
3(j)	PUBLIC HEALTH	304	819	(515)	304	-	-
3(k)	BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT	16,332	7,120	8,620	15,740	(592)	-
	CAPITAL CHARGES	(26,887)	(15,684)	(11,203)	(26,887)	-	-
	NET COST OF SERVICES:	126,447	45,746	84,804	130,550	4,103	(279)
	CONTRIBUTIONS:						
	- TO / (FROM) RESERVES	(5,295)	-	(5,963)	(5,963)	(668)	
	- 2015/16 SERVICE UNDERSPENDS	(279)	-	(279)	(279)	-	
	- REVENUE CONSEQUENCES OF CAPITAL	85	-	85	85	-	
	CONTINGENCIES	1,976	-	1,169	1,169	(807)	
	NW REGIONAL FLOOD DEFENCE LEVY	65	-	65	65	-	
	CONTRIBUTIONS, etc.	(3,448)	-	(4,923)	(4,923)	(1,475)	
	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE TO BE MET FROM PUBLIC FUNDS	122,999	45,746	79,881	125,627	2,628	
	ADDED TO/(TAKEN FROM) BALANCES	-	-	(2,628)	(2,628)	(2,628)	
	NET REQUIREMENT AFTER WORKING BALANCES	122,999	45,746	77,253	122,999	-	
GENERAL BALANCES AS AT 1st APRIL 2016 PER AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2015/16							5,636
In-year (reduction in) / addition to General Fund Working Balances							(2,628)
ESTIMATED UNEARMARKED WORKING BALANCES AS AT 31st MARCH 2017							3,008

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	Blackpool Council															
2																
3	Schedule of Service forecast annual overspendings over the last 12 months															
4																
5																
6																
7	Directorate	Service	Audit Committee Report		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
8					2015	2015	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016
9					£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
10																
11	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE			1,309	1,335	1,622	2,189	2,189			2,025	3,120	3,357	3,861	3,939
12	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS			1,246	1,306	1,473	1,503	1,503			1,113	668	668	668	668
13	RESOURCES	PROPERTY SERVICES			668	547	553	157	157			480	495	495	481	283
14	PLACES	VISITOR ECONOMY				101	110	102	102			208	222	200	260	260
15	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	LIFELONG LEARNING & SCHOOLS			133	91	97								240	213
16	ADULT SERVICES	ADULT SAFEGUARDING			140	146	163	231	231			146	158	158	158	157
17	PLACES	GROWING PLACES										93	93	93	93	93
18	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	EDUCATION SERVICES GRANT			1,086	1,087	1,087	1,185	1,185			86	86	83	83	83
19	ADULT SERVICES	CARE & SUPPORT			395	401	552	370	370							
20	PUBLIC HEALTH	CHILDREN (5-19) - PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMMES			479	479	479									
21	PUBLIC HEALTH	SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES - MANDATED			378	378	378									
22	PUBLIC HEALTH	SUBSTANCE MISUSE (DRUGS AND ALCOHOL)			350	350	350									
23	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	STREET CLEANSING AND WASTE										183	194	106		
24	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES			81			149	149			104				
25	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	CHILDRENS SAFEGUARDING			117	155	145									
26	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	LOCAL SERVICES SUPPORT GRANT			104	104	104									
27	GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	REGISTRATION AND BEREAVEMENT SERVICES						84	84							
28	PLACES	CULTURAL SERVICES												148		
29	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	LEISURE AND CATERING			96											
30																
31		Sub Total			6,582	6,480	7,113	5,970	5,970	-	-	4,438	5,036	5,308	5,844	5,696
32																
33		Transfer to Earmarked Reserves (note 3)			(1,246)	(1,306)	(1,473)	(1,503)	(1,503)	-	-	(1,113)	(668)	(668)	(668)	(668)
34																
35		Other General Fund (under) / overspends			(1,928)	(2,511)	(2,772)	(3,915)	(3,915)	-	-	(733)	(1,135)	(1,760)	(2,000)	(2,400)
36																
37		Total			3,408	2,663	2,868	552	552	-	-	2,592	3,233	2,880	3,176	2,628
38																
39																
40	Notes:															
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Blackpool Council - Chief Executive

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2016/17					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
CHIEF EXECUTIVE						
NET EXPENDITURE						
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	626	(352)	978	626	-	-
HUMAN RESOURCES, ORGANISATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	(765)	1,542	(2,307)	(765)	-	-
CORPORATE DELIVERY UNIT	14	311	(297)	14	-	-
TOTALS	(125)	1,501	(1,626)	(125)	-	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within the Chief Executive's Directorate against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 months of 2016/17 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year.

Following the recent Council restructure this directorate now includes Human Resources, Organisation and Workforce Development and the Corporate Delivery Unit (both transferred from the former Deputy Chief Executive's Directorate).

The Directorate is forecasting a break-even position for 2016/17.

Budget Holder – Mr N Jack, Chief Executive

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Blackpool Council – Governance and Partnership Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2016/17					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE	2,133	1,556	577	2,133	-	(19)
CORPORATE LEGAL SERVICES	(336)	(638)	336	(302)	34	-
REGISTRATION AND BEREAVEMENT SERVICES	(372)	223	(565)	(342)	30	-
GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	1,425	1,141	348	1,489	64	(19)
WARDS	516	118	398	516	-	(246)
TOTALS	1,941	1,259	746	2,005	64	(265)

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within Governance and Partnership Services against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 months of 2016/17 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with the head of service.

Following the recent Council restructure this Directorate has been renamed and now includes Corporate Legal Services (transferred from Resources) and Governor Services (from Children's Services). The Licensing Service has transferred to Community and Environmental Services and Community Engagement and Equalities (which transferred from the former Deputy Chief Executive's Directorate) has now transferred to Public Health.

Democratic Governance Service

The Democratic Governance Service is forecasting a break-even position for 2016/17. This service now includes Governor Services.

Corporate Legal Services

There is a pressure of £34k mainly due to a Priority Led Budgeting (PLB) target which is expected to be met by year-end.

Registration and Bereavement Services

Registration and Bereavement Services is forecasting a pressure of £30k. This is due to the forecast level of demand in the Coroners and Mortuary Service but this has reduced from earlier months due to expected additional income.

Ward Budgets

Ward budgets are expected to break-even in 2016/17.

Budget Holder - Mr M Towers, Director of Governance and Partnership Services.

Blackpool Council
Ward Budgets
2016/17
Month 7

Wards

Ward	Councillors	Total No. of Requisitions Submitted	No. of Requisitions Approved	No. Awaiting Approval	Total No. of Requisitions Completed	Total 2016-17 Budget	Budget Committed to <u>Approved</u> Schemes	Remaining 2016-17 Budget
Anchorsholme Ward BC1001	Cllr. Galley Cllr. A Williams	4	4	0	3	£28,312.71	£2,697.00	£25,615.71
Bispham Ward BC1002	Cllr. Clapham Cllr. Maycock	8	8	0	6	£21,273.94	£13,053.06	£8,220.88
Bloomfield Ward BC1003	Cllr. Cain Cllr. Hobson	6	6	0	2	£16,697.54	£10,778.35	£5,919.19
Brunswick Ward BC1004	Cllr. Blackburn Cllr. G Coleman	2	2	0	1	£28,982.55	£2,080.00	£26,902.55
Claremont Ward BC1005	Cllr. I Taylor Cllr. L Williams	10	10	0	8	£19,394.14	£15,519.92	£3,874.22
Clifton Ward BC1006	Cllr. Hutton Cllr. L Taylor	12	12	0	4	£26,764.39	£16,192.50	£10,571.89
Greenlands Ward BC1007	Cllr. Ryan Cllr. Mrs Wright	3	3	0	0	£28,018.81	-£10,715.00	£38,733.81
Hawes Side Ward BC1008	Cllr. D Coleman Cllr. Critchley	6	6	0	4	£29,800.00	£9,677.50	£20,122.50
Highfield Ward BC1009	Cllr. Mrs Henderson MBE Cllr. Hunter	6	6	0	5	£25,413.77	£6,684.02	£18,729.75
Ingthorpe Ward BC1010	Cllr. Cross Cllr. Rowson	8	8	0	4	£36,530.09	£10,085.00	£26,445.09
Layton Ward BC1011	Cllr. Mrs Benson Cllr. Mitchell	12	12	0	9	£21,091.00	£0.00	£21,091.00
Marton Ward BC1012	Cllr. Singleton Cllr. Elmes	7	7	0	4	£34,963.08	£18,201.78	£16,761.30
Norbreck Ward BC1013	Cllr. Callow Cllr. Mrs Callow	8	8	0	4	£38,495.41	£34,403.75	£4,091.66
Park Ward BC1014	Cllr. Campbell Cllr. Kirkland	6	6	0	6	£30,493.68	£7,958.89	£22,534.79
Squires Gate Ward BC1015	Cllr. Cox Cllr. Humphreys	5	5	0	3	£21,608.91	£10,822.50	£10,786.41
Stanley Ward BC1016	Cllr. Roberts Cllr. Stansfield	4	4	0	1	£30,896.00	£3,085.00	£27,811.00
Talbot Ward BC1017	Cllr. I Coleman Cllr. Smith	8	8	0	4	£36,657.78	£18,653.93	£18,003.85
Tyldesley Ward BC1018	Cllr. Collett Cllr. Matthews	4	4	0	3	£29,171.66	£5,583.95	£23,587.71
Victoria Ward BC1019	Cllr. Jackson Cllr. Owen	3	3	0	2	£24,586.66	£5,728.35	£18,858.31
Warbreck Ward BC1020	Cllr. Scott	4	4	0	2	£21,364.07	£4,535.00	£16,829.07
Waterloo Ward BC1021	Cllr. O'Hara Cllr. Robertson BEM	6	6	0	2	£28,115.00	£10,935.00	£17,180.00

Ward Totals	132	132	0	77	£578,631.19	£195,960.50	£382,670.69
Unallocated Budget	-	-	-	-	-£17,631.19	£0.00	-£17,631.19
Income Budget	-	-	-	-	-£45,000.00	£0.00	-£45,000.00
Area Ward Totals	132	132	0	77	£516,000.00	£195,960.50	£320,039.50

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Blackpool Council - Resources

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND £000
	2016/17					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
RESOURCES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
PROCUREMENT & PROJECTS	(11)	(252)	181	(71)	(60)	-
BENEFITS	(1,060)	(1,979)	901	(1,078)	(18)	-
REVENUES & EXCHEQUER SERVICES	1,405	798	656	1,454	49	-
CUSTOMER FIRST	(61)	(476)	416	(60)	1	-
ICT SERVICES	181	(1,435)	1,579	144	(37)	-
ACCOUNTANCY	(25)	(696)	669	(27)	(2)	-
RISK SERVICES	69	(280)	328	48	(21)	-
PROPERTY SERVICES (Incl. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO)	655	(1,199)	2,137	938	283	-
TOTALS	1,153	(5,519)	6,867	1,348	195	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within Resources against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 months of 2016/17 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Procurement and Projects

- The favourable variance of £60k is due to an over-achievement against current and prior years' Priority Led Budgeting (PLB) targets in respect of staff savings and additional income.

Benefits

- Currently within budget, the Benefits Service is processing new claims for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction in 27 days, which remains just within target, whilst the changes in circumstance processing time is 19 days.

Revenues and Exchequer Services

- The 2016/17 budget savings target has not yet fully been met however the service is currently reviewing options.

Customer First

- As a way of streamlining processes and encouraging customers to embrace digital services and 'self-serve', thereby relieving pressure on face-to-face and telephone-based customer contact points, a 'Channel Shift' project is underway.

ICT Services

- Following the disaggregation of the Deputy Chief Executive's Directorate, ICT Services has transferred into the Resources Directorate. This service is forecasting a small underspend as a result of staffing vacancies.

Accountancy

- Accountancy is forecasting to achieve the PLB savings target.

Risk Services

- Risk Services are forecasting to achieve the PLB savings target with one-off staffing savings and additional income.

Property Services (incl. Investment Portfolio)

- Property Services is forecasting an overspend of £283k. This projection is based on the current pace of property rationalisation. There is also a forecast pressure from rental income within the Central Business District until all units are filled and any rent-free periods lapse. The Gym in Talbot Road Multi-story Car Park has now opened.

Summary of the revenue forecast

After 7 months of the financial year, Resources is forecasting a £195k overspend. The Directorate continues to operate on the basis of not filling staff vacancies other than in exceptional circumstances.

Budget Holder - Mr S Thompson, Director of Resources.

Blackpool Council – Places

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND £000
	2016/17					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
PLACES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
CULTURAL SERVICES	(6)	(959)	966	7	13	-
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	79	(2,079)	2,158	79	-	-
GROWING PLACES	196	1,013	(724)	289	93	-
VISITOR ECONOMY	3,761	2,205	1,816	4,021	260	-
TOTALS	4,030	180	4,216	4,396	366	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within the Places Directorate against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. The forecast outturn of £366k overspend is based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 months of 2016/17 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Cultural Services

This service is now expecting a £13k overspend by the year-end due to a shortfall in funding of the Grundy Art Gallery. The service position has improved by £30k due to reduced maintenance costs and increased contributions to exhibitions.

Growing Places

This service is expecting a £93k overspend by the year-end. This is due to a combination of staffing pressures of £63k in the Planning Department and prudential borrowing costs of £30k in Housing for the Foxhall Village development.

Visitor Economy

This service is expecting a £260k overspend by the year-end. £100k is due to low income in Print Services that needs to be reviewed as part of a wider review of how the service is used corporately. The Illuminations service is now forecasting an overspend of £30k due to increasing costs and poorer than expected year-to-date income. Visit Blackpool is also forecasting an overspend of £30k due to various events coming in over budget. The remaining £100k is the balance of savings yet to be identified within the department and is still a savings pressure.

Budget Holder – Mr A Cavill, Director of Place

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Blackpool Council – Strategic Leisure Assets

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2016/17					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR -OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS						
NET EXPENDITURE						
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	1,355	1,988	35	2,023	668	-
TOTALS	1,355	1,988	35	2,023	668	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for the Service against its respective, currently approved, revenue budget. The forecast outturn is based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 months of 2016/17 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with the head of service.

Key Issues

The Leisure Asset portfolio projected outturn for 2016/17 is currently £668k, taking the forecast cumulative deficit as at 2016/17 year-end to £5,479k. This position incorporates the increased debt financing costs associated with both the former Tower Lounge development and essential Tower steel structure renewal, together with increased marketing costs and revised income profile, as well as the application of a composite rate to prudential borrowing.

The Leisure Asset portfolio is currently forecast to break-even, in-year, during 2021/22.

In accordance with the original decision for this programme by the Executive on 7th February 2011, the projected overspend on Strategic Leisure Assets will be carried forward and transferred to Earmarked Reserves.

Budget Holder – Mr A Cavill, Director of Place

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Blackpool Council – Community and Environmental Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2016/17					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
BUSINESS SERVICES	969	639	330	969	-	(14)
LEISURE AND CATERING	4,088	3,169	822	3,991	(97)	-
PUBLIC PROTECTION	(330)	(1,533)	1,266	(267)	63	-
HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES	18,125	7,484	10,618	18,102	(23)	-
STREET CLEANSING AND WASTE	18,705	5,464	13,172	18,636	(69)	-
COASTAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS	3,071	1,314	1,757	3,071	-	-
INTEGRATED TRANSPORT	514	1,053	(475)	578	64	-
TOTALS	45,142	17,590	27,490	45,080	(62)	(14)

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within Community and Environmental Services against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 months of 2016/17 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Leisure and Catering

There is a forecast underspend of £97k due to savings on provisions.

Public Protection

Public Protection is over budget by £63k due to a forecast pressure at the end of the South Beach Selective Licensing Scheme.

Highways and Traffic Management Services

Highways are under budget by £23k, but there is still a £67k pressure on Shelters due to income, which is offset by savings on maintenance and additional scheme income.

Street Cleansing and Waste

Street Cleansing and Waste is under budget by £69k after a rigorous and determined review of forecast income and expenditure. The Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) budget position has improved significantly as a result of the aforementioned review and is now showing as £77k over. Unfortunately there is still a decrease in the level of income forecast from recycling waste which is due to a downturn in the recycle markets and higher costs of recycling materials. The service is pro-actively managing the pressure.

The £856k PFI Grant is no longer available and is being considered along with Lancashire County Council in the review of the operation of the recycling plants, with the risk being covered against the specific Waste PFI reserve in 2016/17.

Integrated Transport

Integrated Transport is £64k over budget due to a pressure on public transport contracts.

Conclusion – Community and Environmental Services financial position

As at the end of month 7 the Community and Environmental Services Directorate is forecasting an overall underspend of £62k for the financial year to March 2017 as detailed above. The pressure due to the loss of the Waste PFI grant has been offset against reserves in 2016/17.

Budget Holder - Mr J Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services

Blackpool Council - Adult Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2016/17					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
ADULT SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
ADULT SOCIAL CARE	3,664	1,591	2,073	3,664	-	-
CARE & SUPPORT	4,237	1,573	2,731	4,304	67	-
COMMISSIONING & CONTRACTS TEAM	1,067	246	781	1,027	(40)	-
ADULT COMMISSIONING PLACEMENTS	36,112	13,210	22,194	35,404	(708)	-
ADULT SAFEGUARDING	462	(138)	757	619	157	-
TOTALS	45,542	16,482	28,536	45,018	(524)	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the latest outturn projection for each individual service within the Adult Services Directorate against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 months of 2016/17 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Adult Commissioning Placements (Social Care Packages)

- The Adult Commissioning Placements Budget is forecasting a £708k underspend as a result of higher than anticipated residential income and one-off savings following a review of prudent year-end accruals. It is possible the financial position may improve further following scrutiny of the income forecast, however, the current view has been taken in the light of potential pressures from unpredictable winter demand.

Commissioning & Contracts Team and Care & Support

- The Commissioning & Contracts Team is currently forecast to be £40k underspent on their staffing budget. Care and Support is forecasting an overspend of £67k due to an additional Adults Services vacancy target which has not yet been met but is expected to be met by year-end.

Adult Safeguarding

- The Adult Safeguarding Division is forecast to be £157k overspent, with £102k relating to additional legal and staffing costs to fund Deprivation of Liberty (DoLs) case law. Several Councils are currently challenging the Government in relation to New Burdens funding. There is also a £55k in-year pressure relating to the timing of a staffing restructure within Adults and Children's Safeguarding.

Summary of the Adult Services financial position

As at the end of October 2016 the Adult Services Directorate is forecasting an overall underspend of £524k for the financial year to March 2017 on a gross budget of £67.3m.

Budget Holder – K Smith, Director of Adult Services

Blackpool Council – Children’s Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2016/17					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
CHILDREN'S SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - ISB	20,702	12,900	7,802	20,702	-	-
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - NON DELEGATED	447	447	-	447	-	-
LIFELONG LEARNING & SCHOOLS	21,983	11,158	10,981	22,139	156	-
EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	297	99	149	248	(49)	-
CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE	116	67	49	116	-	-
BUSINESS SUPPORT AND RESOURCES	368	221	147	368	-	-
DEDICATED SCHOOL GRANT	(44,721)	(26,903)	(17,905)	(44,808)	(87)	-
CARRY FORWARD OF DSG	(192)	-	(212)	(212)	(20)	-
TOTAL DSG FUNDED SERVICES	(1,000)	(2,011)	1,011	(1,000)	-	-
CHILDRENS SERVICES DEPRECIATION	3,236	1,604	1,632	3,236	-	-
LIFELONG LEARNING & SCHOOLS	3,768	1,133	2,848	3,981	213	-
EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	3,860	1,179	2,411	3,590	(270)	-
CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE	25,250	16,782	12,407	29,189	3,939	-
CHILDRENS SAFEGUARDING	1,498	612	935	1,547	49	-
BUSINESS SUPPORT AND RESOURCES	1,922	1,123	792	1,915	(7)	-
LOCAL SERVICES SUPPORT GRANT	-	(11)	(8)	(19)	(19)	-
EDUCATION SERVICES GRANT	(874)	(401)	(390)	(791)	83	-
TOTAL COUNCIL FUNDED SERVICES	38,660	22,021	20,627	42,648	3,988	-
TOTAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES	37,660	20,010	21,638	41,648	3,988	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the latest outturn projection for each individual service within the Children’s Services Directorate against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 months of 2016/17 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Dedicated Schools Grant Funded Services

- The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is the funding stream that supports the Schools Budget, which includes amounts that are devolved through the Individual School Budget (ISB), together with centrally-retained pupil-related services as listed in the revenue summary. Any under or overspends against services funded by the DSG will be carried forward to 2017/18 and, in the case of overspends, become the first call on the grant in that year.

Lifelong Learning and Schools

- Due to increased demand, there is a forecast overspend on the Special Educational Needs Transport budget of £257k, partly offset by small underspends in other areas of the division.

Early Help for Children and Families

- The Early Help Division is forecasting a £270k underspend due to staff vacancies and a saving on the Domestic Abuse contract.

Children's Social Care

- Several commissioning reviews have taken place during the first half of the financial year and progress has been made against the challenging £1.222m 2016/17 PLB savings target that was applied to the Children's Social Care Division. There is a forecast shortfall of £650k due to the ongoing implementation of the review recommendations.
- Additional in-year service pressures, as described below, relating to placements, legal costs and other miscellaneous overspends amount to £3.289m giving a total forecast overspend for the division of £3.939m.
- The number of Looked After Children (LAC) in Blackpool has increased by well over 10% in the last year, and, at 509, is currently the highest it has ever been. The number of open cases, which is currently in excess of 2,000, has also reached record levels in recent months. While this figure is starting to reduce, the complexity of the cases being seen means that a corresponding reduction in LAC is unlikely. These pressures in the system reflect national trends, with the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass) reporting a 16% increase in care applications between July 2015 and July 2016. At a local level, significant and unusual anti-social behaviour patterns have emerged in the town in recent months which has ultimately led to the commencement of several new residential placements with extensive therapeutic support being required in many cases.
- The Deputy Director of Children's Services carried out an audit of all new admissions into care between April and June 2016 which confirmed that all the children were brought into the system appropriately. Only one of these new placements was due to a family moving into the Blackpool area.
- Average placement costs have continued to increase, and this is partly due to a shortage of quality providers which is being seen nationally as highlighted in Martin Narey's recent government-commissioned report, Residential Care in England. This creates significant commissioning challenges in terms of negotiating weekly placement rates that offer value for money.
- A breakdown of the budgeted, current and projected placements is shown in the table below:

IFA budgeted numbers (fte)		65.0
IFA current (headcount)		84.0
IFA projected numbers (fte)		75.8
Increased numbers pressure	£	535,155
Increased placement rate pressure	£	20,180
Independent Fostering Agency Over Spend	£	555,335
Resi budgeted numbers (fte)		20.0
Resi current numbers (headcount)		32.0
Resi projected numbers (fte)		30.9
Increased numbers pressure	£	1,842,090
Increased placement rate pressure	£	537,310
Residential Over Spend	£	2,379,400
Total Placement Over Spend	£	2,934,735

- In addition to placement pressures, there is a forecast overspend of £294k on the legal and court fees budget. Despite the fact that Blackpool invests more in advocacy services, and has consequently seen less of a spike in care proceedings, than our neighbouring authorities such cases are continuing to rise, increasing from 107 in 2015/16 to a projected figure of 140 for 2016/17.
- A number of solutions to try and mitigate the above pressures are being explored and implemented. Expressions of interest for three innovation bids were submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) in July, which proposed new ways of working in partnership with neighbouring authorities as well as local providers and partners to support children with complex and therapeutic needs. While we now know that at least two of these bids were not successful, a further round of innovation funding has recently been announced by the government for which Blackpool will certainly be bidding. Work is also taking place in-house to redesign and strengthen services, including the creation of the Vulnerable Adolescent Hub which will offer a single point of contact for young people, and the conversion of one of our children's homes into an adolescent support unit, or 'crash-pad', which will both support young people on the edge of care and provide short-term crisis care. In addition, now that the division's internal reviews are nearing completion, there will be a refocus of the children's commissioning team on the local provider market, in an attempt to drive down placement costs. The Council's internal audit department recently carried out a review of external placements (the final report with recommendations is pending), and a review of children's legal costs is planned.

Education Services Grant

- From April 2013, the education functions provided by local authorities have been funded from the Education Services Grant (ESG). The Council receives £77 per pupil in relation to the pupils in schools maintained by the authority plus £15 for each pupil in all schools and academies in respect of responsibilities retained for every pupil within our boundary. A shortfall in grant of £83k is included in the forecast overspend, relating to the anticipated loss of funding due to in-year academy conversions.

Summary of the Children's Services financial position

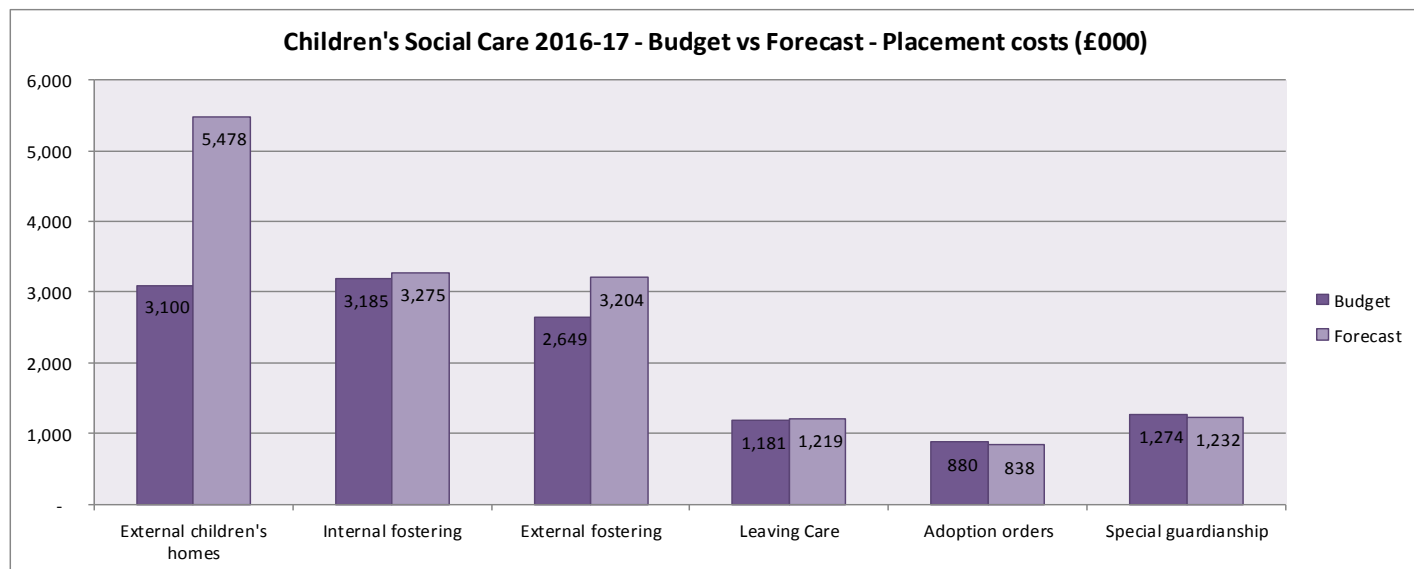
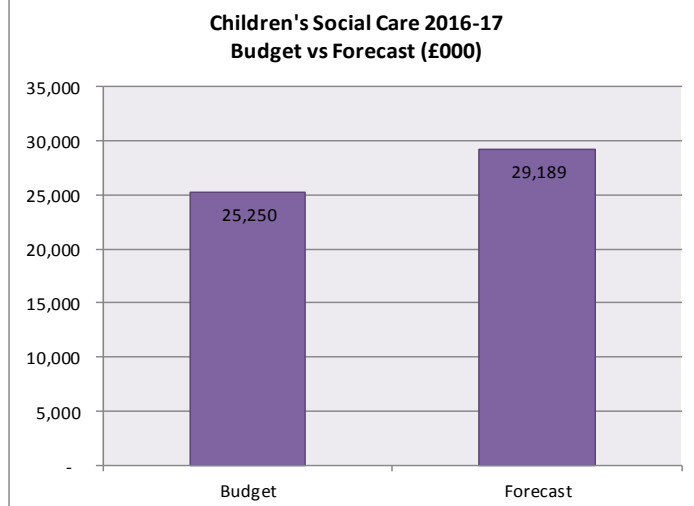
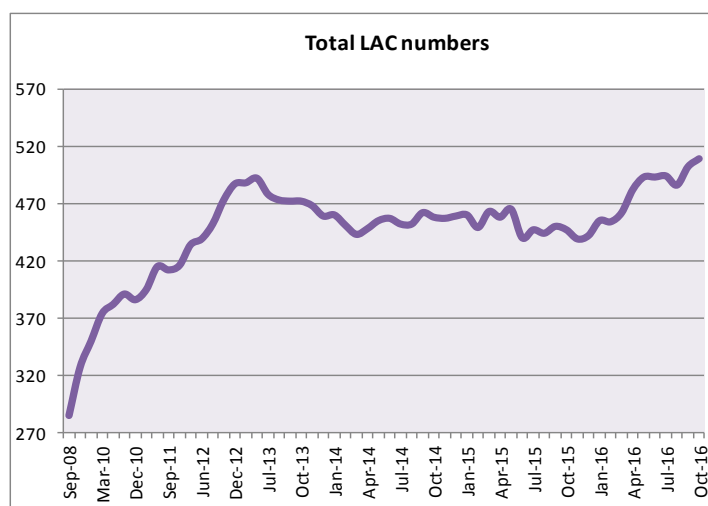
As at the end of October 2016 the Children's Services Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £3.988m for the financial year to March 2017.

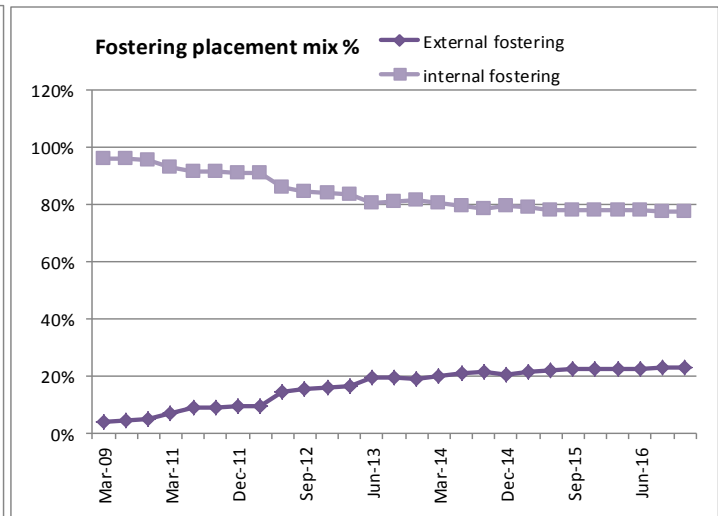
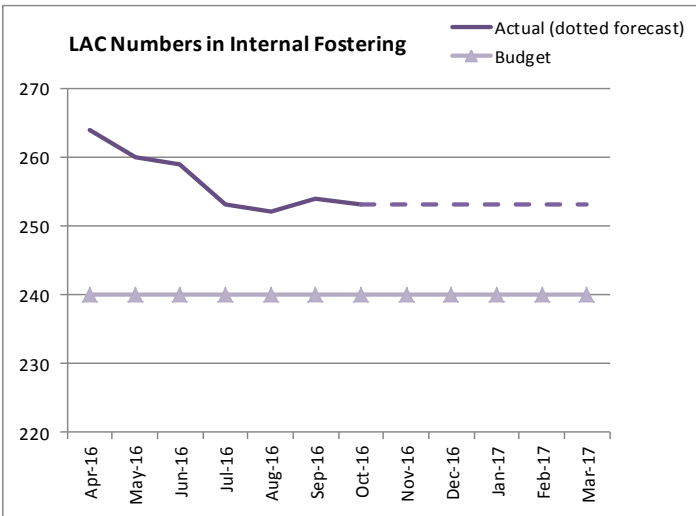
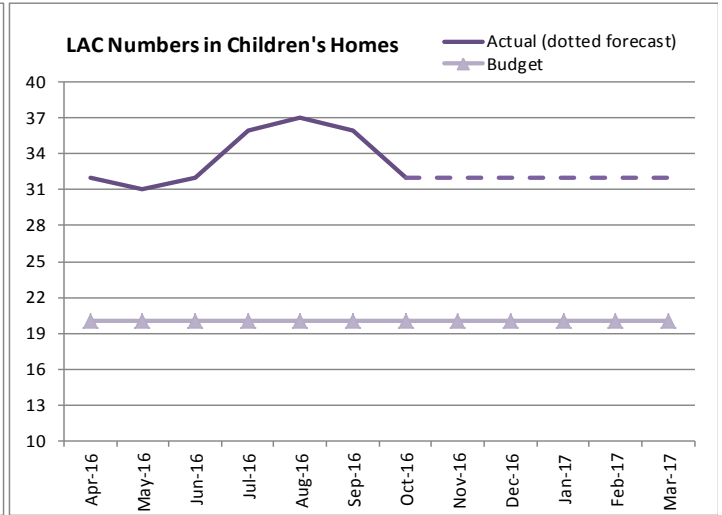
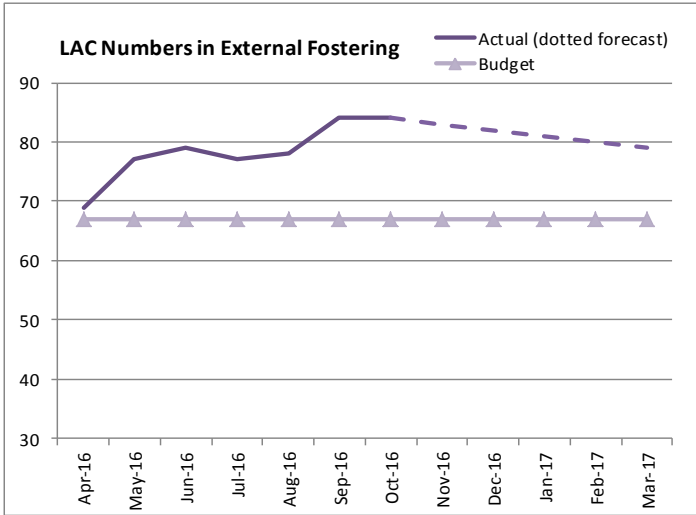
Budget Holder – Mrs D Curtis, Director of People (Statutory Director of Children's Services)

Children's Social Care Trends

Date	External Placements						Total			Internal Fostering			Total LAC Numbers
	Fostering			Residential			FTE	£000's	£ per placement	FTE	£000's	£ per placement	No.
	FTE	£000's	£ per placement	FTE	£000's	£ per placement							
Mar-11	22.69	860	37,912	36.73	3,536	96,272	59.42	4,396	73,983	303.23	3,329	10,977	395
Jun-11	29.54	1,108	37,508	33.62	3,430	102,023	63.16	4,538	71,849	303.23	3,329	10,977	395
Sep-11	30.35	1,129	37,191	33.90	3,457	101,982	64.25	4,586	71,376	316.95	3,527	11,128	412
Dec-11	31.91	1,184	37,118	35.16	3,580	101,808	67.07	4,764	71,031	312.85	3,496	11,175	416
Mar-12	32.68	1,223	37,424	34.27	3,488	101,780	66.95	4,711	70,366	315.07	3,507	11,131	434
Jun-12	49.27	1,816	36,858	36.47	3,710	101,727	85.07	5,526	64,958	296.18	3,480	11,750	439
Sep-12	53.37	1,903	35,657	36.70	4,264	116,185	90.07	6,167	68,469	290.42	3,345	11,518	452
Dec-12	55.80	1,987	35,611	38.08	4,498	118,121	93.88	6,485	69,080	290.55	3,372	11,606	487
Mar-13	57.36	2,028	35,355	38.89	4,645	119,447	96.25	6,673	69,330	291.27	3,377	11,594	488
Jun-13	71.93	2,604	36,202	30.01	3,349	111,596	101.94	5,953	58,400	298.00	3,542	11,887	492
Sep-13	70.51	2,515	35,667	29.05	3,240	111,523	99.56	5,754	57,801	293.58	3,496	11,908	472
Dec-13	68.22	2,494	36,560	29.02	3,398	117,073	97.24	5,892	60,592	292.11	3,455	11,828	459
Mar-14	72.82	2,480	34,058	29.76	3,525	118,473	102.57	6,005	58,547	295.49	3,474	11,757	443
Jun-14	70.35	2,527	35,928	24.74	2,537	102,561	95.09	5,065	53,265	266.65	3,422	12,833	457
Sep-14	69.41	2,614	37,655	23.09	2,799	121,210	92.50	5,412	58,513	258.39	3,248	12,570	462
Dec-14	68.73	2,664	38,760	23.09	2,870	124,281	91.83	5,534	60,268	265.56	3,313	12,474	459
Mar-15	71.13	2,856	40,155	23.23	2,993	128,868	94.36	5,850	61,992	262.93	3,253	12,374	463
Jun-15	71.30	2,896	40,625	22.02	3,254	147,777	93.32	6,150	65,909	250.74	3,144	12,541	440
Sep-15	71.48	2,862	40,040	26.39	3,772	142,934	97.87	6,634	67,785	251.13	3,151	12,549	450
Dec-15	71.41	2,945	41,243	26.60	3,862	145,196	98.00	6,807	69,455	250.66	3,115	12,428	442
Mar-16	72.39	3,056	42,215	27.09	3,958	146,120	99.48	7,014	70,512	250.97	3,125	12,453	462
Jun-16	73.79	3,110	42,145	25.62	4,025	157,136	99.41	7,135	71,778	256.45	3,239	12,630	493
Sep-16	75.24	3,216	42,750	31.40	5,337	169,996	106.64	8,554	80,216	255.78	3,245	12,688	502
Oct-16	76.29	3,204	41,998	32.09	5,480	170,757	108.38	8,684	80,121	257.70	3,275	12,709	509

Note:
The variance between the current total number of Looked After Children (509) and the total internal fostering and external placement numbers (366) is children with care orders, adoption placements etc. They are still classed as LAC but do not incur any commissioned costs.





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Blackpool Council – Public Health

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2016/17					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
PUBLIC HEALTH						
NET EXPENDITURE						
MANAGEMENT AND OVERHEADS	1,862	655	1,207	1,862	-	-
NHS HEALTH CHECKS - MANDATED	564	351	213	564	-	-
CHILDREN (5-19) - PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMMES	722	722	-	722	-	-
CHILDREN'S 0-5 SERVICES	3,114	2,537	577	3,114	-	-
TOBACCO CONTROL	545	318	227	545	-	-
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING	128	10	118	128	-	-
SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES - MANDATED	2,345	2,225	120	2,345	-	-
SUBSTANCE MISUSE (DRUGS AND ALCOHOL)	3,746	2,099	1,647	3,746	-	-
HEALTHY WEIGHT/WEIGHT MANAGEMENT	178	73	105	178	-	-
OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	204	204	-	204	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	5,989	5,989	-	5,989	-	-
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY	299	180	119	299	-	-
GRANT	(19,392)	(14,544)	(4,848)	(19,392)	-	-
TOTALS	304	819	(515)	304	-	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the latest outturn projection for each individual scheme against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 months of 2016/17 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with the services leads. Equality and Diversity has now transferred from Governance and Partnership Services.

Public Health Grant

The Public Health Grant is a central government grant which is ring-fenced until March 2018.

The grant conditions require quarterly financial reporting of spend against a prescribed set of headings and spend of the grant must link explicitly to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Public Health Outcomes Framework and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

Payment by Results (PbR)/ Activity-based Commissioning

A number of Public Health schemes' payments are linked to activity. The aim of Payment by Results (PbR) is to provide a transparent, rules-based system for payment. It rewards outputs, outcomes and supports patient choice and diversity. Payment will be linked to activity. This does, however, raise a number of challenges when determining accurate budgetary spend/forecast spend.

Summary of the Public Health Directorate financial position

As at the end of October 2016, the Public Health Directorate is forecasting an overall spend of the full grant, £19,392,000, for the financial year to March 2017.

Budget Holder – Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health

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Blackpool Council – Budgets Outside the Cash Limit

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2015/16 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2016/17					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER)/ OVER £000	
BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT						
NET EXPENDITURE						
TREASURY MANAGEMENT	13,107	6,944	4,960	11,904	(1,203)	-
PARKING SERVICES	(3,518)	(2,404)	(864)	(3,268)	250	-
CORPORATE SUBSCRIPTIONS	192	93	99	192	-	-
HOUSING BENEFITS	1,884	1,143	741	1,884	-	-
COUNCIL TAX & NNDR COST OF COLLECTION	306	173	133	306	-	-
SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES	(972)	(720)	(390)	(1,110)	(138)	-
CONCESSIONARY FARES	3,834	1,456	2,877	4,333	499	-
LAND CHARGES	(48)	(62)	14	(48)	-	-
EMPLOYERS PREVIOUS YEARS' PENSION LIABILITY	3,190	1,867	1,323	3,190	-	-
NEW HOMES BONUS	(1,643)	(1,370)	(273)	(1,643)	-	-
TOTALS	16,332	7,120	8,620	15,740	(592)	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the latest outturn projection for each individual service categorised as falling 'outside the cash limit' and thereby exempt from the cash limited budget regime. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 months of 2016/17 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and savings in the remainder of the financial year, which have been agreed by each designated budget manager.

Treasury Management

- This revenue account is forecast to achieve a favourable variance of £1,203k for the year. This reflects the ongoing temporary windfall from the short-term interest rates currently being paid to finance recent capital expenditure.

Parking Services

- This service is forecasting a pressure of £250k. This figure reflects the ongoing challenging income target of £6,262K. As at Week 31 (w/e 30th October) parking income is at £3,967k with patronage at 978,884. Car park patronage is down by 11,838, however income is up by £25,064 on 2015/16. On-Street Pay and Display is down on patronage by 8,617 with income down by £12,051.

Subsidiary Companies

- This service is now forecasting a favourable variance of £138k. This change is due to the reducing balance payback of prudentially borrowed schemes.

Concessionary Fares

- This service is forecasting a pressure of £499k, which mainly relates to the ongoing pressure arising from increased bus patronage and the impact of fare increases.

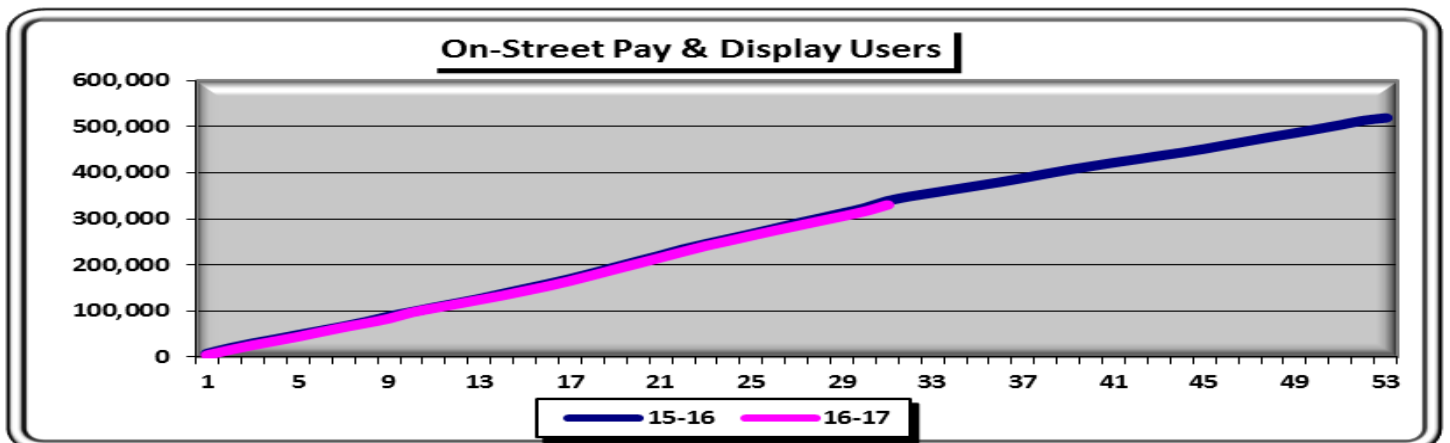
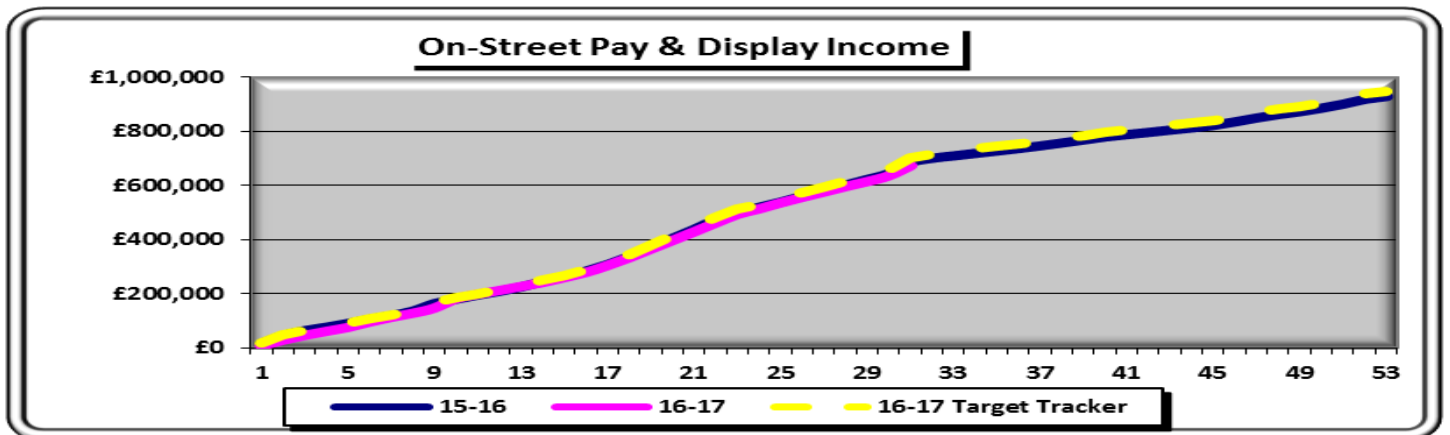
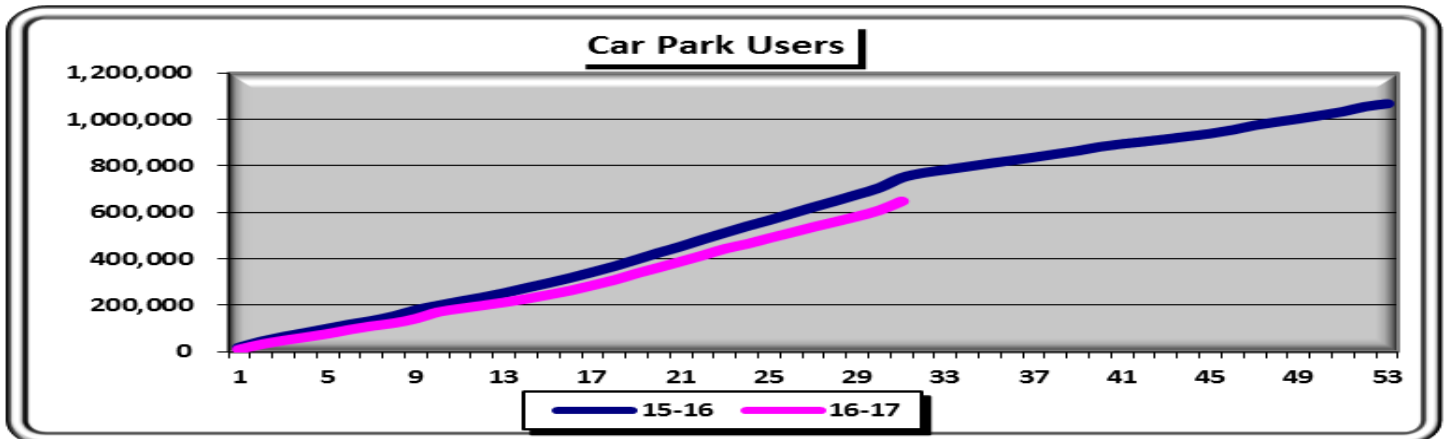
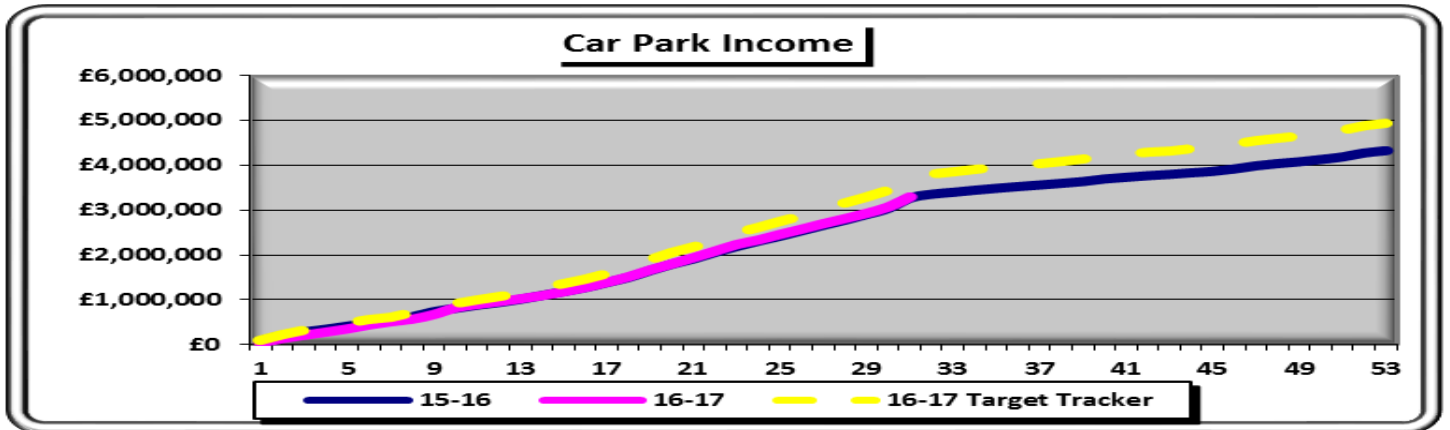
Land Charges

- This service is forecasting to break-even during 2016/17.

Summary of the revenue forecasts

After 7 months of the financial year, the Budgets Outside the Cash Limit services are forecasting a £592k underspend.

Car Parking Trends



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**2016/17 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 7**

Capital Schemes	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/16	Budget Brought Forward 2015/16	Adjusted Capital Programme 2016/17	Total Available Budget 2016/17	Spend to Date April - Oct	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Resources									
Property and Asset Management									
Central Business District Phase 1	40,832	37,730	3,102	-	3,102	(87)	215	-	
Office Accommodation Strategy	1,408	1,408	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CBD Phase 2 - Hotel	14,000	74	13,926	-	13,926	-	-	-	
- Wilkinson's	7,800	-	-	7,800	7,800	6,277	1,523	-	
Syndicate	1,600	1,577	(277)	300	23	91	(68)	-	
ICT Refresh	1,312	381	131	800	931	8	923	-	
Clifton Street Redevelopment	700	-	-	700	700	482	218	-	
Municipal Building Works	695	-	-	695	695	11	684	-	
Other Resources Schemes	1,191	102	625	464	1,089	575	514	-	
Total Resources	69,538	41,272	17,507	10,759	28,266	7,357	4,009	-	
Director Responsible for Adult Services									
Support to Vulnerable Adults - Grants	2,930	1,484	109	1,337	1,446	311	1,135	-	
Other Adult Services Schemes	2,863	1,891	972	-	972	28	944	-	
Total Adult Services	5,793	3,375	1,081	1,337	2,418	339	2,079	-	

**2016/17 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 7**

Capital Schemes	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/16	Budget Brought Forward 2015/16	Adjusted Capital Programme 2016/17	Total Available Budget 2016/17	Spend to Date April - Oct	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Community and Environmental Services									
Anchorsholme Seawall	27,515	20,821	1,542	5,152	6,694	2,525	3,169	-	
Coastal Protection Studies	1,541	1,221	230	90	320	86	234	-	
Marlon Mere Pumping Station & Spillway	505	462	43	-	43	-	43	-	
Marlon Mere HLF	360	227	133	-	133	39	94	-	
Transport									
Blackpool/Fleetwood Tramway	99,990	90,311	9,679	-	9,679	4,307	2,000	-	
Sintropher	1,903	2,780	(1,090)	213	(877)	-	-	-	
Bridges	11,365	2,864	(750)	4,240	3,490	1,043	2,447	-	
Other Transport Schemes	500	250	250	-	250	250	-	-	
Total Community and Environmental Services	143,679	118,936	10,037	9,695	19,732	8,250	7,987	-	
Director Responsible for Governance and Partnership Services									
Carleton Crem Building Works	1,991	1,934	57	-	57	50	7	-	
Total Governance and Partnership Services	1,991	1,934	57	-	57	50	7	-	

**2016/17 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 7**

Capital Schemes	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/16	Budget Brought Forward 2015/16	Adjusted Capital Programme 2016/17	Total Available Budget 2016/17	Spend to Date April - Oct	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Place									
Housing									
Cluster of Empty Homes	1,392	1,392	-	-	-	3	-	-	
Foxhall Village	12,500	9,836	2,664	-	2,664	370	2,294	-	
Work towards Decent Homes Standard	4,484	-	-	4,484	4,484	1,620	2,864	-	
Queens Park Redevelopment Ph1	-	-	-	-	-	(45)	45	-	
Queens Park Redevelopment Ph2	6,586	-	-	6,586	6,586	1,378	5,208	-	
Other	96	-	-	96	96	37	59	-	
Others									
College Relocation/Illumination Depot	12,805	13,924	(1,219)	100	(1,119)	-	-	-	
Leisure Assets	61,449	60,961	488	-	488	446	42	-	
LightPool	700	600	100	-	100	95	5	-	
Bonny Street Acquisition	3,200	1	3,199	-	3,199	3,369	(170)	-	
Transport									
Local Transport Plan 2014/15	1,984	1,896	86	-	86	86	-	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2014/15	1,050	1,050	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Local Transport Plan 2015/16	1,730	1,307	423	-	423	137	286	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2015/16	826	826	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Local Transport Plan 2016/17	939	-	-	939	939	243	483	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2016/17	583	-	-	583	583	-	583	-	
Local Transport Plan Quality Corridor	850	-	-	220	220	72	148	-	
Quality Corridor	6,600	-	-	588	588	-	588	-	
Total Place	117,774	91,793	5,741	13,596	19,337	7,811	12,435	-	

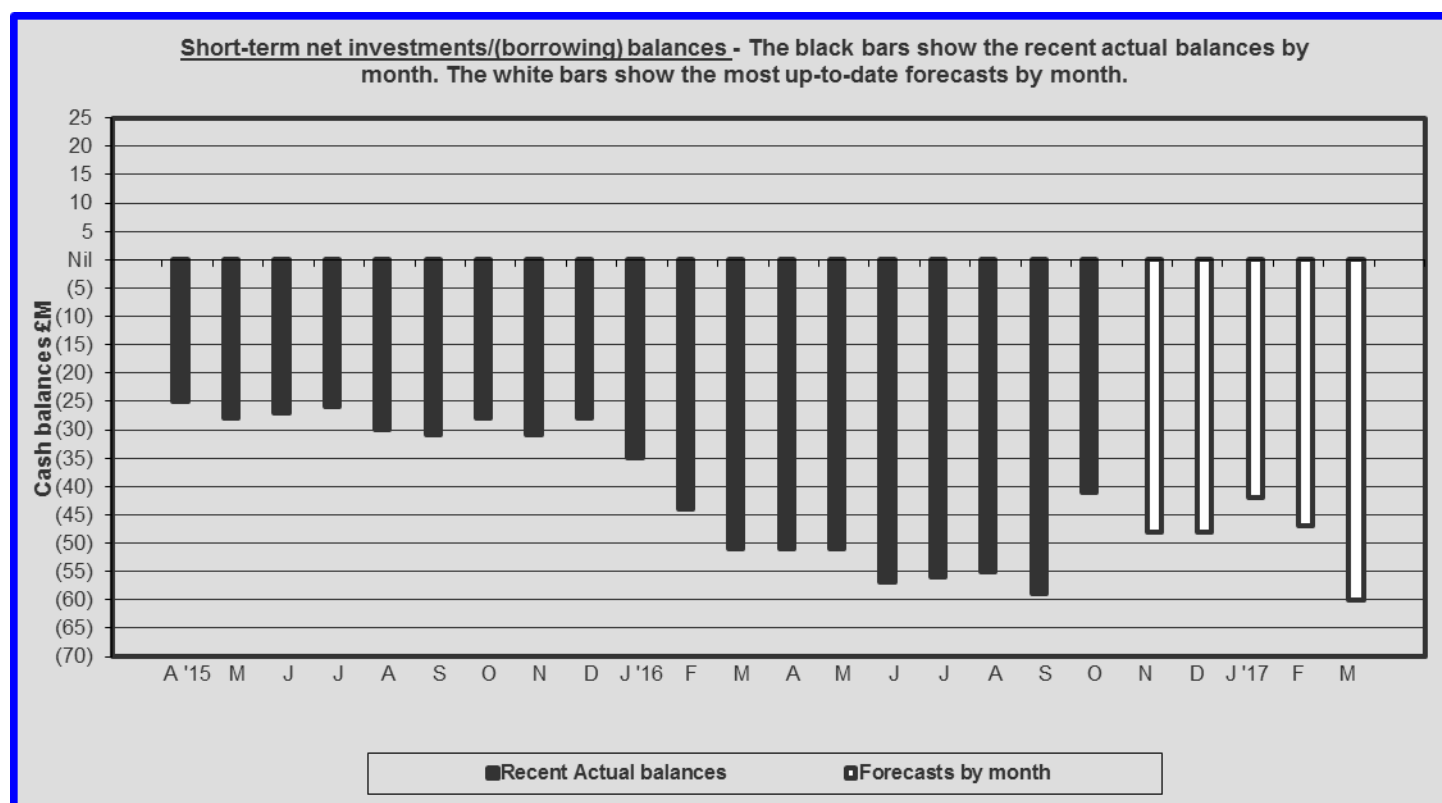
**2016/17 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 7**

Capital Schemes	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/16	Budget Brought Forward 2015/16	Adjusted Capital Programme 2016/17	Total Available Budget 2016/17	Spend to Date April - Oct	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Childrens Services									
Devolved Capital to Schools	616	167	358	91	449	46	250	-	
Christ The King	5,160	4,830	-	320	320	5	-	-	
Christ the King PRU Refurbishment	250	251	(1)	-	(1)	-	-	-	
Westbury Feasibility Plan	555	323	196	36	232	217	-	-	
Woodlands Development Scheme	1,500	-	-	1,500	1,500	1	1,499	-	
Basic Need	2,864	32	1,139	1,693	2,832	141	122	-	
Condition	428	-	-	428	428	162	137	-	
Other Children's Schemes	575	499	76	-	76	20	66	-	
Total Childrens Services	11,948	6,102	1,768	4,068	5,836	592	2,074	-	
CAPITAL TOTAL	350,723	263,412	36,191	39,455	75,646	24,399	28,591	-	

Blackpool Council

Cash summary - budget, actual and forecast:

CASH FLOW - SUMMARY - 16/17							
FULL YEAR CASH FLOW ORIGINAL BUDGET (*)	APR-OCT CASH FLOW ORIGINAL BUDGET (*)	APR-OCT CASH FLOW ACTUAL	NOV - MAR CASH FLOW FORECAST	(*) THE CASH FLOW BUDGET IS CONSISTENT WITH THE REVENUE BUDGET AND THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME IN TOTAL. THE BUDGETED CASH FLOW PHASING IS BASED ON DETAILED EXPECTATIONS AND PAST EXPERIENCE	APR - OCT MORE / (LESS) CASH ACTUAL vs ORIGINAL BUDGET	NOV - MAR MORE / (LESS) CASH FORECAST vs ORIGINAL BUDGET	FULL YEAR MORE / (LESS) AS NOW FORECAST vs ORIGINAL BUDGET
£M	£M	£M	£M		£M	£M	£M
80	47	45	33	RECEIPTS			
106	67	57	38	Housing Benefit & Subsidy	(2)	-	(2)
14	8	7	6	Council tax and NNDR	(10)	(1)	(11)
29	16	21	12	VAT	(1)	-	(1)
89	56	67	33	RSG & BRR	5	(1)	4
93	54	68	40	Other Grants	11	-	11
-	-	166	-	Other Income	14	1	15
-	-	142	43	Money Market Transactions Received	166	-	166
				Receipt of Loans	142	43	185
411	248	573	205	RECEIPTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES	325	42	367
9	5	5	4	PAYMENTS			
225	127	159	103	Police & Fire	-	-	-
-	-	1	-	General Creditors	(32)	(5)	(37)
115	67	61	48	RSG & BRR	(1)	-	(1)
70	41	39	30	Salaries & wages	6	-	6
52	52	309	89	Housing Benefits	2	(1)	1
				Money Market Transactions Paid Out	(257)	(89)	(346)
471	292	574	274	PAYMENTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES	(282)	(95)	(377)
(60)	(44)	(1)	(69)	NET CASH FLOW IN/(OUT)	43	(53)	(10)
A	B	C	D		= C less B	= D less (A-B)	

Cash - short-term net investments/(borrowing) balances:

Commentary on Cash Movements during the year:

The summary on the previous page provides a comparison of the actual cash receipts and payments compared to the forecasted cash receipts and payments.

During the first 7 months of the year, the Council's net cashflow has resulted in fluctuations in short-term net investment/borrowing balances. However, overall temporary borrowing has decreased since 31st March 2016 due to the change in the timing of the receipt of grant income in the first seven months. The Council is currently using temporary borrowing to finance prudentially funded capital expenditure. While temporary investment rates and temporary borrowing rates are low the treasury team is delaying taking any new long-term borrowing to fund planned capital expenditure. The interest charged by Lancashire County Council on the Local Government Reorganisation Debt is lower than anticipated. As a result, the delay in taking new long-term borrowing and the lower interest charge from Lancashire County Council mean that a favourable credit variance is once again forecast for 2016/17.

The chart of actual and forecast month-end balances shows temporary investment and borrowing levels throughout the year. The forecast shows the level of borrowing that may be required to cover planned capital expenditure up to 31st March 2017.

Blackpool Council

Balance Sheet / Working capital:

BALANCE SHEET 2016/2017				
LAST Y/END		CURRENT	CHANGE	NEXT Y/END
31 Mar 16		31 Oct 16	Movement since	31 Mar 17
Actual		Actual	31 Mar 16	Forecast
£000s		£000s	£000s	£000s
788,036	Property, Plant and Equipment	812,435	24,399	819,927
65	Intangible Assets	65	-	35
22,614	Long-term Assets	25,724	3,110	30,200
	Current Assets			
45,579	Debtors	39,650	(5,929)	45,000
538	Inventories	603	65	250
12,594	Cash and cash equivalents	1,453	(11,141)	10,000
869,426	Total Assets	879,930	10,504	905,412
	Current Liabilities			
(72,126)	Borrowing Repayable within 12 months	(53,000)	19,126	(80,000)
(59,891)	Creditors	(56,740)	3,151	(60,000)
	Long-term Liabilities			
(80,144)	Borrowing Repayable in excess of 12 months	(79,602)	542	(90,000)
(7,885)	Capital Grants in Advance	(7,885)	-	(7,500)
(16,143)	Provisions	(19,777)	(3,634)	(15,000)
(294,549)	Other Long Term Liabilities	(294,549)	-	(280,000)
338,688	Total Assets less Liabilities	368,377	29,689	372,912
(68,297)	Usable Reserves	(63,434)	4,863	(55,708)
(270,391)	Unusable Reserves	(304,943)	(34,552)	(317,204)
(338,688)	Total Reserves	(368,377)	(29,689)	(372,912)

Commentary on the key issues:

In order to provide a complete picture of the Council's financial performance, the above table provides a snapshot of the General Fund balance sheet as at the end of month 7. The key areas of focus are any significant movements in debtors, cash and cash equivalents, bank overdraft and creditors as these impact upon the Council's performance in the critical areas of debt recovery, treasury management and Public Sector Payments Policy.

The balance sheet has been prepared under International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs). Temporary investments are included within cash and cash equivalents along with bank balance and cash in hand. Usable reserves include unallocated General Fund reserves and earmarked revenue reserves. Unusable reserves are those that the Council is not able to use to provide services. This category includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold.

From 1st April 2016 local authorities were told that they must account for the Highways Network Asset in line with International Accounting Standard 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment*. The Highways Network Asset includes carriageways, footways, cycle paths, street furniture, traffic management and land and had been brought onto the balance sheet in previous months under Property, Plant and Equipment for 2016/17. However, on 14th November 2016, CIPFA took the decision to delay the implementation of accounting for Highways Network Asset until 2017/18. Therefore these amounts have now been removed from the balance sheet.

Over the 7-month period there has been an increase in spend on Capital schemes included within Property, Plant and Equipment of £24.4m and a decrease in cash and cash equivalents of £11.1m, which in the main reflects the timing of the receipt of capital grants and the phasing of the capital programme.

Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Ruth Henshaw, Delivery Development Officer
Date of Meeting:	15 December 2016

COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 2 2016/2017

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider performance against the Council Plan 2015-2020 for the period 1 July – 30 September 2016.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 The Committee is asked to note the content of the report and highlight any areas for further scrutiny which will be reported back to the Committee at the next meeting.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure constructive and robust scrutiny of performance against the Council Plan 2015-2020.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered: N/A

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"

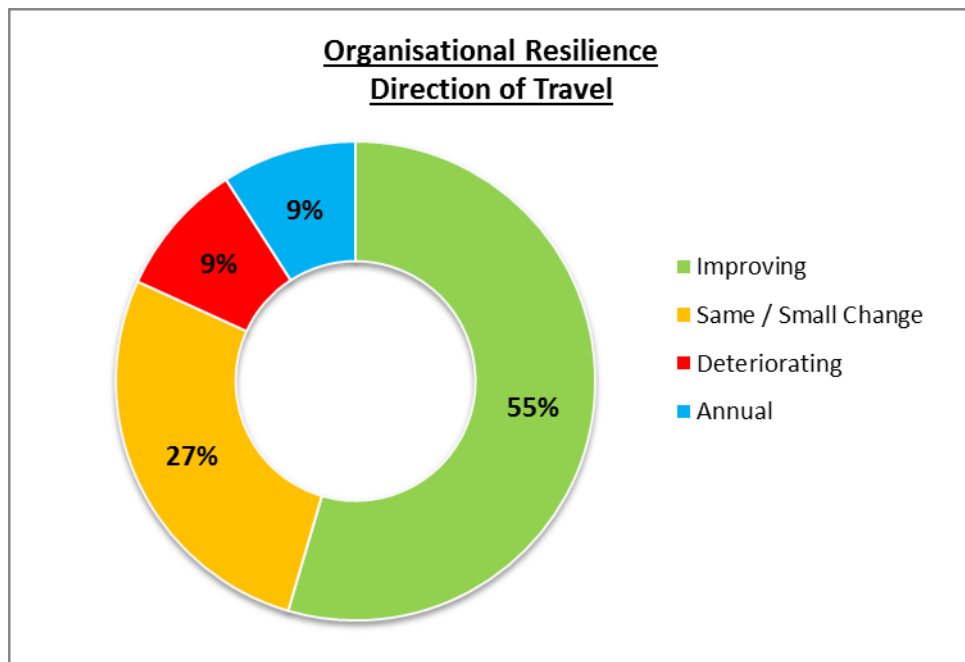
5.0 Background information

5.1 This report reviews performance against the priorities in the Council Plan 2015 – 2020. The report focuses on a set of core performance indicators which have been developed in consultation with the Corporate Leadership Team.

5.2 Performance against the organisational resilience and economy indicators will be reported to the Committee on a quarterly basis.

6.0 Overview of Performance

6.1 There are 11 indicators within the performance basket for Maximising the Economy and 11 indicators for Organisational Resilience. The graph below shows the direction of travel when performance in Quarter2 2016/2017 is compared with the same period in 2015/2016.



6.2 A number of the Council Plan indicators for this Committee are either annual or bi-annual and therefore cannot be reported in this quarter. Of those indicators where data is available, the majority are showing an improvement in performance. Further information on the indicators where performance is below target or where performance has deteriorated during the quarter can be found in **Appendix 7(b) – Q2 Exception Reports**.

6.3 Following discussions at the Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 15 September 2016, it was agreed that a new indicator should be used for the reporting of sickness absence. The indicator included in this report now measures sickness absence for permanent staff and temporary staff with over 12 months service. It also makes a pro-rata adjustment to take account of part-time employee sickness absence, therefore providing a more accurate picture of sickness absence across the Council. This indicator is in line with the previous Government required measure of sickness absence (BV12) which is still used by local authorities for publishing sickness absence data and for benchmarking purposes.

7.0 Trajectories

7.1 At the Target Setting Scrutiny Panel on 27 June 2016, the Panel recommended that the Committee receive performance trajectories for the following indicators:

- Average number of working days lost due to sickness absence per full time employee
- Time taken to process Housing Benefit new claims and change events

A trajectory for the time taken to process Housing Benefit new claims and change events has been produced for this report and can be found in **Appendix 7(c) – Housing Benefit Trajectory**.

8.0 Witnesses/representatives

8.1 The following persons have been invited to attend the meeting to report on this item:

Ruth Henshaw, Delivery Development Officer

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 7(a): Q2 KPI Spreadsheet

Appendix 7(b): Q2 Exception Reports

Appendix 7(c): Housing Benefit Trajectory

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 None

10.0 Human Resources considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Financial considerations:

12.1 None

13.0 Risk management considerations:

13.1 None

14.0 Ethical considerations:

14.1 None

15.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

15.1 N/A

16.0 Background papers:

16.1 None

KEY - Direction of Travel Icons:

↑✓	Performance is improving or on target
↓✓	Performance is improving or on target
↑	Small deterioration in performance / slightly off target
↓	
↔	No change
↑✘	Performance is deteriorating or off target
↓✘	

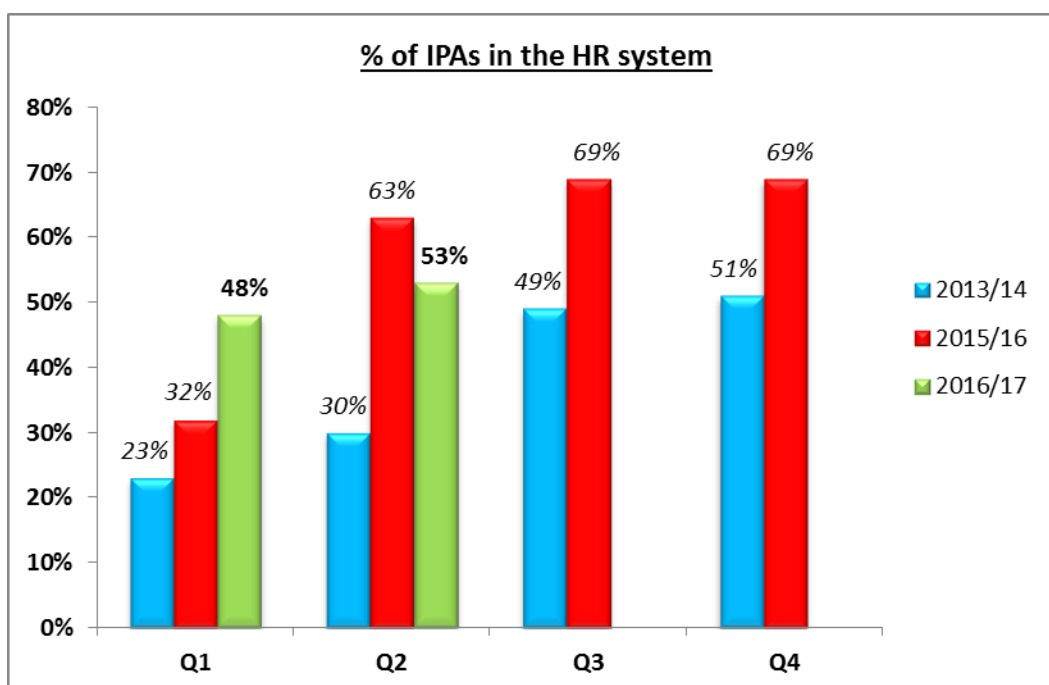
Lead Cabinet Member	Indicator	Outturn 2013/14	Outturn 2014/15	Outturn 2015/16	DoT (13/14 v 15/16)	2016/17				Outturn 2016/17	Target 2016/17	Direction of Travel		Notes	Dept
						Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			Against Previous	Against Target		
Leader of the Council (Organisational Resilience) Page 89	Cllr Blackburn	Average number of working days lost due to sickness absence per FTE (new indicator)	9.88 days per FTE	10.67 days per FTE	10.55 days per FTE	↑✘	10.78 days per FTE	10.17 days per FTE			10 days per FTE	↓✓	↑	New indicator measures sickness absence for permanent staff and temporary staff with over 12 months service. It also makes a pro-rata adjustment to take account of part-time employee sickness absence, therefore providing a more accurate picture of sickness absence across the Council.	CEX
	Cllr Blackburn	% of IPAs in the HR system	51%	Data unavailable	69%	↑✓	48%	53%			80%	↓✘	n/a	53% compared with 63% in Q2 2015/16. Please see App B - Exception Reports for more details.	CEX
	Cllr Blackburn	Average completion rate of mandatory training	64%	44%	81%	↑✓	64%	68%			80%	↑✓	n/a	68% compared with 67% in Q2 2015/16.	CEX
	Cllr Blackburn	No. of reportable RIDDOR accidents	17	13	8	↓✓	A	A	A		< 8	Annual			R
	Cllr Blackburn	% of Council Tax collected in year	93.1%	92.35%	90.7%	↓✘	26.8% (£16.5m)	52.4%			93%	↓	n/a	Small reduction compared with 53.1% in Q2 2015/16.	R
	Cllr Blackburn	% of Business Rates collected in year	94.89%	95.09%	95.09%	↔	25.47% (£14m)	50.15%			94.5%	↓	n/a	Small reduction compared with 52.11% in Q2 2015/16.	R
	Cllr Blackburn	Time taken to process Housing Benefit new claims and change events	19.06 days	26.8 days	19.89 days	↑	17.98 days	18.14 days			28 days	↓✓	↓✓	18.14 days compared with 32.41 days in Q2 2015/16. Performance trajectory included in App C.	R
	Cllr Blackburn	Time taken to process Council Tax Reduction claims and change events	33.86 days	41.79 days	32.47 days	↓✓	20.96 days	21.87 days			28 days	↓✓	↓✓	21.87 days compared with 39.83 days in Q2 2015/16.	R
	Cllr Blackburn	% of undisputed invoices for commercial goods and services that are paid within 30 days of such invoices being received	92.04%	92.74%	93.85%	↑✓	96.26%	95.33%			95%	↑✓	↑✓	95.33% compared with 93.1% in Q2 2015/16.	R
	Cllr Blackburn	% of transactions / contacts dealt with at the first point of contact in Customer First	78.4%	80.9%	84.99%	↑✓	84.47%	83.4%			85%	↑✓	↓	Performance is slightly below target, however compared with Q2 2015/16, performance has improved (83.4% compared with 82.01%).	R
	Cllr Blackburn	Forecast level of year-end General Fund working balances	£5.9m	£6.2m	£5.64m	↓	£2.4m	£2.5m			> or equal to £6m	↓	n/a	£2.5m compared with £2.6m in Q2 2015/16. Commentary included in Exec Report (05/12/16).	R
Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)	Cllr Campbell	Overall satisfaction with kerbside waste collection service	77.2%	79.5%	77.9%	↑✓	A	A	A		70%	Annual			CES
	Cllr Campbell	Overall value of the tourism economy	£1.3bn	£1.33bn	Data available Autumn 2016	n/a	A	A	A		tbc	Annual			PL
	Cllr Campbell	Visitor numbers (adults)	9.79m	10.21m	8.59m	↓✘	2.22m	n/a			10m	n/a	n/a	Tri-annual indicator - not reported in Q2	PL
	Cllr Campbell	Visitor satisfaction	84%	91%	86%	↑✓	87%	n/a			> 86%	n/a	n/a	Tri-annual indicator - not reported in Q2	PL
	Cllr Campbell	No. of ICT incidents of unplanned downtime impacting more than 50 users	30	6	4	↓✓	A	A	A		< 5	Annual			R
	Cllr Smith	No. of people supported into employment across all employment programmes delivered by Positive Steps	375	429	371	↓	76	71			276	↑✓	n/a	Cumulative - 71 against a forecast of 70.	PL
	Cllr Smith	Survival rate of new start businesses supported by Blackpool Council	n/a	63%	96.6%	↑✓	B/A	87.1%	B/A		90%	↑✓	n/a	87.1% compared with 71% in Q2 2015/16.	PL
	Cllr Wright	% of third party expenditure which is directed towards local suppliers and companies	38%	39%	42%	↑✓	51%	40%			45%	↑✓	↓✘	40% compared with 35% in Q2 2015/16. Please see App B - Exception Reports for more details.	R
	Cllr Wright	Proportion of private-rented sector properties rented to people in receipt of Housing Benefit	89.33%	85.32%	84.22%	↓✓	A	A	A		Decrease on last year	Annual			PL
	Cllr Jackson	Bathing water quality - no. of areas rated Sufficient or better	1 out of 4	2 out of 4	4 out of 4	↑✓	A	A	A		4 out of 4	Annual			CES
	Cllr Jackson	Satisfaction with the condition of highways	31.5%	41.3%	42.7%	↑✓	A	A	A		> or equal to 42%	Annual			CES
Cllr Jackson	Satisfaction with highway maintenance	48.6%	51.6%	54.5%	↑✓	A	A	A		> or equal to 54%	Annual			CES	

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LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Indicator Description	Better to be?
% of IPAs in the HR system	High

2014/15	2015/16	2016/17				
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target
Not available	69%	48%	53%			80%



* Data unavailable for 2014/15 due to problems with the previous IPA system

Commentary:

The percentage of Individual Performance Appraisals (IPAs) has improved since Quarter 1, however performance has deteriorated when compared with the same period in 2015/16 (63%).

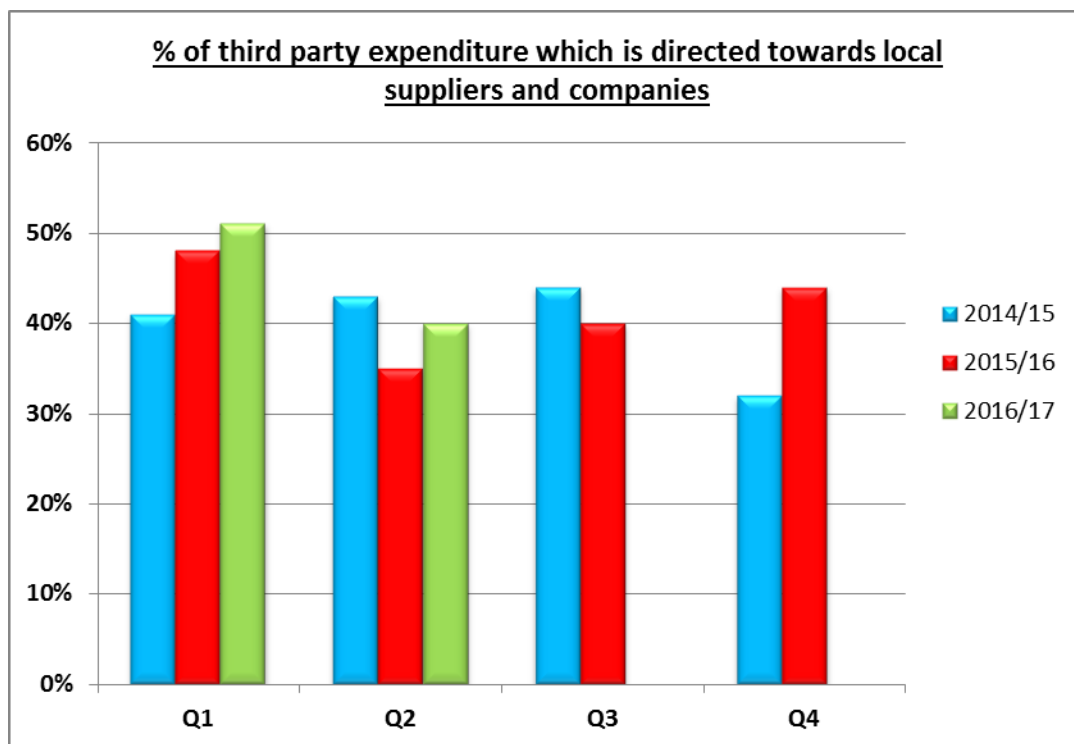
As with managing sickness absence, there has been an issue with compliance with corporate policies and procedures by line managers in this area. To address this, a Leadership Charter has been created which is linked to the IPA process. The Charter contains a pledge around delivering on promises and compliance and this was reinforced at a Senior Leadership Team session in May. There are plans to create a compliance calendar for managers to remind them of their responsibilities in terms of complying with corporate policies and procedures and a further report will be taken to CLT in November to discuss the current completion rates for IPAs.

Performance for this indicator is expected to improve further in Q3 following the completion of interim IPAs during the period October – December 2016.

**DEPUTY LEADER
(TOURISM, ECONOMIC GROWTH & JOBS)**

Indicator Description	Better to be?
% of third party expenditure which is directed towards local suppliers and companies	High

2014/15	2015/16	2016/17				
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target
39%	42%	51%	40%			45%



Commentary:

Figures for this indicator can fluctuate throughout the year due to the timing of payments on large contracts such as waste and street lighting. However, performance has improved when compared to the same period in 2015/16.

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Indicator Description	Better to be?
Time taken to process Housing Benefit new claims and change events	Low

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17				Target
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
19.06 days	26.8 days	19.89 days	17.98 days	18.14 days			28 days

Commentary:

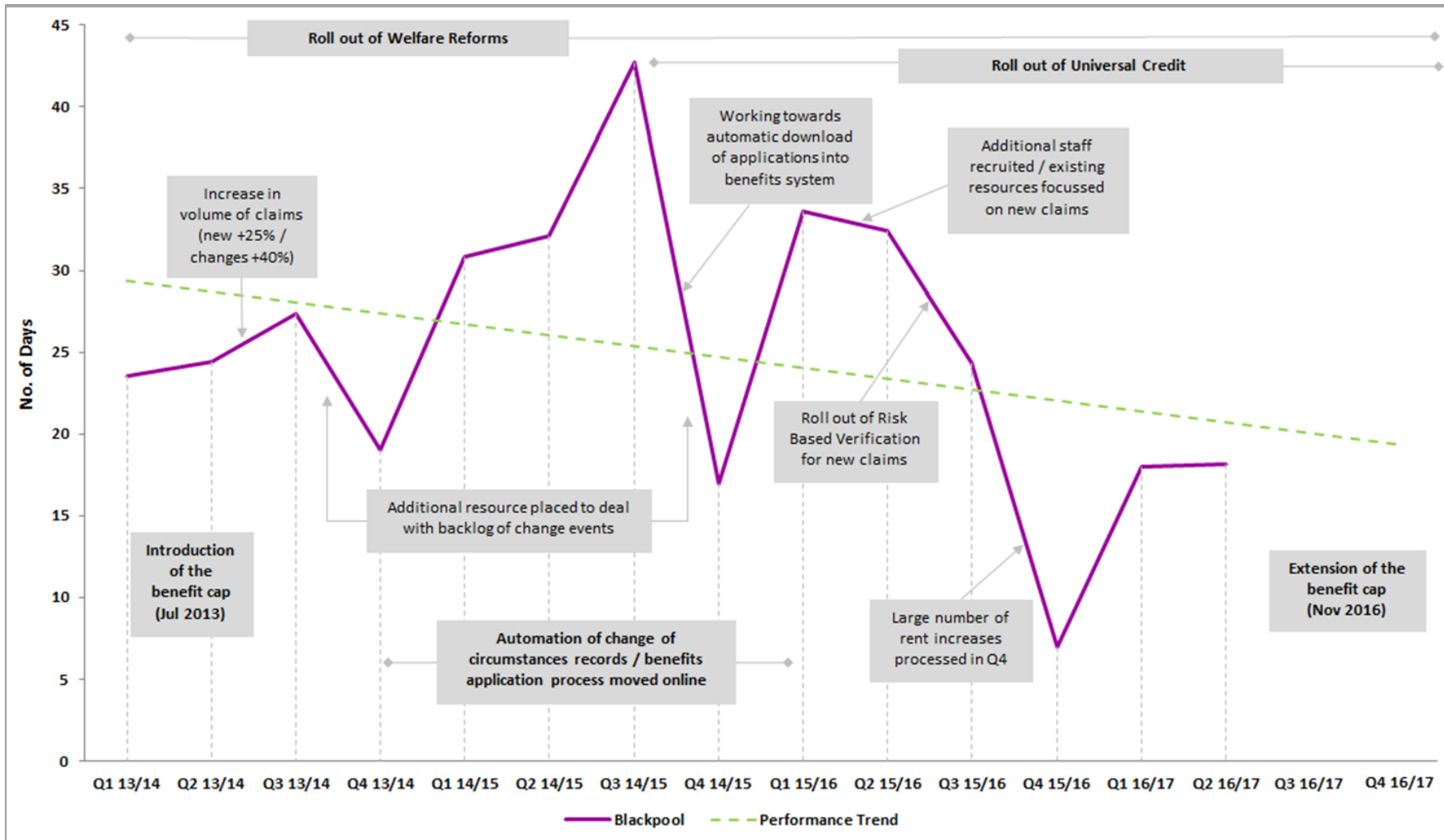
The average time taken to process a Housing Benefit new claim and change in circumstance is currently 18 days, which represents a considerable improvement on the position reported during 2014/15. The volumes of new claims and changes in circumstances received over the last three years are shown below to provide an indication of the scale of core processing work handled by the department.

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17*
No. of new claims	8,476	8,526	7,066	3,111
No. of changes in circumstances	194,234	185,861	148,587	77,741
Average caseload	26,592	25,717	24,696	24,162

* Oct 2016

The improvement in processing times for these core areas of work has been achieved despite a number of Welfare Benefit changes, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) new initiatives aimed at reducing fraud and error and the introduction of automated data transfer with DWP and HMRC. This additional work has included:

- Implementation of the Spare Room Subsidy, reducing Housing Benefit for working age claimants in the Social Sector;
- Reduction in Housing Benefit for under 35's to the Shared Room Rate;
- Implementation of the Benefit Cap (and, from November 2016, the extension of the Benefit Cap);
- Use of Real Time Information (RTI), providing information on discrepancies between our data and that held by HMRC;
- Fraud and Error Reduction Incentive Scheme (FERIS), incentivising local authorities to detect fraud and error in their caseloads by carrying out targeted reviews;
- Introduction of automated records and information exchange from the DWP; and
- Annual review, development, consultation and sign off of a Council Tax Reduction scheme in time for main billing.



The graph above shows the time taken to process Housing Benefit new claims and change events for the last 3 years, as well as the key factors impacting on performance. An improvement action plan was initially drawn up to identify key areas of work on which to focus to help tackle the backlog of work that had arisen. As processing times have improved, the action plan has been reviewed and updated. Improvements made are also reflected in the volume of new claims and changes in circumstances work outstanding, which has reduced from 37,343 in August 2014 to 10,317 in August 2016. However, the improvements in processing times have been at the expense of other areas. Unpopular choices have had to be made in order to free up resources to focus on core processing work. For example, the availability of the Benefits telephone line has been cut from 9am-5pm to 3pm-5pm and the service no longer responds to “chasing” enquiries from landlords and tenants; were our position on these to change, then there would be a negative impact on performance times.

What Has Worked Well:

- Production of weekly reports detailing outstanding work, as well as performance monitoring of staff, enables the service to monitor, manage and focus work priorities more effectively.
- The introduction of Risk Based Verification for claims has enabled the service to re-allocate resources and to focus verification on medium and high risk cases in order to reduce the chance of fraud and error entering the system.
- Online claim forms now enable new claims to be downloaded directly into the back office processing system, which reduces the need to re-key information and then only requires a decision maker to finalise the claim; it is hoped that this process will be extended to changes in circumstances work in the near future.
- The allocation of grants to the service for various DWP initiatives enabled a recruitment process to be undertaken. This improved resource levels - although there is no guarantee that these grants will continue to be made in the future.

Challenges:

- Whilst performance has improved, we are now in a position where we are starting to clear a large number of old changes in circumstances for both Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction. As these records are cleared, there will be an adverse effect on performance in the short term but once they have been dealt with we should be in a better position to keep on top of new work.
- Some of the automated records from the DWP contain spurious information and we do work with DWP to try and improve the quality of the data they supply. Each record received has to be looked at carefully as any inaccurate or unnecessary records cannot easily be identified. This takes time and can be a drain on resource.
- The DWP has indicated that additional initiatives are being considered. Should these be rolled out nationally then they could increase the volume of work that the Local Authority receives.
- The introduction of a number of DWP initiatives to reduce the amount of Housing Benefit claimed have increased both the volume and value of overpayments raised which we have to look to recover. Additional resources have had to be allocated to overpayment recovery work to try and maintain recovery rates.

The Future:

- The rollout of Universal Credit (UC) has been relatively low with only 2,900 claimants so far in Blackpool as at August 2016. At some point, UC will transfer to "Full Service" within Blackpool when any type of household will be able to apply for UC. At this point, the number of UC claimants will start to increase and the Housing Benefit caseload will start to reduce. To date, we have not been given any indication when Full Service will commence in Blackpool. The latest date we have for the transfer of all Working Age claimants onto UC is currently 2022.
- FERIS 3 is expected to be announced soon in time for implementation for 2017/18 and we will need to consider what resource we have to re-allocate to focus on this work.
- Supported Accommodation is currently undergoing a review by Central Government and when changes are announced this will be a significant piece of work for the Benefit Service, other areas of the Council, and partner organisations to ensure claimants are supported through any changes.
- As things currently stand, we expect that there will still be a significant amount of work undertaken by the department in the future once UC rollout is completed. This work includes all Housing Benefit pensioner claims, supported accommodation Housing Benefit claims and all Council Tax Reduction claims.

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Report to:	TOURISM, RESOURCES AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Alan Cavill, Director of Place
Date of Meeting	15 December 2016

LANCASHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To provide an overview of recent activity and progress toward the formation of a Lancashire Combined Authority.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider progress and to identify any further areas for scrutiny where appropriate.

3.0. Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure members are fully informed about Combined Authority working in Lancashire.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered: information report only.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are:

“The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”

“Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”.

5.0 Background Information:

5.1 Lancashire's Local Authorities (LAs) have been working closely since 2015, with monthly meetings between all Leaders and Chief Executives. Leaders oversaw a governance review that took place across 2015. This review examined options for enhancing governance arrangements in the county, focusing on the best

model to enable Lancashire to meet its future strategic challenges and opportunities. In late 2015 the governance review concluded that Combined Authority working was the most appropriate option.

- 5.2 In early 2016, fourteen of Lancashire's fifteen local authorities committed to progress the formation of a Combined Authority for the county. A public consultation exercise demonstrated widespread public support for the proposals. With this in view, Leaders opted to set up a Combined Authority in shadow form in June 2016, as well as beginning formal discussion with Government on establishment of a legally constituted permanent arrangement.
- 5.3 A formal request to form a Combined Authority for Lancashire was submitted to Government in June, and the shadow Lancashire Combined Authority held its first meeting on 11 July 2016. At this meeting Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of Blackpool Council, was appointed as Chair and Councillor Alistair Bradley, Leader of Chorley Council, appointed as Vice-Chair.
- 5.4 The shadow Lancashire Combined Authority has five core policy themes:
- 5.4.1 **Skilled Lancashire.** The focus of this theme is to ensure that Lancashire offers the right skills provision and interventions required to support people into work and the continued development of the Lancashire economy.
- 5.4.2 **Better Homes for Lancashire.** The focus of this theme is to identify the county's primary housing needs, and support the development of both new homes and improved homes in the county's varied housing market areas.
- 5.4.3 **Connected Lancashire.** The focus of this theme is to identify and build the case for continued significant investment in Lancashire's physical and virtual infrastructure, e.g. road, rail, broadband.
- 5.4.4 **Prosperous Lancashire.** The focus of this theme is to work with the Local Enterprise Partnership, local authorities and other partners to develop the case for sustained investment in economic development projects across the county in order to drive job creation and economic opportunity.
- 5.4.5 **Public Services Working for Lancashire.** The focus of this theme centres on working with other public services (e.g. health) to respond to the serious challenges facing the sustainability of core services in Lancashire.
- 5.5 Each of these themes has both elected Member and Chief Executive leads. Work on some themes is more advanced than on others, recognising that the starting position for some themes is much advanced (e.g. prosperous, connected) than some (e.g. homes, public services). All five themes are covered in the shadow Combined Authority work plan, and each Combined Authority Board meeting receives an update on each theme from the relevant political lead.

6.0 **A Lancashire Plan and Frist Devolution Settlement**

- 6.1 The shadow Lancashire Combined Authority is now developing a Lancashire Plan which will set out a vision for Lancashire based on the five core themes. Each of these themes will be underpinned by an action plan with clear timescales for delivery and political leads will oversee direction and delivery.
- 6.2 Members will be aware that over recent months Leaders have been developing a proposal for a first devolution deal to the Lancashire Combined Authority, which could enable greater control, power and influence over a range of programmes and funding delivered in Lancashire. Leaders and officers have examined devolution deals and proposals struck elsewhere across the country, as well as focusing on the specific things that Lancashire would want. Proposals for Lancashire currently include a Growth and Productivity Fund worth £900m, devolved funding for strategic transport and development; influence and/or control over employment and skills programmes and delivery; housing changes and powers, to include new localised control of housing benefit; growth funding and aligning investment activity.
- 6.3 Government has been repeatedly explicit that areas that wish to secure significant devolved funding and powers via a devolution deal will need to adopt strong and robust governance arrangements as part of their Combined Authority arrangements. To this end, the shadow Combined Authority is currently considering options for strong governance in Lancashire to ensure we achieve the best outcome from a devolution deal.

7.0 **Recent Progress**

- 7.1 The shadow Lancashire Combined Authority Chair and Vice-Chair, along with the Chair of Lancashire's Local Enterprise Partnership, met with Andrew Percy MP, Minister for the Northern Powerhouse, in Whitehall in November 2016. The Minister was very impressed with the progress that Lancashire has made and also the measured approach taken to get governance arrangements agreed before requesting a devolution deal. The Minister was very clear in his support for Lancashire to have a Combined Authority and has since instructed the Department for Communities and Local Government Governance and Democracy team to progress the Parliamentary Order quickly.
- 7.2 Officers continue to work on a devolution proposal and feedback from Ministers and civil servants suggests that having a combined authority already in place, or at least in the parliamentary system, provides the confidence to Government on which to negotiate a deal.

7.3 The shadow Combined Authority is already having a positive impact for Lancashire. The Combined Authority worked closely with the LEP in the production of Lancashire's Growth Deal 3 submission to Government, and the signs are that Lancashire will achieve an above average allocation of resource, in part owing the new maturity in political arrangements. The Area Based Review now has political oversight from the Combined Authority, health partners are recognising the influential role the Combined Authority will have in delivering the Sustainability and Transformation Plan and we have recently been accepted onto the Government's One Public Estate Programme and awarded £340,000 which provides capacity funding for two years and will finance feasibility studies on a number of property-based projects across the county.

8.0 **Next Steps**

8.1 Following recent agreement with the Minister, a Parliamentary Order is now being drafted by the Department for Communities and Local Government's Governance and Delivery team. This Parliamentary Order will permit the formal creation of a Combined Authority for Lancashire. It is expected that this Parliamentary Order will be laid before Parliament early 2017. The expectation is that this timetable will allow the formal formation of the Lancashire Combined Authority in or around April 2017. In the meantime the shadow Lancashire Combined Authority will continue to meet monthly, overseeing delivery of the current work plan, directing continued development of devolution proposals and production of the Lancashire Plan.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

List of Appendices:

None.

9.0 **Legal considerations:**

9.1 Not applicable.

10.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

10.1 A small number of senior Council officers are making a significant input into Combined Authority working, recognising the potential and value of a Lancashire Combined Authority for both Blackpool and the county more widely. As well as direct involvement at Chief Executive and shadow Combined Authority Board level, Blackpool Council officers are part of the core Combined Authority policy and devolution teams.

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Financial considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Risk management considerations:

13.1 Failure to form a Combined Authority for Lancashire is likely to result in the significant loss of resources for Lancashire over the medium to longer term, in particular funding for transport, economic development and housing. This represents a serious risk to Blackpool, as the town has rightly been the recipient of significant injections of public resource over the last decade, and this must continue if the Council is to succeed in continuing the regeneration of the town and its economy.

14.0 Ethical considerations:

14.1 None.

15.0 Internal/External Consultation undertaken:

15.1 In early 2016 a public consultation exercise was undertaken across Lancashire. A firm majority of respondents confirmed their support for a Combined Authority for Lancashire, to enable a greater degree of joint working between Local Authorities in the county and to create the necessary platform for devolution.

16.0 Background papers:

16.1 None.

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Report to:	TOURISM, RESOURCES AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Alan Cavill, Director of Place
Date of Meeting	15 December 2016

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To consider an overview of key economic development initiatives aiming to drive the growth and viability of the local economy.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To consider the scope of current Council practice and to identify any further areas for scrutiny where appropriate.

3.0. Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure members are fully informed about the range of economic development projects and programmes, and any headline achievements to date.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered: information report only.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool".

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 The Council continues to play a major role in the development of the local economy. As well as being a major employer in its own right, it sets the planning framework by which all development takes place, has lobbied for necessary public regeneration resources, and actively engaged investors to enable developments to take place.

- 5.2 The Council has been a key driving force for the regeneration and renewal of the town since it gained unitary status, and most visibly in the last decade through the reconstruction of the seafront and tramway network; the acquisition and renewal of key leisure assets in the Tower and Winter Gardens; the development of the Talbot Gateway Business District, as well as key housing and educational developments. It is sometimes easy to forget how much has been achieved in the last decade through public sector intervention.
- 5.3 Budgetary pressures and emerging national policy over the future funding of local government means it is even more imperative that the Council plays a leading role in enabling economic growth, in turn protecting the Council's revenue base to continue to fund essential public services.
- 5.4 Economic regeneration and economic development are not single services, but tailored responses. The Council's role in supporting and developing the local economy is incredibly varied and as such no one functional area or department can lay claim to its solution. Several Council services (planning, housing, economic development, asset management, legal and finance) are taking a more integrated approach to key projects where the Council has a role as developer, co-investor or planning authority responding to private sector development. A new Growth and Prosperity team is being formed to lead this new approach, to sharpen business cases for a pipeline of mainly property-based development activity that will be essential to the future prosperity of the town.
- 5.5 Many flagship property based investments and proposals are already familiar and in the public domain, requiring considerable expertise and investment to come to fruition. A number are listed below, with encouraging signs of private sector led investment and growth in the visitor economy, engineering and food manufacturing sectors.
- 5.6 **Visitor Economy and Town Centre Development**
- Proposed Hotel development at Sands on the promenade
 - New Hampton by Hilton Hotel development in South Beach area
 - Site sale and proposed relocation of Wilkos (to enable the tram extension and other development opportunities in support of expansion of the Central Business District)
 - £2.5m Harry Ramsden restaurant created 100 new jobs and safeguarded 30 existing jobs housed in the former Tower Lounge
 - Ambitious £25m Conference centre, and museum project proposals for the Winter Gardens complex
 - Site assembly and market testing of the Central Leisure Quarter site.

5.7 **Transport and Public Infrastructure:**

- Electrification of the train line between Blackpool and Manchester
- Tram extension between North Pier and North Station
- New build Police Headquarters at the Council's former Progress House site
- Town Centre Quality Corridors – a £7m investment in public realm and commercial property improvements commencing in early 2017.

5.8 **Enterprise Zone/Business Growth**

- Designation of Enterprise Zone status for the Blackpool Airport area, attracting significant interest, soaking up existing vacant commercial units, and generating new design and build property proposals. For example, precision industrial springs manufacturer - Force Technology.
- A masterplan is required to steer large-scale development opportunities.
- New build £9.8m Energy HQ (Blackpool and Fylde College) campus is underway set to be open in September 2017. This unique training facility is geared to the needs of a wide range of environmental and renewables sectors.
- Moor Park, Bispham - A new job-creating factory extension at Laila's Fine Foods; aided by the Council over a number of years. Around 300 now employed at this factory.

5.9 These developments will generate significant new job opportunities. The Council is determined to ensure that local residents are equipped to access this employment, many year round opportunities; offering direct support as well as leveraging more effective *Social Value* from its future procurement and partnering arrangements.

5.10 In November 2015, the Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee received a report on the scale and track record of employment and enterprise services provided directly by the Council. That report referred to a desire to integrate employment, health and other relevant support available for jobseekers with complex needs (money advice, careers advice, benefits advice, basic skills support, work placements, as well as housing and rehab services).

5.11 At that time it was not certain where to house existing and new initiatives, having outgrown facilities at Market Street. The Council's Economic Development and Public Health Teams joined forces in the last year and together with Asset Management have funded the transformation of a vacant

former Council offices on Clifton Street into a purpose designed complex called 'HealthWorks'. It features modern client facing facilities, confidential therapy rooms, an IT job search suite, and various meeting and training rooms. This will act as a central hub for work-focused services for adults in the future. The Council is working closely with a range of partners including Jobcentre Plus.

- 5.12 The facility will become fully operational in early December 2016 housing a range of employment and health initiatives including Positive Steps into Work, Healthy Lifestyles Coaches, a £2m mental health and employment trailblazer, and a Weight Management service. The facility will be formally launched in early 2017. Partners include Jobcentre Plus, Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group and Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.
- 5.13 The Council has also been instrumental in supporting key visitor economy employers, such as Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Sandcastle Waterpark and Blackpool Zoo, to upskill their workforce, helping secure £1m of external skills funding, to set up the Blackpool Tourism Academy (BTA). The BTA enabled Blackpool to become the first tourist resort in the UK to be awarded WorldHost Destination status, having trained over 2,500 frontline staff in this international customer service standard.
- 5.14 The Council's Business Support team continues to support new and existing local businesses to access available business support. In the seven months to the end of October 2016, business advisors within the Get Started team have assisted a further 45 new start businesses to commence trading; providing direct support to a further 82 young businesses in the first three years of trading to aid their sustainability, through training and 121 advice. A series of networking events have been undertaken including Global Entrepreneurship Week.
- 5.15 The Council continues to facilitate the now decade old Blackpool Business Leadership Group, a vital communication mechanism between the public and private sectors. This is complemented by the Council's business communication portal, BlackpoolUnlimited.com, which connects with 7,500 subscribers to provide the latest news and views that will interest the business community.
- 5.16 Demand has risen for Council managed workspace at the Blackpool Enterprise Centre and FYCreatives, with occupancy rates exceeding 90%. The combination of modern space and on-site business support is welcomed by business tenants.

5.17 **Conclusion**

5.18 In order for much of the above to take place the Council has made strong business cases for public investment in Blackpool, securing large amounts of government and European funding, working with several government departments, former regional agencies, and latterly the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership to ensure Blackpool has its share of available regeneration resource. This work is continuous including the forthcoming refresh of Lancashire's Strategic Economic Plan, the reference strategy for targeting government resource such as Growth Deal funds in the future. This means the Council has to be alert to opportunities and have a refreshed set of projects and interventions exemplified by the Growth Deal bid for a Conference Centre.

5.19 The Council has developing strong relationships within the Fylde Coast, Lancashire and regional and national levels. Within our natural economic footprint, the Fylde Coast, there is a review as to the future working relationships currently routed via an Economic Development Company. This may result in a move towards a Joint Prosperity Board.

5.20 A separate report will set out the potential importance of the emerging Lancashire Combined Authority, which will work in partnership with the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership to derive resources and drive economic growth in the area.

5.21 The Place Directorate achieves this with fairly modest resources, when compared to the Council's budget as a whole. Maximising economic growth remains a paramount priority for the authority.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

List of Appendices:

None.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 Not applicable.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 A wide range of property and investment projects are referenced in the report which will generate new employment opportunities for Blackpool residents, both in the construction and end-use phases. Tailored job search advice and skills support is available from the Council's adult and youth employment services (via HealthWorks and Connexions), as well as learning providers such as Blackpool and the Fylde College.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officers:	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources Mark Towers, Director of Governance and Partnerships
Date of Meeting	15 December 2016

REPORTING THE USE OF EXTERNAL CONSULTANTS

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider a revised approach for the reporting of consultancy spend whereby Members receive an annual report at the end of each financial year on actual spend as opposed to projected spend.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To approve a revised approach for the reporting of consultancy spend based on the following recommendations:

- An annual report detailing all consultancy spend in the previous financial year will be presented to Corporate Leadership Team and Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee rather than the current quarterly report.
- The annual report will include financial data from the CEDAR system which will be prepared and reviewed by the Corporate Procurement and Projects Team. This will include the categorising of consultancy expenditure into business and technical to help ensure that complete and accurate data is presented.
- Heads of Services will be asked to provide descriptions of expenditure which the Corporate Procurement and Projects Team are not aware of.
- The Code of Practice for Engaging the Services of Consultants will be amended to reflect the revised process.
- Corporate Leadership Team to remind budget holders of the need to ensure that correct accounting codes are used to facilitate accurate reporting from the ledger.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 The implementation of the above recommendations will reduce the resource required to prepare the current reports whilst ensuring that Elected Members receive complete and accurate information.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No
- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes
- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:
There is an option to remain with the current processes however the risks identified as part of this review will not be addressed.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is organisational resilience.

5.0 Background Information:

- 5.1 In June 2010 a review of the Council's engagement of consultants was undertaken by a small working group appointed by the Audit Committee. The outcome of the review was to improve the monitoring arrangements for high value consultancy commissions. The report made five recommendations including:

1. The development of shared services should be considered as a means of reducing reliance upon costly external consultants.
2. That consistent financial coding of consultants costs be introduced across the Council by the Section 151 Officer to ensure ease of access to data.
3. That in the case of long term projects, progress reports be submitted to the Audit Committee at six monthly intervals by the relevant Chief Officer.
4. That prior to approval or consultant appointments over £25,000, the Chief Officer must advise the relevant Cabinet Member of the nature and business case relating to the appointment in line with corporate priorities.
5. That reports be submitted to the Audit Committee on all consultant appointments over £25,000 for monitoring in line with corporate priorities, business case and post project evaluation and an annual report be provided to include overall expenditure for the year drawing out best practice.

- 5.2 The Corporate Procurement and Projects Team currently co-ordinate the quarterly submission of the consultants monitoring reports. The responsibility to provide information is placed on Heads of Services and Chief Officers - no cross checking of the information takes place with expenditure records held by the Council.

5.3 A review was recently undertaken of the processes in place for notifying the Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee of the engagement of consultants over the value of £25,000, and whether these were being adhered to by directorates.

Main findings included:

- Confusion as to what type of consultancy spend should and should not be reported;
- Relevant expenditure had not been reported as required; and
- Some re-engagement of consultants was not being reported.

5.4 The review concluded that the process for notifying Members of the appointment of consultants does not appear to be working in its present format and that it may be more beneficial if Members were to receive an annual report at the end of each financial year on actual spend as opposed to projected spend. This would ensure that Members are made aware of all consultancy spend which may not have otherwise being reported to them.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

List of Appendices:

None.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 All Council expenditure over £250 is already published as part of Transparency Code requirements and therefore the provision of the data in this format should not breach any data protection requirements.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 Changing the process from quarterly to annual reporting will create efficiencies in officer time spent producing the information.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 Using the CEDAR financial system will ensure that consultancy expenditure is reported fairly and that all consultants engaged are identified.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 The proposed changes will help ensure that Corporate Leadership Team and Scrutiny Committee are advised of all expenditure recorded. This will be reliant on budget holders ensuring that they correctly code expenditure in the CEDAR system.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 The implementation of the recommendations will reduce the risk of incomplete or inconsistent reporting.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 N/A.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 This report has been produced jointly by Internal Audit and the Corporate Procurement and Projects Team.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 Audit Committee Report Engagement of Consultants – June 2010.

Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Chris Kelly, Acting Scrutiny Manager
Date of Meeting	27 October 2016

SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 The Committee to consider the Workplan and to monitor the implementation of Committee recommendations, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review topics.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To approve the Committee Workplan, taking into account any suggestions for amendment or addition.
- 2.2 To monitor the implementation of the Committee's recommendations/action.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure the Workplan is up to date and is an accurate representation of the Committee's work.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Scrutiny Workplan

- 5.1.1 The Scrutiny Committee Workplan is attached at Appendix 11(a). The Workplan is a flexible document that sets out the work that the Committee will undertake over the course of the year.
- 5.1.2 Committee Members are invited, either now or in the future, to suggest topics that might be suitable for scrutiny in order that they be added to the Workplan.

5.2 Monitoring Implementation of Recommendations

- 5.2.1 The table attached at Appendix 11(b) details the recommendations that have been made by the Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee and an update for Members as to the implementation of those recommendations. At the last meeting, Members requested that an update on progress of the recommendations from the Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage be brought to the Committee. These updates have been included within the table at Appendix 11(b).
- 5.2.2 The Committee is recommended to monitor its recommendations over the course of the year.

5.3 Scrutiny Review Checklist

- 5.3.1 The Scrutiny Review Checklist is attached at Appendix 11(c). The checklist forms part of the mandatory scrutiny procedure for establishing review panels and must therefore be completed and submitted for consideration by the Committee, prior to a topic being approved for scrutiny.
- 5.3.2 The Committee is recommended to place an emphasis on the priorities and performance of the Council when considering requests for scrutiny reviews.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 11(a) – Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Workplan
Appendix 11(b) – Monitoring Committee Recommendations table
Appendix 11(c) - Scrutiny Review Checklist

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2016/2017	
16 June	Impact of Channel Shift and performance of Customer Services Tourism Update report Car Parking 2015/2016 Performance CSP - Annual Performance of the Blackpool Community Safety Partnership.
21 July	Council Plan – Performance Monitoring - Economy Transience Update Performance of Economic Development Company
15 September	Financial Reporting Provisional Revenue Outturn 2015/2016 Treasury Management Outturn Report 2015/2016 Medium Term Financial Strategy Council Plan – Performance Monitoring – Economy Annual Customer Feedback Report Scrutiny Annual Report
27 October	Financial Reporting CSP performance report Waste Collection Annual Customer Feedback Report
15 December	Financial Reporting Council Plan – Performance Monitoring - Economy Combined Authority Economic Development Engagement of Consultants
2 February 2017	Financial Reporting Tourism Update
16 March	Financial Reporting Council Plan – Performance Monitoring – Economy Bathing Water Quality Annual Report Flood Risk Management and Drainage Annual Report
4 May	3GS Evaluation Car Parking 2016/2017 Performance
15 June	CSP - Annual Performance of the Blackpool Community Safety Partnership. Provisional Revenue Outturn 2016/2017 Treasury Management Outturn Report 2016/2017
30 July	TBC

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MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

DATE OF REC	RECOMMENDATION	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	UPDATE	RAG RATING
21.01.16	A full health and safety risk assessment be undertaken considering Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage operations on the Promenade, which would specifically include the considerations of operations on a Friday evening.		Sean Powell, Senior Technician (Traffic Management)	Still awaiting an update on the recommendation. Meetings are to be held to discuss proposals/options with all stake holders (Landaus, Licencing, Police etc.).	Amber
21.01.16	The Head of Licensing Services to investigate that the insurance cover required of Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage Operators is suitable and fit for purpose and if it is found to not be fit for purpose the matter to be brought to the attention of the Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee for its consideration.		Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Services	Carriage House and Zenith are the main insurance providers to the trade and the licensing service is satisfied that the insurance cover they offer is suitable and fit for purpose. The remaining policies are being checked to ensure that they offer the same level of cover and a framework for insurance is being put together so a consistent level of cover is obtained by the trade.	Green
21.01.16	The Head of Licensing Services to investigate establishing a more stringent and rigorous driving test for horse drawn carriage operators. The new test should include: a) A theory test element b) Part of the test to be conducted off the public		Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Services	The policy has now been approved by the Licensing Committee and is scheduled to be considered by the Executive at its 15 December 2016 meeting. A new test is being developed and will be available in the New Year.	Green

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 120</p>	<p>highway to examine drivers' control of the carriage and ability to perform manoeuvres, as well as testing on animal husbandry and attaching the dung catching device.</p> <p>c) An increased amount of test time on the promenade</p> <p>d) Following completion of the above elements of the new test, the Horse Drawn Carriage Operator should be given a 'provisional licence'. A full licence would then only be given following the completion of an appropriate number of supervised hours with an experienced Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage Operator. It was suggested that 100 hours may be considered.</p>				
<p>21.01.16</p>	<p>A comprehensive review of the Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage Policy and Fare structure be undertaken by the Head of Licensing Service.</p> <p>a) This review to be undertaken with the Highways Service and representatives of Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage Operators, in order to consider where it would be appropriate to prohibit U-turns on the promenade.</p>		<p>Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Services and Sean Powell, Senior Technician (Traffic Management).</p>	<p>The fare structure has been revised and comes into force on 19 December 2016</p> <p>The revised policy is to be considered by the Executive at its meeting in December.</p>	<p>Green</p>

21.01.16	The Head of Licensing Services to investigate the cost and feasibility of ring-fencing part of the licence fee for clean-up operations during busy periods, with a view to allocating appropriate resources to reduce horse waste on the promenade in busy periods.		Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Services	Additional bins have been purchased for use by the operators. As detailed previously no additional income from licence fees is available to pay for additional street cleaning activities	Green
21.01.16	The Head of Licensing Services to investigate the possibility of having different, separate stands for horse drawn carriages and motorised licensed hackney carriage vehicles and dedicated change over areas.		Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Services	It is not legally possible to distinguish between horse drawn and motorised hackney carriages. Discussions with the trade have commenced about change over areas.	Green
21.06.16	A dedicated Forum for Licensing Services and Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage Operators be established to meet three times per year. It was suggested those times be at the start, once during and after the main tourist season and that Licensing Services would administer that Forum.		Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Services	The forum has been established and meetings are taking place on a regular basis.	Green
21.07.16	To request that the evaluation of the 3GS Environmental Enforcement Solutions pilot be presented to the Committee once it had been completed.	As soon as appropriate data is available	John Blackledge	To be incorporated into the Committee's workplan.	Amber

21.07.16	To request that in the event of the Combined Authority developing a Lancashire Local Transport Plan, the Committee had the opportunity to consider the impact of the Plan in Blackpool, before its final approval.	No current target date	Alan Cavill	To be incorporated into the Committee's workplan in due course.	Amber
21.07.16	To request that the evaluation report with a section on how the transience programme was being marketed be considered at a future meeting of the Committee once it had been completed.	Once the evaluation report is completed.	Andy Foot	To be incorporated into the Committee's workplan in due course.	Amber
27.10.16	To establish a Budget Scrutiny Panel.	As soon as appropriate	Chris Kelly	The Panel is established and will meet on 20 December 2016.	Green

SCRUTINY SELECTION CHECKLIST

Title of proposed Scrutiny:

The list is intended to assist the relevant scrutiny committee in deciding whether or not to approve a topic that has been suggested for scrutiny.

Whilst no minimum or maximum number of 'yes' answers are formally required, the relevant scrutiny committee is recommended to place higher priority on topics related to the performance and priorities of the Council.

Please expand on how the proposal will meet each criteria you have answered 'yes' to.

	Yes/No
The review will add value to the Council and/or its partners overall performance:	
The review is in relation to one or more of the Council's priorities:	
The Council or its partners are not performing well in this area:	
It is an area where a number of complaints (or bad press) have been received:	
The issue is strategic and significant:	
There is evidence of public interest in the topic:	
The issue has potential impact for one or more sections of the community:	
Service or policy changes are planned and scrutiny could have a positive input:	
Adequate resources (both members and officers) are available to carry out the scrutiny:	

Please give any further details on the proposed review:

Completed by:

Date: