

Blackpool Council

15 January 2019

To: Councillors Callow, Mrs Callow JP, D Coleman, Critchley, Galley, Hunter, Matthews, Mitchell, Ryan and Singleton

The above members are requested to attend the:

TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 23 January 2019 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 either a

- (a) personal interest
- (b) prejudicial interest
- (c) disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI)

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 14 NOVEMBER 2018 (Pages 1 - 8)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 14 November 2018 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 9 - 28)

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 29 - 36)

To consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, January 2019 – March 2019, relating to the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council.

6 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 8 2018/2019 (Pages 37 - 88)

To consider the level of spending against the Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for the first eight months to 30 November 2018.

7 BLACKPOOL TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION UPDATE (Pages 89 - 96)

To provide an overview of progress on the various projects being undertaken to secure the regeneration of Blackpool Town Centre and to inform the Committee of planned future work.

8 SINGLE USE PLASTICS POLICY UPDATE (Pages 97 - 114)

To provide an update on the development of the 'Single Use Plastics Policy' and associated Charter for the Council and wholly owned companies to sign up to and implement.

9 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN (Pages 115 - 126)

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 and to note the input of the scrutiny task and finish group into the development of the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the provisional date and time of the next meeting as Wednesday, 19 June 2019, 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 John Greenbank, Senior Democratic Governance Adviser (Scrutiny), Tel: 01253 477229, e-mail john.greenbank@blackpool.gov.uk

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 2

MINUTES OF TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING -
WEDNESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2018

Present:

Councillor Hunter (in the Chair)

Councillors

Callow	D Coleman	Galley	Mitchell
Mrs Callow JP	Critchley	Humphreys	Ryan

In Attendance:

Ms Clare Nolan Barnes, Head of Coastal and Environmental Partnership Investments
Mr John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services
Mr Alan Cavill, Director of Communication and Regeneration
Mr John Hawkin, Chief Operating Officer, Community and Environmental Services
Ms Judith Mills, Public Health Consultant, Public Health
Mr Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Mr Philip Welsh, Head of Tourism and Communications
Ms Ruth Henshaw, Delivery Development Officer
Mr John Greenbank, Senior Democratic Governance Adviser (Scrutiny)

Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Highways
Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development
Councillor Mrs Christine Wright, Cabinet Member for Housing

Ms Katy Duffy, Drainage Asset Manager, Unities Utilities
Mr Andrew Kendall, Area Business Manager, United Utilities
Mr Steven Kenyan, Network Manager, United Utilities
Mr Paul Bond, Flood Resilience Adviser, Environment Agency

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2018

The Committee considered the minutes of the 12 September 2018 meeting.

Councillor Mitchell requested an amendment to Minute 5, Cabinet Member and Executive Decisions, regarding Cabinet Member decision PH41/2018, the rescheduling of an existing loan from the Blackpool Business Loans Fund. He asked that it be included that this had been an urgent decision where the call-in period had been waived. Mr Alan Cavill, Director of Communication and Regeneration, also confirmed that the name of the organisation receiving the loan would be made available.

Subject to the above amendment the Committee agreed to approve the minutes as a true and correct record.

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3 FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT

The Committee considered a report regarding investigations by the Council and United Utilities (UU) into the 22 November 2018 flooding in Blackpool.

The Chairman welcomed Ms Katy Duffy, Drainage Asset Manager, Unities Utilities, Mr Andrew Kendall, Area Business Manager, United Utilities, Mr Steven Kenyan, Network Manager, United Utilities and Mr Paul Bond, Flood Resilience Adviser, Environment Agency to the meeting.

Ms Duffy presented the findings of the investigation conducted by UU into the flooding incident. The methods of drainage of surface and sewer water were explained to Members, outlining that watercourses in the north of Blackpool drained into the Fylde Tunnel System. The flooding of 22 November 2017 was attributed to the unexpected nature of the weather event and described as a once in 64 year storm. Ms Duff also explained that the ground and sewer system had been saturated by previous rainfall which created hydraulic issues with the drainage of surface water on the night. Combined with the flat nature of some of the watercourses this meant that once the ground had become saturated and the sewer had reached capacity the flood waters could not drain.

It was also stated that the area remained at high risk of future flooding if a similar weather event occurred.

Members asked if the pumps at the Anchorsholme pumping station could have been manually activated earlier to mitigate the worse of the flooding. Mr Kendall explained that the pumps worked automatically and would only work once the sewer and connected wet wells were full. This had happened at around 2am on 23 November 2017, although it was recognised that one of the five pumps at the station had tripped and not functioned.

The Committee queried if the existing water in the sewer system could have been discharged into the sea before the night of 22 November 2017 or when it had become clear that a significant amount of rain was falling. Mr Kenyon responded that the UU required permission from the Environment Agency (EA) to discharge sewer water into the sea, and confirmed that permission had not been sought during the night of the 22 November 2017. Members went on to ask why this had been the case and questioned if a financial motive had led to the decision not to discharge. In response Mr Kendall advised that discharging sewer water into the sea required a permit regulated by the EA. UU had a permit, the conditions of which required them to seek authorisation from EA for any discharge. Failure to seek permission would result in UU suffering disciplinary action which could include a financial penalty. It was further added that although UU had not requested permission to discharge water from Anchorsholme Pumping Station, permission had been sought and received from EA to discharge water held at Skippool Pumping Station. It was explained that this course of action was undertaken to relieve pressure on Anchorsholme Pumping Station as waters from Skippool Pumping Station were drained into it.

It was further reported that directors from UU would be meeting with representatives

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from EA to discuss the procedures for discharging water into the sea, with a view to increasing the amounts permitted.

Discussion also took place around why the level of rainfall had not been foreseen by either UU or EA on the 22 November 2017. Mr Kenyon advised that the Met Office had predicted that the bulk of the rainfall approaching the North West on that date would fall in Cumbria and had lifted a weather warning for Blackpool earlier in the day. Mr Bond added that the EA had not received a warning of a weather event of the scale experienced.

The Committee also asked if the failure of one of the five pumps at the Anchorsholme Pumping Station had contributed to the scale of the flooding. And cited correspondence from Paul Maynard MP which indicated that the failure of the pump had meant that the flooding was worse than if it had been operational. Mr Kenyon responded that this was potentially correct but more work would be needed to understand the capacity of the pumps under similar conditions to be confident that this had been the case.

Members also questioned why it was that incorrect information had been given out by UU workers on the night of the flooding, such as incorrectly stating that pump stations were the responsibility of Blackpool Council. Mr Kenyon responded that there were pumps in and around Blackpool operated by the EA and Lancashire County Council and not UU, but that he accepted that some of the information given out on the night of the flooding was unhelpful.

The Chairman invited Mr Colin Wolfendale to address the Committee regarding his experience of the flooding and the events that followed. Mr Wolfendale explained that he was attending on behalf of his daughter and her family who had been forced to leave their home as a result of the flooding. He highlighted a number of points regarding United Utilities actions following the 22 November 2017, including; delays in responding to queries, perceived attempts to lay responsibility for the flooding on other agencies and the time it had taken to investigate and implement improvements. He also raised the issue the financial cost to residents of the flooding including increased insurance premiums.

Following this the Chairman also invited Mr Paul Hewitt to address the Committee. Mr Hewitt explained that he was attending to represent local residents affected by the flooding. He highlighted what many local people regarded as poor communication from UU during the flooding and raised concerns that UU had misled people regarding the events that had occurred. He also questioned why UU engineers had attended the Anchorsholme Pumping Station on the night of the flood despite reassurances that the pumps were working.

Mr Bond gave short update to the Committee on the work EA had undertaken following the flooding, including a community drop in event on 18 July 2018 to discuss flooding issues with residents. He reported that feedback from the event had been generally positive. The Committee was also informed that EA had set up a Flood Hub website to provide information and useful links to residents and business owners affected by or at risk of flooding.

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Following consideration of the information presented to the Committee, it was recommended that the following information be included in the final Section 19 report into the flooding of 22 November 2017;

- Evidence of the impact of the failure of one of the five pumps at Anchorsholme Pumping Station;
- Examination of the mechanism used to predict weather; and
- A break-down of what work had been undertaken since 22 November 2018 2017 to give assurance that a similar event would not happen again.

It was also requested that guidance on flood insurance for residents be issued by United Utilities and the Environment Agency, including who they could formally complain to and how to do so.

The Committee further emphasised that agencies involved in responding to the flooding of 22 November 2017 had lost the trust of the local community and that they needed to work hard to regain it and ensure that there was not a recurrence.

4 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

The Committee considered the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions, within its remit, taken since the last meeting of the Committee on 12 September 2018.

Members welcomed Executive Decision EX40/2018 regarding the undertaking of a consultation on the proposal to designate Marton Moss a conservation area. It was queried how the Council intended to monitor the proposed area if established. Councillor Blackburn, Leader of the Council, responded that the Council would work with local residents and encourage reporting of any breaches that may occur. The Committee also asked what benefit there would be in the proposals to designate the North Promenade a conservation area. Councillor Blackburn explained that the North Promenade had a number of hotels and buildings that shared a unique architectural style unseen in other towns in the north of England and that a conservation area would help to protect this.

Cabinet Member Decision PH69/2018 was also discussed. Members queried the consultation that had taken place and expressed the importance of Blackpool remaining a dog-friendly place to visit. Councillor Blackburn respond that the consultation had set out a wide range of option for possible control orders, but it was not intended that all would be taken up. He also recognised the importance of continuing to attract visitors and stated that the Council would continue to work with dog owners to make the town more dog-friendly.

5 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the content of the Council's Forward Plan November 2018 to March 2019, relating to the portfolios of Cabinet Members whose responsibilities fell within its remit.

The Committee queried how much remained in the Business Loan Fund. In response Councillor Blackburn explained that approximately £10m remained but emphasised the

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amount in the Fund in the future would depend on the Council desire to continue to make funds available.

6 GREEN AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

The Committee received a presentation from John Hawkins, Chief Operating Officer, Community and Environmental Services and Judith Mills, Public Health Consultant, Public Health, on the draft Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy.

It was explained that the strategy would be considered by all of the Council's Scrutiny Committees during November 2018 during which nominations would be sought from each Committee for three Members to sit on a task and finish group to input into the strategy and its action plan.

The Strategy aimed to improve Blackpool's open spaces as well as delivering new green spaces across the town. It was explained that this would bring health benefits to the residents of the town as well as making it more attractive to business and tourism.

Although the Council did not control all of the green spaces in Blackpool it was envisioned that it should play a leading role with various partners including businesses and community groups in delivering on the ambitions within the strategy.

Members welcomed the aims of the Strategy but queried how the improvement would be funded. In response Mr Hawkin explained that although the Council would not be able to fund all the changes to open spaces itself it could support other groups already active in the town to raise funds and/or provide money. Mr John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services, explained that the strategy was a statement of the Council's ambition to improve the town and that it was important that this was agreed before looking to secure funding to achieve it.

The Committee also discussed the importance of educating young people and children on the importance of green spaces. Members, while recognising the good work undertaken in schools, such as forest schools, considered that work should also be undertaken with children as young as nursery age to embed the importance of a green environment.

The Chairman invited volunteers to sit on the proposed task and finish group, following which it was agreed that Councillors Coleman, Galley and Ryan participate in the group.

7 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 5 2018/2019

Mr Steve Thompson, Director of Resources, presented the Financial Monitoring Report to the Committee.

Members were informed that the Council would be overspent as at the end of month 5 by approximately £4m. This was attributed chiefly to the overspend in Children's Services, particularly relating to the large number of Looked After Children the Council was responsible for. Work was ongoing to manage the overspend with Children's Services but it was recognised that it was a complex issue and that Blackpool was currently performing better than the national average. The Committee was informed that an overall overspend

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of £3m was being targeted by the year end, which would be covered by reserves.

Mr Thompson also informed the Committee that revenue collection rates were positive with an increase in the amounts collected in Council Tax and no decrease in the amount collected from Business Rates despite some successful rating appeals and a couple of large businesses in the town going into administration.

In response to a query from Members it was explained that the Council could not easily predict new demand for children in care when calculating the budget and so based figures on the actual numbers currently looked after. Mr Thompson explained that if the budget was allocated based on an over-estimate funds could go unspent that could have been more effectively deployed on other Council services.

8 REPORTING THE USE OF EXTERNAL CONSULTANTS 2017/2018

Mr Steve Thompson, Director of Resources, presented the annual report on the use of external consultants during 2017/2018. It was stated that the largest number of external consultants had been used in connection with the Tramway Extension and the Museum projects and to comply with external grant funding eligibility criteria.

9 TOURISM PERFORMANCE UPDATE

Mr Philip Welsh, Head of Tourism and Communications, introduced the Tourism Performance Update which provided provide information on tourism performance and trends using various indicators including number of visits, the value of the visitor economy and number of jobs supported, footfall on the Promenade and town centre, car parking; tram usage and satisfaction ratings.

Members agreed that the update be noted.

10 ANNUAL CUSTOMER FEEDBACK REPORT 2017/2018

Members considered the Annual Customer Feedback Report 2017/2018.

A query was raised as to the nature of the six formal complaints mentioned in the report that had been upheld by the Local Government Ombudsman. Ms Ruth Henshaw, Delivery Development Officer, responded that she could not provide the information at the meeting but would investigate and make it available to the Committee following the meeting.

11 BUDGET SCRUTINY REVIEW PANEL

The Committee considered proposals to establish a Budget Scrutiny Review Panel to scrutinise the 2019/2020 Budget.

It was explained that the Panel would meet with senior Council officers and Cabinet Members in December 2018 to consider budget proposals and make recommendations to the February 2019 meeting of the Executive. Membership of the Panel would be appointed by the Leaders of the Labour and Conservative groups.

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WEDNESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2018**

The Committee agreed the proposal to establish a Budget Scrutiny Review Panel.

12 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

The Committee agreed to note the Scrutiny Workplan.

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted the date and time of the next meeting as 23 January 2019, commencing at 6.00pm.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.40 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
John Greenbank, Senior Democratic Governance Adviser (Scrutiny)
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Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Date of Meeting:	23 January 2019

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, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members 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 Priorities are:

- "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 Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
- Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council
- Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Highways
- Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development

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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APPENDIX 4(a)

DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p>BLACKPOOL COUNCIL SUSTAINABILITY, ENERGY AND WATER STRATEGY 2018-2024</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <p>To approve the Blackpool Council Sustainability, Energy and Water Strategy - Delivering a low carbon, energy efficient, economically resilient community 2018 to 2024, as outlined at Appendix 3a to the Executive report.</p>	<p>To consider and approve the Blackpool Council Sustainability, Energy and Water Strategy - Delivering a low-carbon, energy efficient, economically resilient community 2018 to 2024.</p>	<p>EX46/2018</p>	<p>05/11/18</p>	<p>Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Highways</p>
<p>BLACKPOOL AIRPORT STRATEGY</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <p>To note the York Aviation Report as set out in the executive summary (Appendix 6a, to the Executive report) including:</p> <p>i. That future sustainable operation should focus upon the provision of services to support the offshore energy sector and in supporting corporate and executive aviation, aviation training and general aviation activity, with a limited potential for future operation of regional public service obligation (PSO) passenger services.</p>	<p>Following the purchase of Blackpool Airport in September 2017, leading airport and aviation consultants York Aviation were commissioned by Blackpool Council in its role as shareholder in March 2018, to undertake a review of the airport, assess its market potential and to advise upon actions and the investment required to enable the airport to be able to deliver to its potential and support the delivery of Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone.</p> <p>This report sets out the findings from York Aviation’s comprehensive report and in turn makes a number of recommendations to take forward via the airport operational companies for the management and operation of Blackpool Airport.</p>	<p>EX49/2018</p>	<p>05/11/18</p>	<p>Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development</p>

<p>Page 14</p> <p>ii. That it is essential that the existing offshore support contracts are retained to enable the airport to continue at its present level of profitable operation and afford time for additional revenue earning activity to be secured.</p> <p>iii. That continued modest capital and revenue investment will be required, particularly in air navigation aids, air traffic control and replacement aircraft hangars, to maintain the present level of profitable operation.</p> <p>iv. That very significant investment in the realms of £10s of millions would be required in new operational facilities, particularly aprons, taxiways and aircraft hangarage facilities to allow the release the frontage sites for development as part of the Enterprise Zone proposals.</p> <p>v. That there are currently very limited market prospects for a return of extensive scheduled and inclusive tour passenger services from Blackpool Airport other than at a level which would result in the airport operating at a significant financial loss.</p> <p>vi. To note that any funding for initial activity to support the relocation of aviation facilities and strategic purchase of property required to implement the indicative York Aviation airport master-plan, will be met from the approved Enterprise Zone budget for the next three years in accordance with the approved Enterprise Zone Delivery Plan.</p>	<p>By its very nature the York Aviation report contains a number of matters of commercial sensitivity including in respect of third parties, the details of which are therefore not included within the extensive executive summary at Appendix 6a to this report.</p> <p>The report also comments on a range of potential expenditure that could be made over future years by way of investment in airport infrastructure, subject to detailed appraisal of the business case. However, in the initial years, essential capital expenditure relating to progression of the Enterprise Zone is included within the Phase One expenditure of £28.8m (plus the costs of Prudential Borrowing at the pooled rate) of the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone delivery plan approved by the Executive on 18 June 2018.</p> <p>Squires Gate Airport Operations Limited (SGAOL) is the Blackpool Council whollyowned company which is responsible for the operation of the Airport and who will be responsible for preparing and implementing the Business Plan for the Airport.</p>			
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2. That the revised masterplan drawing at Appendix 6c, to the Executive report replaces the original (masterplan drawing) as approved in February 2018.
3. To request Squires Gate Airport Operations Limited to develop a Business Plan for the short, medium and long term based on York Aviation's recommendations including the key findings above.
4. To authorise the Council's Director of Communications and Regeneration to agree terms for the retention of York Aviation to advise and support the Council and Squires Gate Airport Operations Limited in relation to the Operational Management Contract and timely migration of the Air Navigation Service Provider and Aerodrome licences to Squires Gate Airport Operations Limited.
5. That a further report be prepared setting out options for the future relationship between Squires Gate Airport Operations Limited and BAPL (Blackpool Airport Properties Limited), the role of BAPL in the delivery of the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone and to bring forward the business case to support activity to implement the recommendations for relocation of operational facilities and aircraft hangars to enable release of land for commercial Enterprise Zone development.

<p>6. To authorise the Director of Communications and Regeneration to continue to explore opportunities for securing external investment in the Airport and Enterprise Zone through joint venture partnerships and leasehold disposal of land for construction of private aviation hangars, maintenance facilities, fixed base operations for corporate aviation and maintenance base operations.</p> <p>7. That Squires Gate Airport Operations Limited be recommended to maintain its membership of RABA (Regional and Business Airports association) and that Blackpool Council becomes a member of the LGA supported SASIG lobby group at a cost of £1,800 for two years. That delegated authority be given to the Head of Legal to enter into any legal documents which require updating or amending or creating with regards to the recommendations contained within the report.</p>				
<p>TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF-YEARLY PROGRESS REPORT TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2018</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <p>To note the report concerning Treasury Management activities for the six months to September 2018.</p>	<p>The Treasury Management Half-Yearly Progress Report for the half-year ended 30th September 2018 and its annexes 1 to 7.</p>	<p>EX47/2018</p>	<p>05/11/2018</p>	<p>Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council</p>

<p>FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 5 2018/19</p> <p>The Executive agree the recommendations as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the report. 2. To continue to lobby Government (HM Treasury, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Department for Education in particular) along with local authority peers, the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Children’s Services for more funding to cope with the mounting demand and new burdens presenting in Children’s Services. 3. To require the respective directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage service financial and operational performances, specifically Children’s Services, Strategic Leisure Assets and Parking Services 	<p>The level of spending against the Council’s Revenue and Capital budgets for the first 5 months to 31st August 2018.</p>	<p>EX48/2018</p>	<p>05/11/2018</p>	<p>Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council</p>
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<p>RELEASE OF LAND FOR BUSINESS USE NORTH BLACKPOOL</p> <p>The Executive agree the recommendations as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To agree the long leasehold interest to be disposed land off Hawking Place Blackpool for the development of business units to the highest bid as outlined in Appendix 7a, to the Executive report. 2. To agree the net receipt will contribute to the Growth and Prosperity income target. 3. Subject to 2.1, to delegate authority to the Head of Legal to enter into any required legal agreements for the lease on behalf of the Council. 	<p>To agree to the release of land for new business use Blackpool North.</p>	<p>EX50/2018</p>	<p>05/11/2018</p>	<p>Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development</p>
<p>INVESTMENT IN LANCASHIRE ECONOMY</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <p>To enter into negotiations regarding the steps required to facilitate the investment as outlined in the confidential report to the Executive.</p>	<p>To enter into negotiations to facilitate an investment in the Lancashire Economy.</p>	<p>EX51/2018</p>	<p>05/11/2018</p>	<p>Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development</p>

APPENDIX 4(a)

<p>DEAN STREET 1 PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER</p> <p>The Deputy Leader of the Council agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <p>To proceed with the Public Space Protection Order as originally proposed.</p>	<p>Consideration of all representations received in response to the proposal to make a gating order restricting public access at all times to the highway that runs from the side of 3 and 5 Dean Street in a easterly direction to the side of 97 and 99 Bond Street, Blackpool by all persons except for adjoining owners and occupiers, the emergency services and other service providers</p>	<p>PH73/2018</p>	<p>06/11/18</p>	<p>Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council</p>
<p>RAIKES HALL CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>The Deputy Leader of the Council agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <p>Page 19 1. To formally adopt and publish the Raikes Hall Conservation Area Management Plan. 2. To delegate to the Head of Legal to arrange any necessary legal documentation for the formal adoption of the plan.</p>	<p>To request formal adoption of the Raikes Hall Conservation Area Management Plan and its publication</p>	<p>PH74/2018</p>	<p>06/11/18</p>	<p>Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council</p>
<p>COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2019/2020</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the impact of the Scheme to date as set out in paragraphs 5.6 and 5.7 of the Executive report. 2. To recommend Council to agree the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2019/20 as set out in Appendix 2d, to the Executive report. 	<p>To provide an update on the impact of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme since its introduction in 2013/14 and to seek approval for the proposals for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2019/20.</p>	<p>EX52/2018</p>	<p>10/12/2018</p>	<p>Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council</p>

3. To recommend to Council that the reduction applied to working age claimants remains the same as the 2018/19 Scheme agreed by Council on 24 January 2018 and that the main elements and method of calculating awards will be the same with the exception of:
- Ensuring that applicants who are protected under the current scheme continue to be protected to the same level of support when they move to Universal Credit
 - Extension of the group of customers who pay 13.56% to claimants or partners who are:
 - i) in receipt of Jobseeker’s Allowance Contribution Based.
 - ii) in receipt of Main Phase Employment and Support Allowance and are in the Work Related Activity Group.
 - iii) in receipt of Maximum Universal Credit and neither employed, self-employed or in receipt of any other income which is taken into account when calculating their Universal Credit award (such as an Occupational Pension or other unearned income).
 - iv) in receipt of Universal Credit which includes either the limited capability for work and/ or work related activity

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<p>4. To recommend that the Council agrees to continue to operate a Discretionary Discount Policy to be awarded in cases of exceptional hardship as set out at Appendix 2a, to the Executive report.</p> <p>5. To note at this point in time the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government may still issue changes to the known position for the National Pensioner Scheme. Required changes would then be incorporated into the final Scheme presented for adoption at Council on 30 January 2019.</p>				
<p>STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <p>1. To agree that following consideration of the representation submitted and the recommendation of the Licensing Committee on the 4 December 2018 that no amendments need to be made to the draft Statement of Licensing Policy.</p> <p>2. To recommend to Council approval of the Statement of Gambling Policy (Appendix 3a, to the Executive report).</p>	<p>Following consultation and consideration by the Licensing Committee to consider the statement of policy and principles which would be applied by the Authority when exercising its functions under the Gambling Act 2005 during the period 2019 to 2022.</p>	<p>10/12/2018</p>	<p>EX53/2018</p>	<p>Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council</p>

<p>FINANCIAL MONITORING AS AT MONTH 6 2018/19</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the report. 2. To continue to lobby Government (HM Treasury, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Department for Education in particular) along with local authority peers, the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Children’s Services for more funding to cope with the mounting demand and new burdens presenting in Children’s Services. <p>To require the respective directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage service financial and operational performances, specifically Children’s Services, Strategic Leisure Assets and Parking Services.</p>	<p>The level of spending against the Council’s Revenue and Capital budgets for the first 6 months to 30 September 2018.</p>	<p>EX54/2018</p>	<p>10/12/2018</p>	<p>Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council</p>
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<p>FINANCIAL MONITORING AS AT MONTH 7 2018/19</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the report. 2. To continue to lobby Government (HM Treasury, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Department for Education in particular) along with local authority peers, the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Children’s Services for more funding to cope with the mounting demand and new burdens presenting in Children’s Services. 3. To require the respective directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage service financial and operational performances, specifically Children’s Services, Strategic Leisure Assets and Parking Services. 	<p>The level of spending against the Council’s Revenue and Capital budgets for the first 7 months to 31 October 2018.</p>	<p>EX55/2018</p>	<p>10/12/2018</p>	<p>Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council</p>
<p>COUNCIL BUDGET 2019/2020 CONSULTATION PROCESS</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve the outline service changes detailed at Appendix6a as the basis on which the consultation and equality analyses will be undertaken with affected parties. 	<p>To consider the terms of the consultation process with respect to service changes to be proposed in the Council’s 2019/2020 Revenue Budget.</p>	<p>EX56/2018</p>	<p>10/12/2018</p>	<p>Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council</p>

<p>2. To approve the use of an Enhanced Voluntary Redundancy payment (EVR) incentive at a level of £3,000 (pro-rata for part time employees) for a set period of time to be determined by the Chief Executive.</p> <p>3. To continue to engage through formal consultation mechanisms where budget proposals require appropriate feedback and to ensure that the Council is engaged with all partners, linking in with the CVFS leadership group, as appropriate as referred to in section 12 of the report.</p> <p>4. To refer this report to the Budget Scrutiny Panel scheduled to meet on Tuesday 18 December 2018.</p>				
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<p>'BLACKPOOL CENTRAL' DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS</p> <p>The Executive agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To agree to the adoption of the proposed Masterplan for 'Blackpool Central', as presented by the proposed Developer and included within Appendix 7b, to the Executive report. The Masterplan forms the basis for progressing a major leisure development on the site in line with the adopted planning framework in the Blackpool Local Plan Core Strategy and Leisure Quarter Supplementary Planning Document. 2. To agree to the Heads of Terms as presented in Appendix 7c, to the Executive report, which provide the principles of the agreement with the proposed developer. 3. To agree to the establishment of a 'Blackpool Central' Project Board to include the Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive, Senior Council Officers and the Developer to monitor, track progress and provide appropriate professional support and advice to both the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive in matters and decisions relating to the land sale. 	<p>To seek agreement on new development proposals and the emerging Masterplan presented by a Developer for the "Blackpool Central" site, formerly known as Blackpool Central Leisure Quarter.</p> <p>To outline the basis of the agreement with the Developer and set out the Heads of Terms which will form the basis of detailed legal and financial arrangements prior to entering into formal legal contracts.</p> <p>To note that the Council remains in negotiations with the Developer on the terms of the disposal of land and that the details of the proposals are commercially sensitive. The basis of the agreement is therefore contained within Appendices 7a and 7b which were subsequently disclosed on the 7 December 2018 although the Heads of Terms (Appendix 7c) remains confidential between the parties.</p>	<p>EX57/2018</p>	<p>10/12/2018</p>	<p>Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council</p>
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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive after consultation with the Leader of the Council to enter into the detailed commercial and legal arrangements to deliver the proposals, based upon the principles set out in the Heads of Terms. This includes agreeing any changes to the Heads of Terms where it is appropriate for the successful delivery of the scheme and the protection of the Council’s interests. 5. In addition to the above, agreement to delegate authority to the Head of Legal to enter into any proposed legal agreements relating to the scheme. 				
<p>BLACKPOOL LOCAL PLAN PART 2: PROPOSED SITE ALLOCATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES – INFORMAL CONSULTATION PAPER</p> <p>PS 026</p> <p>The Cabinet Member agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve the Informal Consultation Paper for public consultation for a period of 6 weeks (refer Appendix A). 2. To agree to the publication on the Council’s Website, the supporting draft evidence base documents (refer Appendices B-E). 3. To defer any minor drafting and textual changes to the informal Consultation paper at Appendix A and the evidence base at Appendices B to E which do not alter the substance of the documents to the Head of Planning Strategy. 	<p>The new Blackpool Local Plan comprises Part 1: Core Strategy, which was adopted in January 2016 and Part 2: Site Allocations and Development Management Policies document.</p> <p>This report presents the Proposed Site Allocations and Development Management Policies – Informal Consultation Paper for public consultation along with the supporting draft evidence base documents on housing, local centres, green belt and hot food takeaways</p>	<p>PH1/2019</p>	<p>07/01/2019</p>	<p>Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development</p>

APPENDIX 4(a)

<p>CHANCE2SHINE RECRUITMENT AGENCY</p> <p>The Cabinet Member agreed the recommendations as follows:</p> <p>To authorise the Council to enter into contracts with employers who wish to use the services of the Council's Chance2Shine Recruitment service offering temporary employment opportunities during the pilot two year period.</p>	<p>To consider providing authority for the Council to enter into contracts with employers seeking to use the Chance2Shine Recruitment service through pilot period of 2 years</p>	<p>PH2/2019</p>	<p>08/01/2019</p>	<p>Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council</p>
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Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Date of Meeting:	23 January 2019

FORWARD PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan January 2019 to March 2019, relating to the portfolios of the Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members.

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 Priorities are:

- "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.

5.4 Witnesses/representatives

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

- Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
- Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council
- Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Highways
- Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development
- Councillor Mrs Christine Wright, Cabinet Member for Housing.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 5(a) Summary of items contained within Forward Plan January 2019 to March 2019.

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**(JANUARY 2019 TO MARCH 2019)***** Denotes New Item**

Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
January 2019	Town Centre and Leisure Facilities Investment(this item to be considered in private by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	1/2018	Executive	Cllr Smith
January 2019	Applications for Business Loans above £500,000. (this item to be considered in private by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	2/2018	Executive	Cllr Blackburn
January 2019	To agree strategic acquisitions in or adjoining the Enterprise Zone (this item to be considered in private by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	3/2018	Executive	Cllr Smith

Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
January 2019	Lancashire and Blackpool Flood Risk Management Strategy	11/2018	Executive	Cllr Jackson
January 2019	Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2019/2020	28/2018	Council	Cllr Blackburn
January 2019	To approve the Council Plan 2019-2024, and the continuation of the current vision and priorities	31/2018	Council	Cllr Blackburn
January 2019	New Council housing development at Troutbeck Crescent, Mereside, seeking approval to the mix, design, and financial appraisal of the new homes.	33/2018	Executive	Cllr Mrs Wright
February 2019	Proposals for developing new homes, shops and open space at Grange Park on Council-owned land on the site of the former Christ the King church / Chepstow Road shops / school	34/2018	Executive	Cllr Mrs Wright
January 2019	Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy	35/2018	Executive	Cllr Cain
January 2019	To agree the outcome of the insurance procurement exercise prior to cover being placed from April 2019.	36/2018	Executive	Cllr Blackburn
February 2019	To consider and recommend approval of the Council's Capital Programme 2019/20 – 2021/22.	38/2018	Council	Cllr Blackburn

Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
February 2019	To consider and recommend approval of the Council's Revenue Budget for the financial year 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.	39/2018	Council	Cllr Blackburn
February 2019	To consider and recommend approval of the level of Council Tax for the financial year 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.	40/2018	Council	Cllr Blackburn
February 2019	To consider the level of rents and service charges to be made in connection with Housing Revenue Account dwellings during 2019/20.	41/2018	Council	Cllr Mrs Wright
February 2019	To consider and approve adoption of the Council's Treasury Management and Investment Strategies for the financial year 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.	42/2018	Council	Cllr Blackburn
January 2019	To consider the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy under the Gambling Act 2005	43/2018	Council	Cllr Campbell
February 2019	To consider provision of a further loan facility to Blackpool Housing Company Limited to enable it to continue to deliver on its mission.	1/2019	Executive	Cllr Mrs Wright

Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
February 2019	Capital Strategy 2019/20 to 2021/22 – The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy Prudential Code requires local authorities to produce a capital strategy to demonstrate that capital expenditure and investment decisions are taken in line with service objectives and take account of stewardship, value of money, prudence, sustainability and affordability.	2/2019	Council	Cllr Blackburn
January 2019	Business Rates Retention. Following the announcement by the Treasury that Blackpool's bid in conjunction with the other Lancashire areas authorities to take part in trial of Business Rates Retention in 2019/ 2020. To receive a report to the steps required.	3/2019	Executive	Cllr Blackburn
February 2019	Town Centre Parking Strategy	4/2019	Executive	Cllr Smith
January 2019	Local Full Fibre Network	5/2019	Executive	Cllr Blackburn

Report to:	TOURISM ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Date of Meeting:	23 January 2019

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 8 2018/19

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 eight months to 30 November 2018.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the report.

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:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are:

- "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"

5.0 Background Information

5.1 See reports and appendices circulated to members under separate cover.

5.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.3 Is the Corporate Delivery Unit aware of this report? Yes

The Corporate Delivery Unit has been working with Resources to ensure any service Transformation required by budget savings are addressed in the Delivery Unit workplan.

5.4 **List of Appendices:**

- Appendix 6(a) - Revenue Summary
- Appendix 6(b) - Schedule of Service forecast overspendings
- Appendix 6(c) A - Chief Executive
- Appendix 6(c) B - Governance and Partnership Services
- Appendices 6(c) C/D - Ward Budgets
- Appendix 6(c) E - Resources
- Appendix 6(c) F – Communications and Regeneration
- Appendix 6(c) G - Strategic Leisure Assets
- Appendix 6(c) H - Community and Environmental Services
- Appendix 6(c) I - Adult Services
- Appendix 6(c) J - Children’s Services
- Appendix 6(c) K - Public Health
- Appendix 6(c) L - Budgets Outside the Cash Limit
- Appendix 6(d) - Capital Monitoring
- Appendix 6(e) - Cash Flow Summary
- Appendix 6(f) - General Fund Balance Sheet Summary

6.0 **Legal considerations:**

6.1 None.

7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 See reports and appendices circulated to members under separate cover.

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.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Impact of financial performance on Council balances. Financial performance against approved Revenue and Capital budgets.

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
21ST JANUARY 2019

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 8 2018/19

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 8 months of 2018/19, i.e. the period to 30th November 2018, 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 - Communications and Regeneration
- 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 2018/19. 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 with Places now re-designated as Communications and Regeneration. 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 18th June 2018 to write-off all 2017/18 service variances but carry forward the 2017/18 underspend of £312k on Ward Budgets.

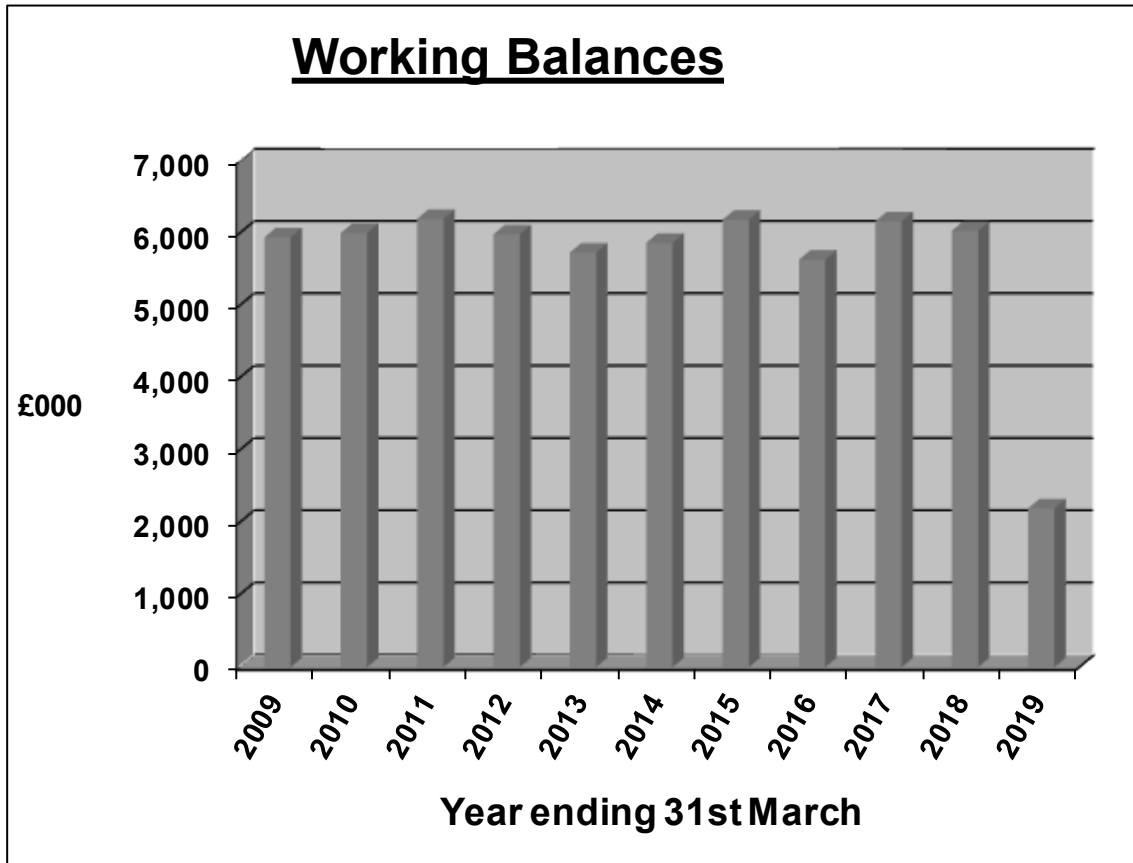
3.2 The impacts of directorates' revenue budget performance and progress in achieving planned savings fall upon the Council's working balances. The main areas accounting for the month 8 forecast overspend of £3,837k for 2018/19 are summarised below:-

Directorate	Service	Forecast Variance £000
Children's Services	An overspend of £4,644k is forecast. Children's Social Care is forecast to overspend by £4,102k, due to ongoing demand pressures relating to Looked After Children (LAC). When budgets were set, LAC numbers were around 530. By November 2018 they have reached 553 which is a slight further reduction on July figures . Early in the financial year a review of each individual LAC placement was carried out and a plan put in place for every child, which included stepping young people down into lower cost placements, and discharging them from care to be resettled at home with their families, wherever this was appropriate and safe. These plans were reflected in detailed budget forecasts which resulted in an anticipated overspend at the beginning of the financial year of £2.2m. This overall increase has undoubtedly placed the budget under further pressure, but the breakdown of a number of existing placements has also contributed significantly to the higher forecast overspend. Additional costs for the financial year attributable to children with complex needs being moved into more expensive placement categories, requiring additional support or being unable to step down as early as planned, amount to almost £1,900k. Work is ongoing to reduce both LAC numbers and placement costs. All new admissions into care require Senior Service Manager approval. There is now a Commissioning role in place, the purpose of which is to scrutinise and challenge the cost of the most expensive external placements, and work is underway to review the sufficiency of placement provision across the town which is monitored through a monthly meeting chaired by the Director of Children's	4,644

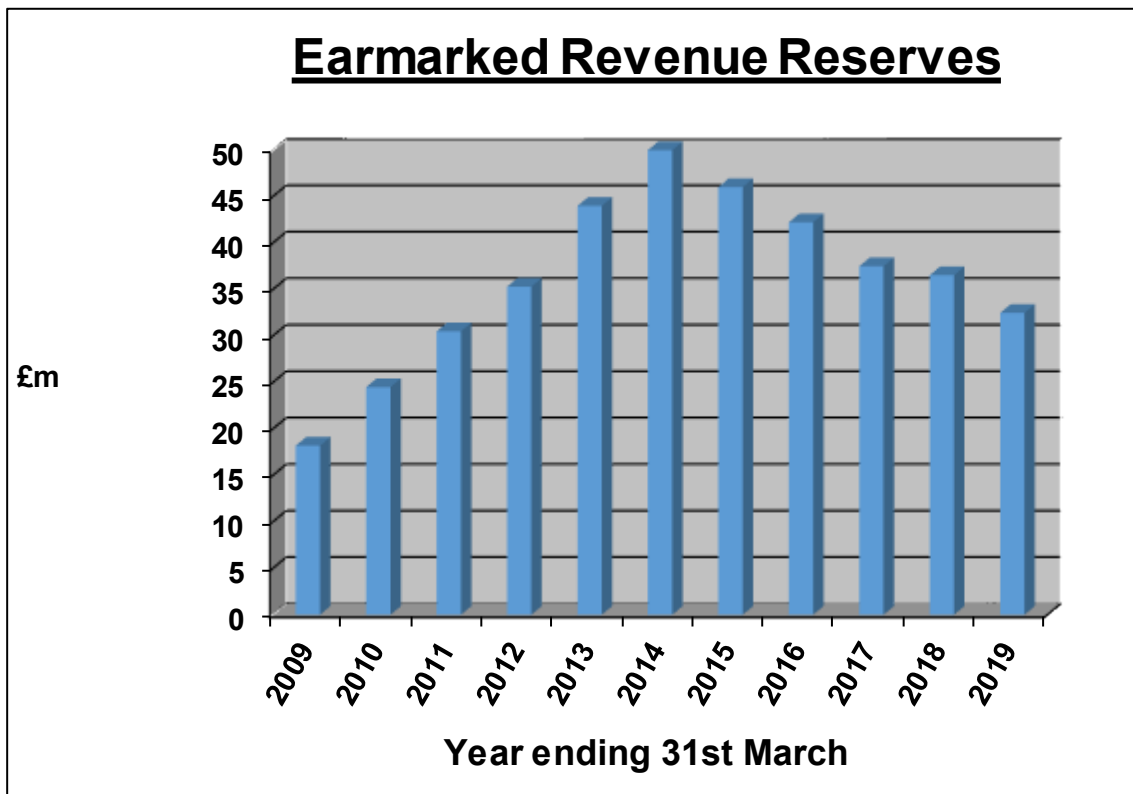
	<p>Services. Since the start of the financial year, savings in excess of £1,300k have been achieved as a result of children being successfully discharged from care, or stepped down into a less costly placement. The current overspend forecast does not anticipate any further increase in LAC numbers. Although some new admissions into care are inevitable, the assumption is that the management measures being put in place will enable the service to maintain numbers at or below current levels for the remainder of the financial year. There are overspends in Education of £708k primarily relating to the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Transport Service which is partly due to demand pressures and partly due to the savings target of £320k that was applied in 2017/18 but not achieved. There are underspends totalling £166k in Early Help for Children and Families and Local Services Support Grant.</p>	
Communications and Regeneration	<p>An overspend of £161k is forecast. Visitor Economy is expecting a £140k overspend due to increased event costs in Visit Blackpool and delayed income. Economic Development is expecting a £81k overspend due to costs associated with the Grundy Art Gallery. These are partly offset by an underspend in Growing Places due to additional income in Planning.</p>	161
Public Health	<p>An overspend of £30k is forecast. This is mainly due to an overspend in CCTV of £38k arising from the increased costs of monitoring and reduced income levels.</p>	30
Strategic Leisure Assets	<p>Strategic Leisure Assets is forecasting a £1,394k pressure. 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. The forecast cumulative deficit as at 31st March 2019 is £8,138k. This incorporates the increased debt financing costs associated with both the former Tower Lounge development and essential Tower steel structure renewal, together with increased marketing and insurance costs and revised income profile. The Leisure Assets portfolio is currently forecast to break-even, in-year, during 2021/22.</p>	Net nil
Community and Environmental Services	<p>The service is forecast to underspend by £2k. Leisure and Catering is forecasting a £235k overspend due to income pressures and the loss of catering contracts. Coastal and Environmental Partnerships is forecasting a £13k overspend due to increased utility costs. These are offset by additional savings and income across the Directorate. 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 2018/19.</p>	(2)

Adult Services	An underspend of £28k is forecast. Adult Commissioning Placements are forecasting an overspend of £181k. Care and Support is forecast to overspend by £16k. Underspends totalling £225k are due to vacant posts in the Directorate.	(28)
Governance and Partnership Services	An underspend of £32k is forecast. This is due to continuing pressure on income relating to the cremators and additional staff costs in Registrars within Life Events and Customer Care of £155k offset by a forecast underspend on Ward budgets of £157k and savings in Democratic Governance of £30k due to vacant posts and other services.	(32)
Resources	An underspend of £130k is forecast. Property Services is forecasting a £107k overspend. This is offset by net savings of £237k across the Directorate relating to vacancies and income generation.	(130)
Budgets Outside the Cash Limit	An underspend of £306k is forecast. Parking Services is £690k down mainly due to 'on-street parking' schemes not being feasible, loss of parking spaces, prudential borrowing costs, increased business rates and reduced income from staff parking. Treasury Management is forecasting an underspend of £471k. The Council is currently using temporary and long-term borrowing to finance Prudentially-funded capital expenditure and the resultant saving offsets the Business Loans Fund which now has a savings target of £2,250k. Concessionary Fares is forecast to underspend by £340k due to a decrease in bus and tram patronage. The cost to the Council of supporting the Subsidiary Companies is an underspend of £191k due to the reducing balance payback of Prudentially-borrowed schemes.	(306)
Contingencies and Reserves	Review of Contingencies and Reserves and calculated release in part to General Fund.	(500)
Total		3,837

3.3 The graph on the following page 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 financial standing an equivalent graph to that of working balances is shown below:



4. Children's Services

- 4.1 It is apparent that the demand pressures being met by Children's Services are once again the primary challenge facing the Council in its attempt to balance its Budget in-year, all other services showing an aggregated net underspend of £807k.
- 4.2 This is not a local problem. *Children and Young People Now* identified in June that based upon RA data for 2018/19, i.e. local authorities' submitted annual budgets rather than forecast outturns, local authority spending on children's services is rising at a faster rate than any other council service area with expenditure expected to rise by £542m (6.8%) of which expenditure on looked after children is rising by £350m (9.1%). However, whilst spend on children's social care nationally represents 18% of total local authority spend (excluding Education and Police), in Blackpool this proportion is much greater than 25%.
- 4.3 A Newton Europe Report *Making Sense Understanding the Drivers of Variation in Spend on Children's Services* of June 2018 and commissioned by the Local Government Association appraised the drivers of variation in spend on children's services and concluded that approximately half of the variation in spend seen nationally was due to factors largely outside the control of councils, namely deprivation, 0 – 25 population, amount of disposable household income, levels of unemployment and crime.
- 4.4 The All Party Parliamentary Group for Children published a report in July 2018 entitled *Storing Up Trouble A postcode lottery of children's social care*, in which several recommendations were made that sought both interim and sustainable funding arrangements based upon level of need "to stabilise the crisis in early intervention services" and "to invest in early help and preventative services". This follows months of Government lobbying by the Local Government Association, Barnardo's, Action for Children, National Children's Bureau, The Children's Society, NSPCC and our own North West Portfolio Holders for Children's Services Network.

5. Directorate Budget Savings Performance

- 5.1 As at 30th November 2018 48% of the 2018/19 savings target has been delivered. The full-year forecast predicts that 30% (35% last month) will be achieved by the year-end, which takes into account anticipated pressures and savings.
- 5.2 The full-year effect of the non-recurrent savings and recurrent in-year pressures/savings in 2018/19 means that an additional 15% saving will be required in 2019/20 on top of 2018/19's target, the largest cause being the overspending in Children's Social Care mainly due to a significant increase in the numbers and complexity of looked after children since budgets were set.

6. Collection Rates

6.1 Council Tax

At the end of month 8 the amount collected for Council Tax (excluding Police and Fire precepts) was £38.0m and the collection rate was 69.4%. This compares to £34.7m and 68.3% at the same point in 2017/18. The amount collected has actually risen by £3.3m which 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 still 97.5% over a 4-year collection period as approved on 28th January 2018 as part of the setting of the Council Tax Base for 2018/19.

6.2 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. From 1st April 2017 the scheme was amended so that certain vulnerable groups would have the 27.11% reduced to 13.56%. The scheme was further amended from 1st April 2018 to provide additional support for low income groups of claimants (in receipt of Income Support, Income-Based Jobseekers Allowance or Income Related Employment Support Allowance) by amending the percentage reduction applied to their award from 27.11% to 13.56%. These have the effect of reducing the amount to be collected.

At the end of month 8 the amount collected (excluding Police and Fire precepts) in respect of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Council Tax for those who have to pay CTRS, either for the first time or in addition to a proportion of their Council Tax, was £1.73m and the collection rate was 50.2%. This compares to £1.72m and 45.5% at the same point in 2017/18.

The likely impact for 2018/19 is that the underlying rate of collection of Council Tax Reduction Scheme will be under greater pressure than 2017/18 due to accumulated arrears and limits on the amount that can be recovered from Attachment of Benefits.

6.3 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 8 the amount collected for Business Rates was £33.6m and the collection rate was 67.1%. This compares to £34.5m and 68.0% at the same point in 2017/18. Changes in both the Business Rate multiplier and base (due to the Revaluation in April 2017 and other movements) have made negative contributions of £0.9m, offset by a compensating increase to the Non-Domestic Rate (NDR) Top-up amount. The Council's share of business rate yield continues at 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. 592 business rate summonses were issued in the 8 months to the end of November 2018.

The Business Rate cumulative deficit as at 31st March 2018 is £4,157k. The Council's share of this is £2,037k (49%) and reflects the level of successful appeals arising towards the end of the financial year and the provisions required following the revaluation in April 2017.

7. Capital Monitoring Performance

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 The report includes the capital programme at month 8. The figures have changed from month 3 as this represented the programme approved by the Executive in February 2018. Since that date additional expenditure has been approved and is now included. Local Transport Capital Funding for 2018/19 of £532k has been received and the scheme has been included in Appendix 4.
- 7.3 As at month 8 an overspend of £215k on capital schemes is anticipated. The Foxhall Village scheme is forecast to overspend by £215k due to all property foundations requiring piling.

8. Summary Cash Flow Statement

- 8.1 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 2018/19.
- 8.2 During the first 8 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 2018 due to the receipt of grant income from central government in advance of expenditure. The Council is predominantly using temporary borrowing to finance Prudentially-funded capital expenditure, though is switching to fixed Public Works Loan Board loans as and when opportune to do so (including £8m on 9th August 2018). The take-up of loans from the Business Loans Fund is expected to continue steadily during 2018/19.

9. Summary Balance Sheet

- 9.1 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 8. 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.
- 9.2 Over the 8-month period there has been a decrease in short-term borrowing of £22.0m and a decrease in cash and cash equivalents of £3.7m which mainly reflects the phasing of capital grants received in advance to fund the capital expenditure on Property, Plant and Equipment (£27.1m) and Long-term Assets (£14.9m).

10. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 10.1 Over the 8-year period 2011/12 – 2018/19 cumulative Revenue Budget savings amounting to £143m have been required to be made by Blackpool Council. This is greater than the Council's annual Net Requirement Budget and even more starkly the compound effect over the same period amounts to £678m of resource that has been removed from the Blackpool economy. This reflects one of the highest cuts per head of population across local authorities in England and in an environment of growing demands upon services as befalling an authority with such recognised pockets of significant deprivation.
- 10.2 The Medium-Term Financial Sustainability Strategy 2016/17 – 2021/22 always identified last year, 2017/18, as the critical financial year to navigate, being the last of the very high Budget gap years to bridge and following 6 years of significant erosion of Government funding. Nonetheless, although the 2018/19 budget savings target is the lowest in 8 years, delivery of a balanced budget is proving difficult whilst demand pressures elsewhere continue to rise.
- 10.3 From the information currently available the Council is predicting a serious deterioration in its financial standing in comparison with Budget even after taking account of the virement of £2,000k from the Treasury Management Prudential Borrowing Reserve (£1,400k) and the Council Tax & NNDR Collection Fund Deficit Reserve (£600k) to Working Balances as approved by the Executive on 18th June 2018. There is a worsening of the position compared to month 7 of £265k. Working balances are currently estimated to fall by £3,837k against the budgeted position over the year. This fall is in the context of the adjusted working balances at the start of the year of £6,034k.
- 10.4 As described in section 4 by far the Council's biggest financial risk and pressure is the demand growth in Children's Services without which the overall forecast outturn would be in a better than break-even position. The Council can demonstrate that it has maintained working balances of circa £6m for the last 10 years (para 3.3); that its level of earmarked reserves has remained relatively stable for the last 3 years (para 3.4); and that its income collection is actually improving (section 6).
- 10.5 However, 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 2018/19 within this report contravenes the second of the two specific conditions that excess spending does not:
1. exceed 1% (= £4.1m) 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 (= £3.0m).

In the context of £32m of Earmarked Revenue Reserves and with 4 months of the financial year remaining officers are working diligently and expeditiously to improve the position such that Working Balances of at least £3.0m are reached. Revised service and financial plans are underway, including the review of non-essential spend and earmarked reserves and delays to filling non-front line vacancies.

10.6 The Executive is asked:

- i) to note the report;
- ii) to continue to lobby Government (HM Treasury, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Department for Education in particular) along with local authority peers, the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Children's Services for more funding to cope with the mounting demand and new burdens presenting in Children's Services; and
- iii) to require the respective directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage service financial and operational performances, specifically Children's Services, Strategic Leisure Assets and Parking Services.

Steve Thompson
Director of Resources

3rd January 2019

Blackpool Council

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

BLACKPOOL COUNCIL							
FORECAST GENERAL FUND POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2019							
SUMMARY							
APP.	GENERAL FUND NET REQUIREMENTS	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
		ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	2018/19		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
				PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000		
3(a)	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	592	(32)	624	592	-	-
3(b)	GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	1,709	1,656	178	1,834	125	-
3(b/c)	WARD BUDGETS	627	232	238	470	(157)	(312)
3(d)	RESOURCES	6,348	1,983	4,235	6,218	(130)	-
3(e)	COMMUNICATIONS AND REGENERATION	4,333	2,862	1,632	4,494	161	-
3(f)	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	743	2,380	(243)	2,137	1,394	-
3(g)	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	43,500	26,449	17,049	43,498	(2)	-
3(h)	ADULT SERVICES	52,627	29,680	22,919	52,599	(28)	-
3(i)	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	38,261	23,654	19,251	42,905	4,644	-
3(j)	PUBLIC HEALTH	111	(5,971)	6,112	141	30	-
3(k)	BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT	13,182	8,302	4,574	12,876	(306)	-
	CAPITAL CHARGES	(31,381)	(20,921)	(10,460)	(31,381)	-	-
	NET COST OF SERVICES:	130,652	70,274	66,109	136,383	5,731	(312)
	CONTRIBUTIONS:						
	- TO / (FROM) RESERVES	(3,686)	-	(5,080)	(5,080)	(1,394)	
	- 2017/18 SERVICE UNDERSPENDS	(312)	-	(312)	(312)	-	
	- REVENUE CONSEQUENCES OF CAPITAL OUTLAY	285	-	285	285	-	
	CONTINGENCIES	(3,027)	-	(3,527)	(3,527)	(500)	
	LEVIES	453	-	453	453	-	
	CONTRIBUTIONS, etc.	(6,287)	-	(8,181)	(8,181)	(1,894)	
	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE TO BE MET FROM PUBLIC FUNDS	124,365	70,274	57,928	128,202	3,837	
	ADDED TO/(TAKEN FROM) BALANCES	-	-	(3,837)	(3,837)	(3,837)	
	NET REQUIREMENT AFTER WORKING BALANCES	124,365	70,274	54,091	124,365	-	
GENERAL BALANCES AS AT 1st APRIL 2018 PER AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2017/18							4,034
In-year addition to General Fund Working Balances approved by the Executive on 18th June 2018							2,000
							6,034
In-year (reduction in) / addition to General Fund Working Balances							(3,837)
ESTIMATED UNEARMARKED WORKING BALANCES AS AT 31st MARCH 2019							2,197

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Blackpool Council - Chief Executive

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2018/19					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
CHIEF EXECUTIVE						
NET EXPENDITURE						
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	709	465	244	709	-	-
HUMAN RESOURCES, ORGANISATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	(12)	(854)	842	(12)	-	-
CHIEF EXECUTIVE TOTAL	697	(389)	1,086	697	-	-
CORPORATE DELIVERY UNIT	11	(45)	56	11	-	-
HOUSING	(116)	402	(518)	(116)	-	-
ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE	(105)	357	(462)	(105)	-	-
TOTALS	592	(32)	624	592	-	-

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 8 months of 2018/19 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year.

The Directorate is forecasting a break-even position for 2018/19.

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	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2018/19					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE	2,077	1,534	513	2,047	(30)	-
CORPORATE LEGAL SERVICES	(102)	(191)	89	(102)	-	-
INFORMATION GOVERNANCE	102	8	94	102	-	-
LIFE EVENTS & CUSTOMER CARE	(368)	305	(518)	(213)	155	-
GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	1,709	1,656	178	1,834	125	-
WARDS	627	232	238	470	(157)	(312)
TOTALS	2,336	1,888	416	2,304	(32)	(312)

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 8 months of 2018/19 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. Information Governance is a new service created to ensure the compliance with the new general data protection regulations. The Directorate is currently forecasting an underspend of £32k as detailed below.

Democratic Governance Service

The Democratic Governance Service is currently forecasting an underspend of £30k due to savings on vacant posts and other services.

Corporate Legal Services

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

Information Governance

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

Life Events & Customer Care

This service is forecasting a pressure of £155k. The increase of £55k in month 8 continues to be due to pressure on income from the cremators and additional staff costs in Registrars covering long-term sickness absence.

Ward Budgets

Ward budgets are expected to underspend in 2018/19.

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

Blackpool Council
Ward Budgets
2018/19
Month 8

Wards

Ward	Councillors	Total No. of Requisitions Submitted	No. of Requisitions Approved	No. Awaiting Approval	Total No. of Requisitions Completed	Total 2018-19 Budget	2018-19 Budget Committed to <u>Approved</u> Schemes	Remaining 2018-19 Budget
Anchorsholme Ward BC1001	Cllr. Galley Cllr. A Williams	2	2	0	1	£24,610.24	£5,552.00	£19,058.24
Bispham Ward BC1002	Cllr. Clapham Cllr. Maycock	9	9	0	7	£18,602.61	£7,455.00	£11,147.61
Bloomfield Ward BC1003	Cllr. Cain Cllr. Hobson	9	9	0	6	£26,720.71	£15,021.67	£11,699.04
Brunswick Ward BC1004	Cllr. Blackburn Cllr. G Coleman	11	11	0	9	£49,002.75	£40,913.15	£8,089.60
Claremont Ward BC1005	Cllr. I Taylor Cllr. L Williams	16	16	0	16	£15,886.22	£11,936.00	£3,950.22
Clifton Ward BC1006	Cllr. Hutton Cllr. L Taylor	10	10	0	6	£21,959.25	£7,772.50	£14,186.75
Greenlands Ward BC1007	Cllr. Ryan Cllr. Mrs Wright	7	7	0	7	£42,571.30	£5,143.69	£37,427.61
Hawes Side Ward BC1008	Cllr. D Coleman Cllr. Critchley	8	8	0	7	£33,933.93	£11,496.67	£22,437.26
Highfield Ward BC1009	Cllr. Mrs Henderson MBE Cllr. Hunter	9	9	0	8	£32,282.97	£5,007.50	£27,275.47
Ingthorpe Ward BC1010	Cllr. Cross Cllr. Rowson	7	7	0	7	£15,263.43	£3,676.33	£11,587.10
Layton Ward BC1011	Cllr. Mrs Benson Cllr. Mitchell	10	10	0	9	£20,271.36	£10,620.37	£9,650.99
Marton Ward BC1012	Cllr. Singleton Cllr. Elmes	12	12	0	11	£29,027.62	£21,317.31	£7,710.31
Norbreck Ward BC1013	Cllr. Callow Cllr. Mrs Callow	9	9	0	6	£15,400.51	£13,823.75	£1,576.76
Park Ward BC1014	Cllr. Campbell Cllr. Kirkland	13	13	0	12	£37,143.35	£24,938.20	£12,205.15
Squires Gate Ward BC1015	Cllr. Cox Cllr. Humphreys	14	14	0	11	£18,805.06	£14,922.97	£3,882.09
Stanley Ward BC1016	Cllr. Roberts Cllr. Stansfield	6	6	0	6	£53,888.62	£18,253.87	£35,634.75
Talbot Ward BC1017	Cllr. I Coleman Cllr. Smith	11	11	0	7	£42,284.85	£28,309.75	£13,975.10
Tyldesley Ward BC1018	Cllr. Collett Cllr. Matthews	1	1	0	0	£45,302.66	£2,000.00	£43,302.66
Victoria Ward BC1019	Cllr. Jackson Cllr. Owen	10	10	0	8	£32,419.00	£28,987.17	£3,431.83
Warbreck Ward BC1020	Cllr. Scott Cllr. Mrs Scott	9	9	0	8	£21,412.45	£16,775.50	£4,636.95
Waterloo Ward BC1021	Cllr. O'Hara Cllr. Robertson BEM	7	7	0	6	£29,536.00	£13,553.23	£15,982.77

Ward Totals	190	190	0	158	£626,324.89	£307,476.63	£318,848.26
Unallocated Budget	-	-	-	-	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Income Budget	-	-	-	-	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Area Ward Totals	190	190	0	158	£626,324.89	£307,476.63	£318,848.26

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Blackpool Council - Resources

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	2018/19		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000		
RESOURCES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
PROCUREMENT & PROJECTS	132	(110)	161	51	(81)	-
BENEFITS	(820)	(1,591)	695	(896)	(76)	-
REVENUES & EXCHEQUER SERVICES	1,149	792	314	1,106	(43)	-
CUSTOMER FIRST	15	(315)	301	(14)	(29)	-
ICT SERVICES	595	(445)	1,040	595	-	-
ACCOUNTANCY	18	(279)	283	4	(14)	-
RISK SERVICES	7	(294)	307	13	6	-
PROPERTY SERVICES (Incl. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO)	5,252	4,225	1,134	5,359	107	-
TOTALS	6,348	1,983	4,235	6,218	(130)	-

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 8 months of 2018/19 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 £81k is due to an over-achievement against the current year's income prediction and a staffing vacancy within the Energy area.

Benefits

The Benefits Service is forecasting an underspend of £76k on a gross budget of £4.1m. Monthly new claims processing figures continue to be good with the average days to process a Housing Benefit claim for November being 18 days. The cumulative processing time to date for new claims for Housing Benefit, new claims for Council Tax Reduction and changes in circumstances notifications for November was 16 days; this is still well within the current target of 19 days.

Revenues and Exchequer Services

Revenues and Exchequer Services are forecasting an underspend of £43k, although 2 vacant posts are yet to be filled. The legacy pressure in payroll services has been fully offset by efficiencies in Revenues and additional forecast income expected into the Payroll service is contributing to the underspending position.

Customer First

Customer First is forecasting an underspend of £29k on a gross budget of £1.1m.

ICT Services

ICT is forecasting a break-even position on a gross budget of £4.3m.

Accountancy

Accountancy is forecasting an underspend of £14k on a gross budget of £2m.

Risk Services

Risk Services are forecasting a £6k budget pressure but additional income opportunities are continuously being pursued.

Property Services (incl. Investment Portfolio)

Property Services are forecasting an overspend of £107k on a gross expenditure budget of £17m. The £800k Property Rationalisation target set in 2015/16 has now been achieved.

Summary of the revenue forecast

After 8 months of the financial year Resources are forecasting a £130k underspend. 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 – Communications & Regeneration

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND £000
	2018/19					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
COMMUNICATIONS & REGENERATION						
NET EXPENDITURE						
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & CULTURAL SERVICES	265	(2,052)	2,398	346	81	-
GROWING PLACES	876	1,372	(556)	816	(60)	-
VISITOR ECONOMY	3,192	3,542	(210)	3,332	140	-
TOTALS	4,333	2,862	1,632	4,494	161	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

This Directorate was formerly known as Places. A number of services have moved to other Directorates and Adult Learning has come into the Directorate and is sitting under the Economic Development and Cultural Services area. In period 4, the CCTV service transferred to Public Health Directorate. The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service area within the Directorate against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. The forecast outturn of £161k overspend is based upon actual financial performance for the first 8 months of 2018/19 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.

Economic Development and Cultural Services

This service is expecting an overspend of £81k due to costs associated with the Grundy Art Gallery.

Growing Places

This service is expecting an underspend of £60k due to additional income in Planning.

Visitor Economy

This service is expecting a £140k overspend by the year-end. The Illuminations service is forecasting an overspend of £58k. The service was already forecasting a £21k pressure due to the saving put forward regarding additional income from digital advertising which will not now happen in 2018/19. This pressure increased in period 8 due to some additional costs. There is a pressure of £91k in Visit Blackpool which has increased due to additional event costs. A small saving of £9k is expected in Print Services due to additional income.

Budget Holder – Mr A Cavill, Director of Communications & Regeneration

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Blackpool Council – Strategic Leisure Assets

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2018/19					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER)/ OVER £000	
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS						
NET EXPENDITURE						
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	743	2,380	(243)	2,137	1,394	-
TOTALS	743	2,380	(243)	2,137	1,394	-

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 8 months of 2018/19 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 2018/19 is currently £1,394k, taking the forecast cumulative deficit as at 2018/19 year-end to £8,138k. 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 and insurance costs and revised income profile.

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 Communications & Regeneration

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Blackpool Council – Community and Environmental Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	2018/19		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000		
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
BUSINESS SERVICES	504	515	(104)	411	(93)	-
LEISURE AND CATERING	2,515	3,925	(1,175)	2,750	235	-
PUBLIC PROTECTION	332	561	(265)	296	(36)	-
HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES	16,225	9,625	6,600	16,225	-	-
STREET CLEANSING AND WASTE	18,687	7,982	10,624	18,606	(81)	-
COASTAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS	4,594	2,585	2,022	4,607	13	-
INTEGRATED TRANSPORT	643	1,256	(653)	603	(40)	-
TOTALS	43,500	26,449	17,049	43,498	(2)	-

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 8 months of 2018/19 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.

Business Services

There is a £93k surplus due to savings made to assist in funding pressures across the Directorate.

Leisure and Catering

There is a forecast pressure of £235k. The majority of this pressure relates to Leisure Service income and the loss of catering contracts. This is an increase of £10k from period 7, the main change relates to reduced income in Leisure Services.

Public Protection

There is a forecast surplus of £36k due to an improvement in income and continuing vacancies.

Highways and Traffic Management Services

This service is now forecasting a break-even position.

Street Cleansing and Waste

Street Cleansing and Waste has a surplus of £81k, this increased surplus continues to be due to savings on service contracts and additional income.

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 2018/19.

Coastal and Environmental Partnerships

There is £13k pressure now forecast in this area due to increased utility costs relating to Marton Mere Pumping station.

Integrated Transport

There is a net surplus of £40k due to income.

Conclusion – Community and Environmental Services financial position

As at the end of month 8 the Community and Environmental Services Directorate is forecasting a £2k underspend position for the financial year to March 2019 as detailed above. The pressure due to the loss of the Waste PFI grant has been offset against reserves in 2018/19.

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	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	2018/19		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000		
ADULT SERVICES						
ADULT SOCIAL CARE	5,889	4,441	1,260	5,701	(188)	-
CARE & SUPPORT	4,756	3,117	1,655	4,772	16	-
COMMISSIONING & CONTRACTS TEAM	435	59	366	425	(10)	-
ADULT COMMISSIONING PLACEMENTS	40,845	21,838	19,188	41,026	181	-
ADULT SAFEGUARDING	702	225	450	675	(27)	-
TOTALS	52,627	29,680	22,919	52,599	(28)	-

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 8 months of 2018/19 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.

Better Care Fund

The Better Care Fund Schedule of Schemes for 2018/19 has now been finalised and the section 75 agreement signed.

Adult Commissioning Placements (Social Care Packages)

The Adult Commissioning Placements Budget is forecasting an £181k overspend on £55m gross expenditure budget.

Commissioning & Contracts Team

Commissioning & Contracts is currently forecast to underspend by £10k.

Care & Support

Care & Support is currently forecast to overspend by £16k on a gross budget of £12m.

Adult Social Care

Adult Social Care is currently forecast to be £188k underspent due to vacant posts within the service.

Adult Safeguarding

The Adult Safeguarding Division is forecast to underspend by £27k on their staffing budget due to the vacant Principal Social Worker post, which has now been filled.

Summary of the Adult Services financial position

As at the end of November 2018 the Adult Services Directorate is forecasting an overall underspend of £28k for the financial year to March 2019 on a gross budget of £77m.

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	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2018/19					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
CHILDREN'S SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - ISB	18,415	12,888	5,527	18,415	-	-
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - NON DELEGATED	438	97	341	438	-	-
EDUCATION	16,820	9,198	8,408	17,606	786	-
EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	142	95	47	142	-	-
BUSINESS SUPPORT AND RESOURCES	9,055	5,972	3,053	9,025	(30)	-
DEDICATED SCHOOL GRANT	(45,470)	(30,870)	(14,872)	(45,742)	(272)	-
CARRY FORWARD OF DSG UNDER/(OVER) SPEND	(400)	-	(884)	(884)	(484)	-
TOTAL DSG FUNDED SERVICES	(1,000)	(2,620)	1,620	(1,000)	-	-
CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPRECIATION	2,016	1,344	672	2,016	-	-
EDUCATION	3,044	2,293	1,459	3,752	708	-
EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	5,141	(671)	5,666	4,995	(146)	-
CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE	28,277	22,056	10,323	32,379	4,102	-
BUSINESS SUPPORT AND RESOURCES	833	1,315	(482)	833	-	-
LOCAL SERVICES SUPPORT GRANT	-	(13)	(7)	(20)	(20)	-
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT	(50)	(50)	-	(50)	-	-
TOTAL COUNCIL FUNDED SERVICES	39,261	26,274	17,631	43,905	4,644	-
TOTALS	38,261	23,654	19,251	42,905	4,644	-

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 8 months of 2018/19 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.

Children’s Social Care

Children’s Social Care is forecasting an overspend of £4.102m due to ongoing demand pressures relating to Looked After Children (LAC) numbers.

When budgets were set, LAC numbers were around 530. Early in the financial year a review of each individual LAC placement was carried out and a plan put in place for every child, which included stepping young people down into lower cost placements, and discharging them from care to be resettled at home with their families, wherever this was appropriate and safe. These plans were reflected in detailed budget forecasts which resulted in an anticipated overspend at the beginning of the financial year of £2.2m.

During the first four months of the financial year, LAC numbers increased. Although there has been a downward trend since August, numbers remain high at 553. This overall increase has undoubtedly placed the budget under further pressure, but the breakdown of a number of existing placements has also contributed significantly to the higher forecast overspend. Additional costs for the financial year attributable to children with complex needs being moved into more expensive placement categories, requiring additional support or being unable to step down as early as planned, amount to almost £1.9m.

Work is ongoing to reduce both LAC numbers and placement costs. All new admissions into care require Senior Service Manager approval. There is now a Commissioning role in place, the purpose of which is to scrutinise and challenge the cost of the most expensive external placements, and work is underway to review the sufficiency of placement provision across the town, which is monitored through a monthly meeting chaired by the Director of Children's Services.

The positive impact that these initiatives are already having is illustrated by the fact that the current year forecast overspend position for the division is £1.8m less than the overspend of £5.9m that was seen at the end of financial year 2017/18. Since the start of 2018/19, savings in excess of £1.3m have been achieved as a result of children being successfully discharged from care, or stepped down into a less costly placement.

The current overspend forecast does not anticipate any further increase in LAC numbers. Although some new admissions into care are inevitable, the assumption is that the management measures being put in place will enable the service to maintain numbers at or below current levels for the remainder of the financial year.

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 2019/20 and, in the case of overspends, become the first call on the grant in that year.

Education

The overspend in the Education division relates primarily to the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Transport service and is partly due to demand pressures and partly due to the savings target of £320k that was applied in 2017/18 but not achieved.

Early Help for Children and Families

The underspend in the Early Help division is primarily due to vacancy savings across various teams.

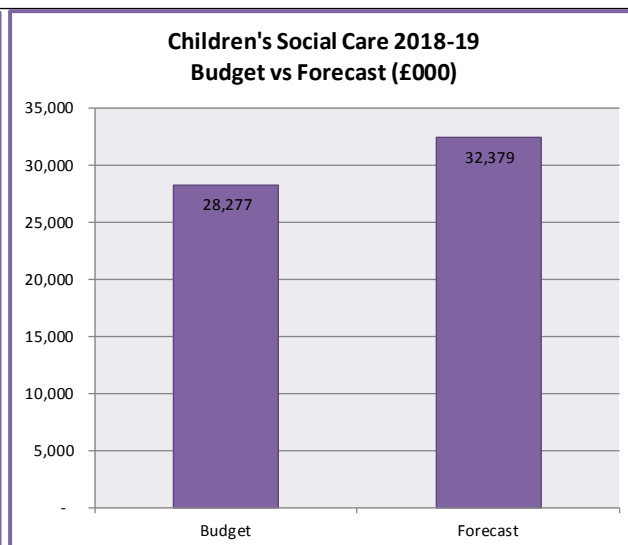
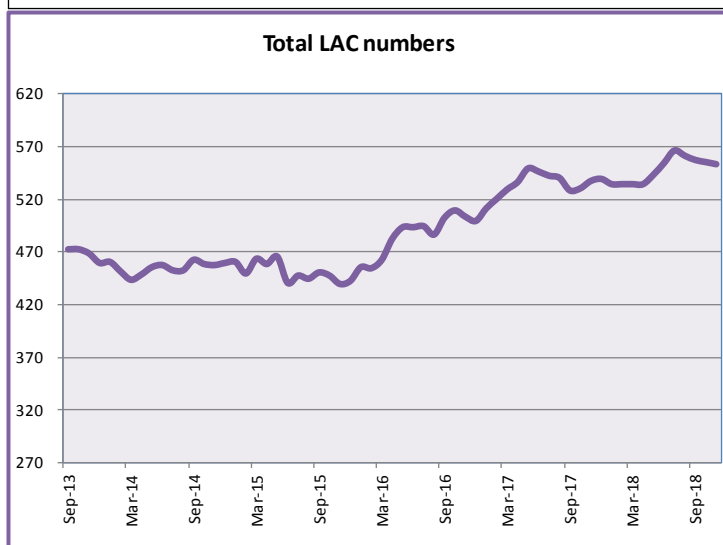
Summary of the Children's Services financial position

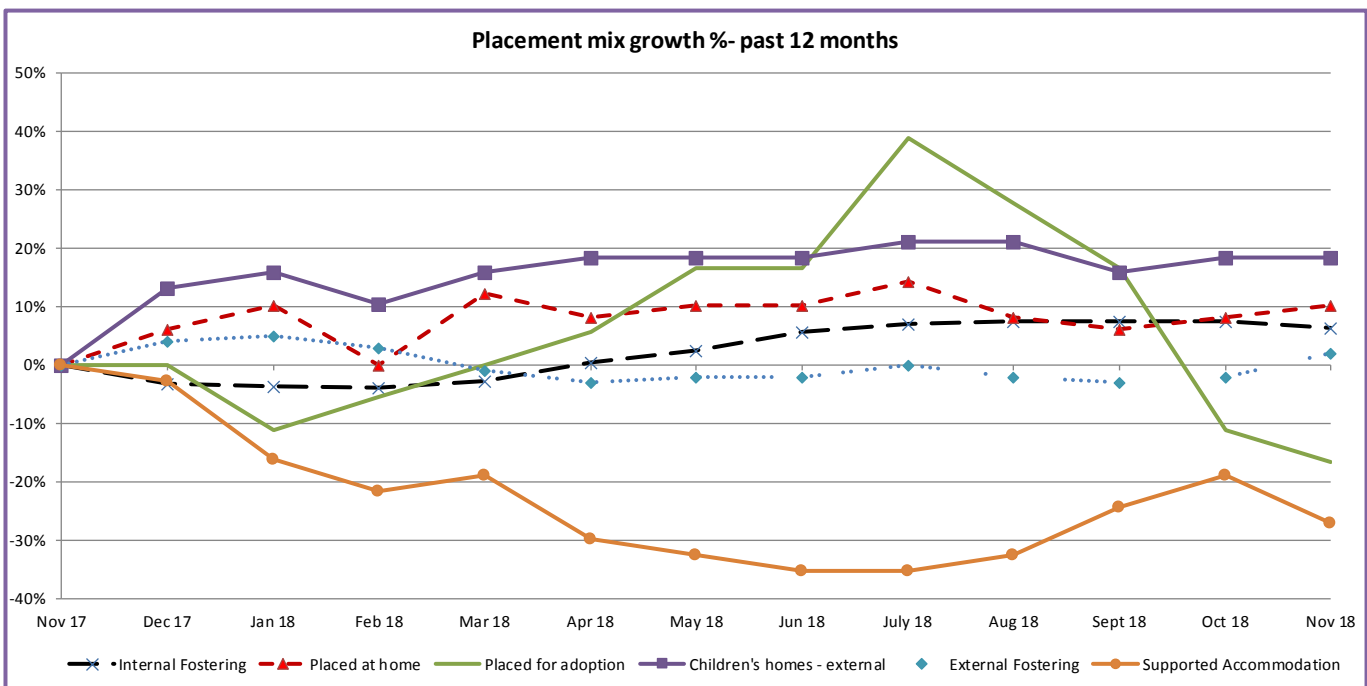
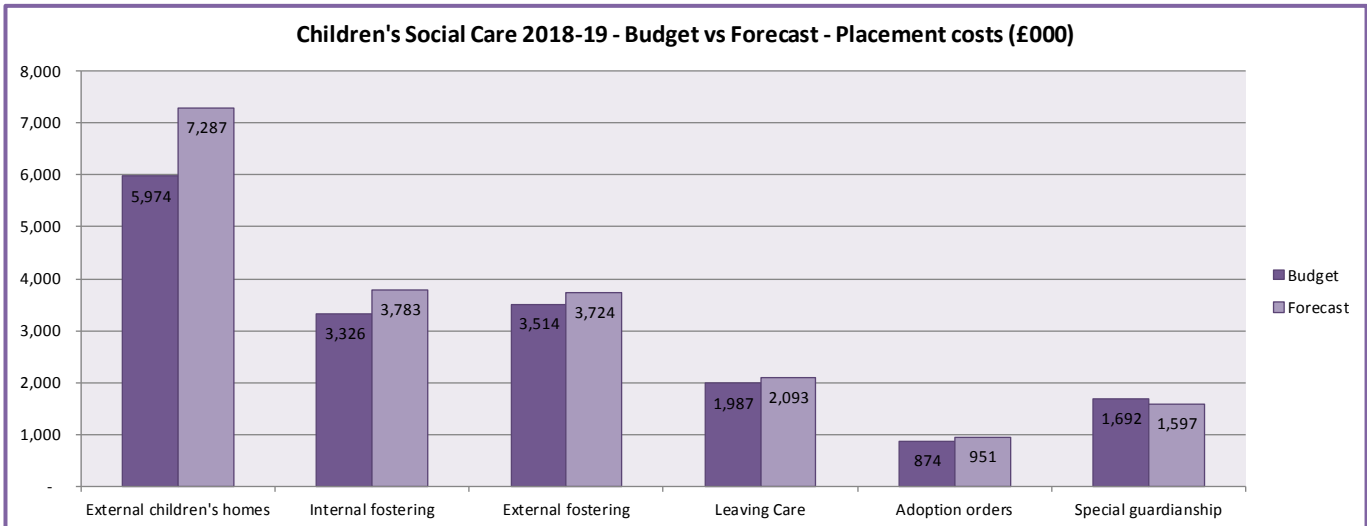
As at the end of November 2018 the Children's Services Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £4.644m for the financial year to March 2019.

Children's Social Care Trends

Date	External Placements Projection						Supported Accommodation			Internal Fostering			LAC numbers
	Fostering			Residential			Number	% of LAC	£ per placement	Number	% of LAC	£ per placement	No.
	Number	% of LAC	£ per placement	Number	% of LAC	£ per placement							
Jun-13	72	15%	36,202	41	8%	111,596	16	3%	no data	263	53%	11,887	492
Sep-13	66	14%	35,667	33	7%	111,523	17	4%	no data	272	58%	11,908	472
Dec-13	69	15%	36,560	30	7%	117,073	17	4%	no data	260	57%	11,828	459
Mar-14	64	14%	34,058	27	6%	118,473	15	3%	no data	248	56%	11,757	443
Jun-14	74	16%	35,928	25	5%	102,561	18	4%	no data	250	55%	12,833	457
Sep-14	75	16%	37,655	21	5%	121,210	27	6%	no data	237	51%	12,570	462
Dec-14	70	15%	38,760	18	4%	124,281	23	5%	no data	243	53%	12,474	459
Mar-15	73	16%	40,155	23	5%	128,868	19	4%	no data	244	53%	12,374	463
Jun-15	74	17%	40,625	25	6%	147,777	20	5%	no data	219	50%	12,541	440
Sep-15	73	16%	40,040	25	6%	142,934	16	4%	no data	225	50%	12,549	450
Dec-15	70	16%	41,243	27	6%	145,196	17	4%	no data	217	49%	12,428	442
Mar-16	69	15%	42,215	29	6%	146,120	22	5%	no data	257	56%	12,453	462
Jun-16	77	16%	42,145	34	7%	157,136	28	6%	38,608	259	53%	12,630	493
Sep-16	84	17%	42,750	32	6%	169,996	27	5%	41,376	254	51%	12,688	502
Dec-16	89	18%	43,038	36	7%	175,954	28	6%	41,037	258	52%	12,857	499
Mar-17	103	19%	43,502	44	8%	179,669	26	5%	42,416	269	51%	12,872	529
Jun-17	100	18%	40,933	49	9%	151,450	26	5%	60,946	272	50%	13,227	546
Sep-17	95	18%	40,991	35	7%	161,487	36	7%	57,928	270	51%	13,213	528
Dec-17	103	19%	41,277	43	8%	162,623	36	7%	58,358	272	50%	13,169	539
Mar-18	98	18%	41,099	44	8%	165,935	30	6%	55,728	273	51%	13,116	534
May-18	97	18%	41,186	45	8%	162,220	25	5%	42,496	288	53%	13,767	543
Jun-18	97	18%	40,083	45	8%	164,794	24	4%	48,006	297	54%	13,403	554
Jul-18	99	17%	40,094	46	8%	162,932	24	4%	46,392	301	53%	13,485	566
Aug-18	97	17%	40,257	46	8%	161,757	26	5%	46,026	302	54%	13,455	561
Sep-18	97	17%	40,425	45	8%	159,388	28	5%	46,073	302	54%	13,441	557
Oct-18	97	17%	39,874	45	8%	163,201	30	5%	47,481	299	54%	13,477	555
Nov-18	98	18%	40,170	45	8%	164,014	28	5%	46,757	299	54%	13,433	553

Note:
The variance between the current total number of Looked After Children (553) and the total internal fostering and external placement numbers (470) is children with care orders, adoption placements etc. They are still classed as LAC but do not incur any commissioned costs.





Blackpool Council – Public Health

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2018/19					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
PUBLIC HEALTH						
NET EXPENDITURE						
MANAGEMENT AND OVERHEADS	1,034	976	58	1,034	-	-
HEALTHCARE AND HEALTH IMPROVEMENT	145	37	108	145	-	-
CHILDREN (5-19) - PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMMES	600	600	-	600	-	-
CHILDREN'S 0-5 SERVICES	2,454	2,433	21	2,454	-	-
HEALTH PROTECTION-MANDATED AND LICENCES	21	7	14	21	-	-
TOBACCO CONTROL	383	38	345	383	-	-
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING	-	(1)	1	-	-	-
SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES - MANDATED	2,165	1,686	479	2,165	-	-
SUBSTANCE MISUSE (DRUGS AND ALCOHOL)	2,675	1,727	948	2,675	-	-
HARM REDUCTION (SEXUAL HEALTH, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL)	860	678	182	860	-	-
HEALTHY WEIGHT/WEIGHT MANAGEMENT	78	33	45	78	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	8,036	(334)	8,370	8,036	-	-
GRANT	(18,428)	(13,821)	(4,607)	(18,428)	-	-
COMMUNITY SAFETY	99	(95)	186	91	(8)	-
CCTV	(11)	65	(38)	27	38	-
TOTALS	111	(5,971)	6,112	141	30	-

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 8 months of 2018/19 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with the service leads.

Public Health Grant

The Public Health Grant is a central government grant which is ring-fenced. The ring-fencing has now been extended from March 2018 to March 2020.

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.

The Public Health Directorate are forecasting an overall spend of the full grant, £18,428,000, for the financial year to March 2019.

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.

Community Safety

This service is expecting an underspend of £8k relating to staff vacancies.

CCTV

The service has transferred from Communications & Regeneration and is expecting an overspend of £38k by year-end. This is due to the increasing costs of monitoring and reducing income levels. A business case is underway regarding the relocation of the CCTV service to the Municipal Buildings, which will also look to address the pressure against the CCTV revenue budget.

Summary of the Public Health Directorate financial position

As at the end of November 2018, the Public Health Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £30k for the financial year to March 2019.

Budget Holder – Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health

Blackpool Council – Budgets Outside the Cash Limit

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2017/18 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	2018/19			F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
		EXPENDITURE APR - NOV £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000		
BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT						
NET EXPENDITURE						
TREASURY MANAGEMENT	9,861	6,264	3,126	9,390	(471)	-
PARKING SERVICES	(4,786)	(3,495)	(601)	(4,096)	690	-
CORPORATE SUBSCRIPTIONS	152	132	20	152	-	-
HOUSING BENEFITS	1,384	925	459	1,384	-	-
COUNCIL TAX & NNDR COST OF COLLECTION	1,103	755	368	1,123	20	-
SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES	(1,172)	212	(1,575)	(1,363)	(191)	-
LAND CHARGES	(51)	(96)	31	(65)	(14)	-
CONCESSIONARY FARES	4,266	2,026	1,900	3,926	(340)	-
EMPLOYERS PREVIOUS YEARS' PENSION LIABILITY	2,890	1,927	963	2,890	-	-
NEW HOMES BONUS	(465)	(348)	(117)	(465)	-	-
TOTALS	13,182	8,302	4,574	12,876	(306)	-

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 8 months of 2018/19 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

Treasury Management is forecasting an underspend of £471k. The Council is currently using temporary and long-term borrowing to finance Prudentially-funded capital expenditure. While temporary investment rates and temporary borrowing rates are low the Treasury team will continue to use a mix of both temporary and long-term borrowing to fund planned capital expenditure. This offsets the Business Loans Fund which now has a savings target of £2,250k.

Parking Services

This service is forecasting a pressure of £690k; this pressure is mainly due to 'on-street parking' schemes not being feasible, loss of parking spaces, prudential borrowing costs, increased business rates and reduced income from staff parking. This pressure has increased due to increased loss of income mainly due to loss of town centre on-street parking spaces. As at Week 38 (w/e 16th December) parking income is at £4.8m with patronage at 1,023,821. Car park patronage is up by 9,087 and income is up by £204,190 on 2017/18. On-Street Pay and Display is down on patronage by 41,892 and income is down by £45,200.

Council Tax and NNDR Cost of Collection

This service is now forecasting an overspend of £20k due to the engagement of an outside agency to help improve the amount of collectable Business Rates.

Subsidiary Companies

This service is now forecasting a favourable variance of £191k. This is due to the reducing balance payback of Prudentially-borrowed schemes.

Land Charges

This service is forecasting an underspend of £14k due to increased income.

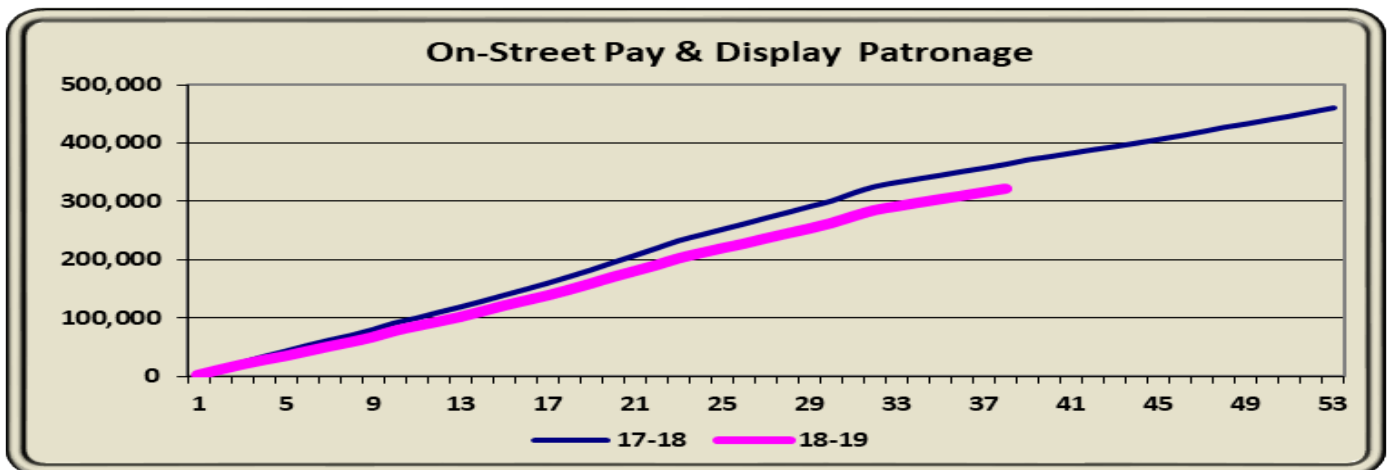
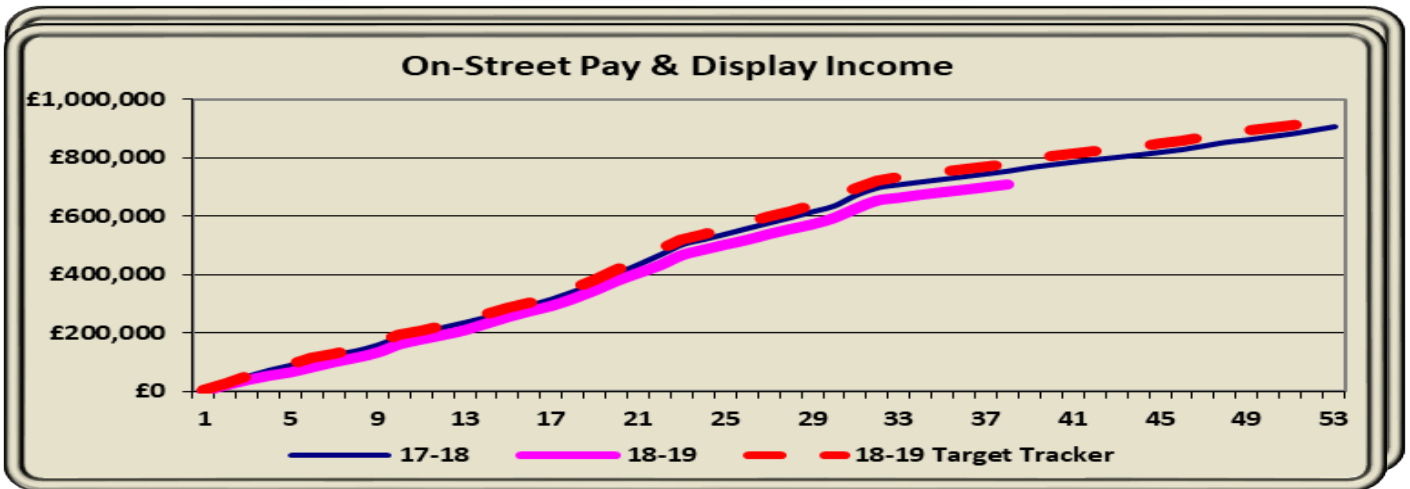
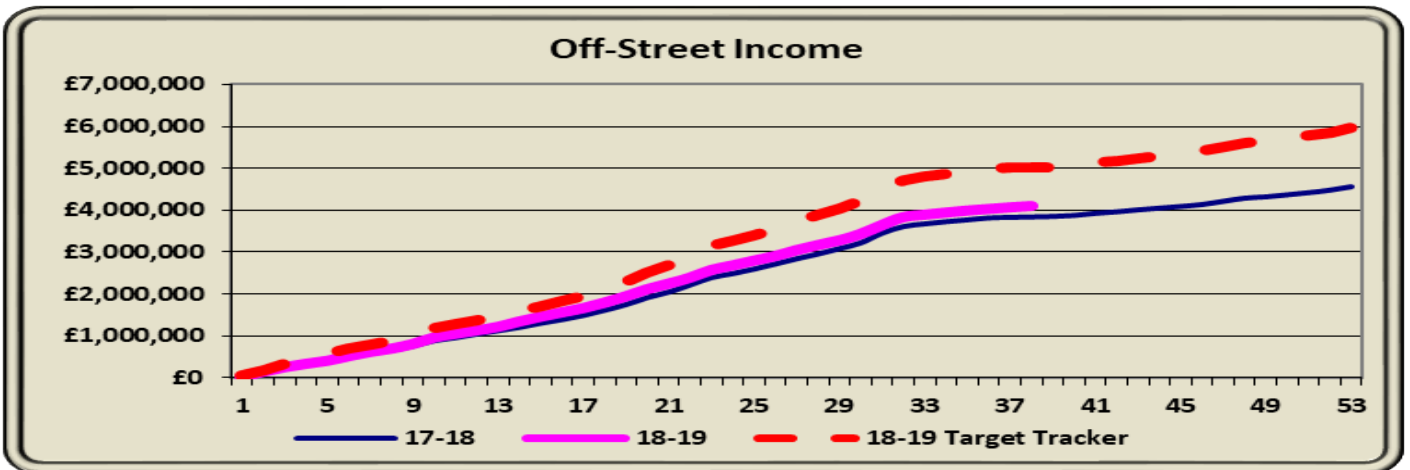
Concessionary Fares

This service is re-forecasting a favourable variance of £340k. This relates to a decrease in bus and tram patronage by NoW cardholders as a result of the equalisation of pension age and consequently eligibility to 67 and a new generation of drivers who would otherwise have used public transport.

Summary of the revenue forecasts

After 8 months of the financial year, the Budgets Outside the Cash Limit services are forecasting a £306k underspend.

Car Parking Trends



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**2018/19 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 8**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/18	Budget Brought Forward 2017/18	Capital Programme 2018/19	Total Available Budget 2018/19	Spend to Date April - Nov	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	40,432	38,120	2,312	-	2,312	-	-	-	
Office Accommodation Strategy	1,408	1,408	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ICT Refresh	2,450	1,583	67	800	867	693	174	-	
CLC Remodelling scheme	859	705	154	-	154	75	79	-	
Municipal Building Works	2,668	2,908	(240)	-	(240)	(11)	-	-	
Other Resources Schemes	1,442	913	279	250	529	7	286	-	
Total Resources	49,259	45,637	2,572	1,050	3,622	764	539	-	
Director Responsible for Adult Services									
Support to Vulnerable Adults - Grants	5,963	4,292	38	1,633	1,671	905	766	-	
Other Adult Services Schemes	4,494	3,284	770	440	1,210	330	880	-	
Total Adult Services	10,457	7,576	808	2,073	2,881	1,235	1,646	-	
Director Responsible for Community and Environmental Services									
Anchorsholme Seawall	27,515	24,776	2,739	-	2,739	96	-	-	
Coastal Protection Studies	1,759	1,423	40	296	336	68	268	-	
Marton Mere Pumping Station & Spillway	415	372	43	-	43	-	-	-	
Marton Mere HLF	360	332	28	-	28	-	-	-	
Layton Depot Refuse Work	750	-	-	750	750	9	741	-	
Bridges	11,365	9,897	269	1,199	1,468	1,081	387	-	
Total Community and Environmental Services	42,164	36,800	3,119	2,245	5,364	1,254	1,396	-	

**2018/19 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 8**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/18	Budget Brought Forward 2017/18	Capital Programme 2018/19	Total Available Budget 2018/19	Spend to Date April - Nov	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Governance & Partnership Services									
Carleton Crematorium Works 2018-20	1,860	-	-	1,860	1,860	195	665	-	
Total Governance & Partnership Services	1,860	-	-	1,860	1,860	195	665	-	
Chief Executive									
Housing									
Foxhall Village	12,500	12,276	224	-	224	149	290	215	(1)
Work towards Decent Homes Standard	3,695	-	-	3,695	3,695	1,393	2,302	-	
Queens Park Redevelopment Ph2	12,708	9,557	-	3,151	3,151	2,343	808	-	
Troutbeck Redevelopment	-	-	-	-	-	138	-	-	
Hoyle Redevelopment	-	-	-	-	-	544	-	-	
Total Chief Executive	28,903	21,833	224	6,846	7,070	4,567	3,400	215	

**2018/19 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 8**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/18	Budget Brought Forward 2017/18	Capital Programme 2018/19	Total Available Budget 2018/19	Spend to Date April - Nov	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Communication and Regeneration									
Regeneration									
College Relocation/Illumination Depot	13,005	13,924	(1,019)	100	(919)	-	-	-	
Leisure Assets	62,099	61,414	685	-	685	635	50	-	
Conference Centre	26,600	2,203	5,797	12,036	17,833	6,516	4,317	-	
Leopold Grove	557	503	54	-	54	-	54	-	
Spanish Hall roof & façade	1,995	164	1,831	-	1,831	918	913	-	
CBD Phase 2 - Hotel	24,500	1,178	3,943	2,581	6,524	35	489	-	
Land Release Fund	3,150	-	-	3,150	3,150	39	-	-	
Town Centre Investment	3,200	-	-	3,200	3,200	3,001	199	-	
Other	808	667	141	-	141	92	49	-	
Transport									
Local Transport Plan 2016/17	860	824	36	-	36	36	-	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2016/17	583	583	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Local Transport Plan Quality Corridor 2016/17	82	82	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Local Transport Plan ITM 2016/17	165	165	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Local Transport Plan 2017/18	1,304	558	746	-	746	432	314	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2017/18	523	523	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Local Transport Plan Quality Corridor 2017/18	200	160	40	-	40	-	40	-	
Local Transport Plan 2018/19	1,764	-	-	1,764	1,764	998	766	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2018/19	483	-	-	483	483	-	483	-	
Local Transport Plan Quality Corridor 2018/19	281	-	-	281	281	-	281	-	
Local Transport Capital Funding 2018/19	532	-	-	532	532	-	532	-	
Quality Corridor	6,600	1,956	302	2,478	2,780	1,055	725	-	
Intelligent Traffic Management	1,510	1,526	(16)	-	(16)	(16)	-	-	
Blackpool/Fleetwood Tramway	99,990	93,057	6,933	-	6,933	288	2,352	-	
Tramway Extension	16,400	7,352	-	6,633	6,633	3,742	2,891	-	
Sintropher	1,903	2,779	(876)	-	(876)	-	-	-	
Total Communication and Regeneration	269,094	189,618	18,597	33,238	51,835	17,771	14,455	-	

**2018/19 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 8**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/18	Budget Brought Forward 2017/18	Capital Programme 2018/19	Total Available Budget 2018/19	Spend to Date April - Nov	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Children's Services									
Devolved Capital to Schools	420	196	148	76	224	32	192	-	
Woodlands Development Scheme	2,155	1,446	254	455	709	865	(156)	-	
Demolition Aspire	440	409	31	-	31	(11)	42	-	
Park Expansion	610	-	410	200	610	161	449	-	
Basic Need	4,081	206	(38)	3,913	3,875	282	311	-	
Condition	649	31	260	357	617	-	617	-	
Other Children's Schemes	607	537	70	-	70	18	52	-	
Total Children's Services	8,962	2,825	1,135	5,001	6,136	1,347	1,507	-	
CAPITAL TOTAL	410,699	304,289	26,455	52,313	78,768	27,133	23,608	215	

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Notes

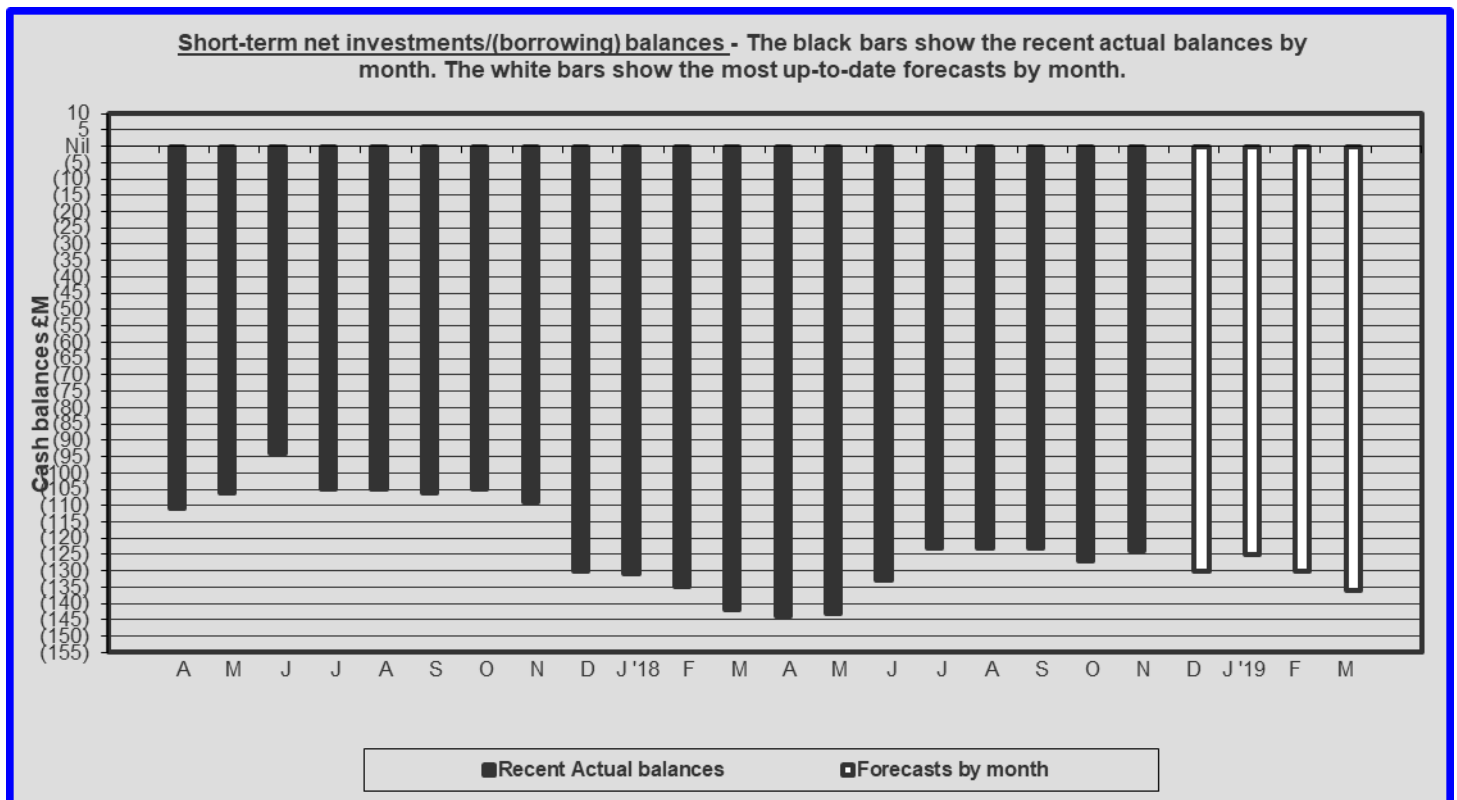
(1) - Foxhall Village scheme is forecast to overspend by £215k due to all property foundations requiring piling.

Blackpool Council

Cash summary - budget, actual and forecast:

CASH FLOW - SUMMARY - 18/19							
FULL YEAR CASH FLOW ORIGINAL BUDGET (*)	APR - NOV CASH FLOW ORIGINAL BUDGET (*)	APR - NOV CASH FLOW ACTUAL	DEC - 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 - NOV MORE / (LESS) CASH ACTUAL vs ORIGINAL BUDGET	DEC - 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
74	49	52	25	RECEIPTS	3	-	3
106	77	69	27	Housing Benefit & Subsidy	(8)	(2)	(10)
12	8	11	4	Council tax and NNDR	3	-	3
30	21	27	7	VAT	6	(2)	4
99	68	87	34	RSG & BRR	19	3	22
100	68	75	36	Other Grants	7	4	11
-	-	172	1	Other Income	172	1	173
25	25	121	15	Money Market Transactions Received	96	15	111
446	316	614	149	Receipt of Loans	298	19	317
9	7	7	2	RECEIPTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES	-	-	-
249	168	202	90	PAYMENTS	(34)	(9)	(43)
-	-	-	-	Police & Fire	-	-	-
109	73	65	31	General Creditors	-	-	-
65	44	42	21	RSG & BRR	8	5	13
172	130	295	116	Salaries & wages	2	-	2
604	422	611	260	Housing Benefits	(165)	(74)	(239)
				Money Market Transactions Paid Out	(189)	(78)	(267)
				PAYMENTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES			
(158)	(106)	3	(111)	NET CASH FLOW IN/(OUT)	109	(59)	50
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 8 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 2018 due to the receipt of grant income from central government in advance of expenditure. The Council is predominantly using temporary borrowing to finance Prudentially-funded capital expenditure, though is switching to fixed Public Works Loan Board loans as and when opportune to do so (including £8m on loans made to Blackpool Transport Services in order to refresh the bus fleet). The take-up of loans from the Business Loans Fund is expected to continue steadily during 2018/19.

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 2019.

Blackpool Council

Balance Sheet / Working capital:

BALANCE SHEET 2018/2019				
LAST Y/END		CURRENT	CHANGE	NEXT Y/END
31 Mar 18		30 Nov 18	Movement since	31 Mar 19
£000s		Actual	31 Mar 18	Forecast
		£000s	£000s	£000s
768,815	Property, Plant and Equipment	795,948	27,133	805,820
62,281	Long-term Assets	77,176	14,895	96,781
	Current Assets			
51,094	Debtors	53,450	2,356	55,000
416	Inventories	507	91	400
9,366	Cash and cash equivalents	5,682	(3,684)	9,500
891,972	Total Assets	932,763	40,791	967,501
	Current Liabilities			
(153,776)	Borrowing Repayable within 12 months	(131,800)	21,976	(161,531)
(59,526)	Creditors	(56,980)	2,546	(52,000)
	Long-term Liabilities			
(90,343)	Borrowing Repayable in excess of 12 months	(98,343)	(8,000)	(91,874)
(13,197)	Capital Grants in Advance	(13,197)	-	(13,000)
(15,151)	Provisions	(20,539)	(5,388)	(15,000)
(319,769)	Other Long-term Liabilities	(319,769)	-	(320,000)
240,210	Total Assets less Liabilities	292,135	51,925	314,096
	Reserves			
(57,805)	Usable Reserves	(56,457)	1,348	(49,958)
(182,405)	Unusable Reserves	(235,678)	(53,273)	(264,138)
(240,210)	Total Reserves	(292,135)	(51,925)	(314,096)

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 8. 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.

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 were sold.

Over the 8-month period there has been a decrease in short-term borrowing of £22.0m and a decrease in cash and cash equivalents of £3.7m which mainly reflects the phasing of capital grants received in advance to fund the capital expenditure on Property, Plant and Equipment (£27.1m) and Long-term Assets (£14.9m).

Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officers:	Alan Cavill, Director of Communications and Regeneration
Date of Meeting	23 January 2019

BLACKPOOL TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To provide an overview of progress on the various projects being undertaken to secure the regeneration of Blackpool Town Centre and to inform the Committee of planned future work.

2.0 Recommendation:

- 2.1 To note the progress being made and to identify any issues requiring additional attention.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation:

- 3.1 To ensure constructive and robust scrutiny of the strategic approach to regenerating Blackpool Town Centre following a request by the Committee

- 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:

None.

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 Blackpool Town Centre Strategy

The Blackpool Town Centre Strategy was adopted in March 2013 and provides a **15 year vision** supported by **6 key objectives**:

- **Re-establish** the town centre as the first choice shopping destination for the Fylde Coast
- **Strengthen** the town centre as a vibrant leisure, entertainment, cultural and business tourism destination for residents and visitors
- **Grow** the town centre as a place to do business by creating a central business district and creative industries hub
- **Create** a choice of quality homes within and around the town centre
- **Improve** the quality of buildings, streets and spaces and their maintenance and management;
- **Provide** convenient access to the town centre by all modes of travel and enable easier pedestrian movement.

5.2 The Strategy identifies issues, strengths, opportunities and threats for the Town Centre:

- Catchment, Visitor Profile and Performance;
- Retail and Service Provision;
- Leisure Entertainment, Culture and Business Tourism
- Quality of the Environment;
- Access and Movement.

5.3 The Strategy contains a 5 year Action Plan and recognises the need for a co-ordinated comprehensive approach requiring strong town centre partnership working led by Blackpool Council supported by investment agencies working with private landlords, local businesses, service providers, developers and the Town Centre BID.

5.4 2018 has been a crucial year in terms of refocusing the town centre strategy so that it plans for a vibrant mix of uses, including an enhanced leisure and business offer, rather than having an over-reliance on the increasingly challenged retail environment as evidenced by the 22.2% vacancy rate.

5.5 Substantial progress has been made on key priorities in the action plan (which is to be reviewed and updated) with these efforts being given a further filip by the creation of the Growth and Prosperity Team in March 2017 to lead the coordination and delivery of the Council's investments, the main progress on which is set out below.

5.6 Talbot Gateway Central Business District

The first phase of Talbot Gateway Central Business District, completed in 2014, saw £80 million of investment with over 1,000 employees brought into the town centre

based in Grade A1 office accommodation with accompanying retail units, the construction of a flagship Sainsbury's store, the refurbished of Talbot multi-storey car park and the provision of much improved traffic management and public spaces in the surrounding area. The success of this project was further enhanced in 2018 with 200 jobs from Slater Gordon being located in One Bickerstaffe Square together with the establishment of the Lancaster University/Blackpool and Fylde College/Blackpool Council Health Innovation Campus.

5.7 Talbot Gateway Phase 2 is set to commence in 2020 following the demolition of Wilko and construction of a new 4 star hotel, the tramway extension and a transport interchange (connecting the tram to the rail system) and plans are also underway to bring forward further proposals for Phase 3.

5.8 **Tramway Extension**

Work on the highways for the tramway extension from the Promenade to Dickson Road is now nearing completion, with a view to completing the works along Talbot Road by the end of February. Streetscape improvement works as part of the Quality Corridors project (see below) have been integrated with this work.

5.9 **Tower Street/Wilko/Cinema**

Work continues to progress on the proposed Tower Street expansion of the Houndshell shopping centre. Further due diligence is currently being carried out on the scheme which will deliver a new Wilko store and an IMAX-style cinema. That will, in turn, allow for the demolition of the existing Wilko building, the completion of the transport interchange, and the development of a new 4 star Holiday Inn at one of the key gateways to the resort

5.10 **Conference Centre**

Construction of the new £26m state-of-the-art Conference Centre continues to progress with the main section of the primary steel structure now erected, the secondary element of the main frame which forms the entrance foyer will be built imminently following completion of the demolition to the basement and foyer area of the existing Winter Gardens complex. This will be followed by fitting of the secondary steel frame, roofing and main cladding elements and subsequently external doors, windows and internal fit out. The new building is due to be handed over towards the end of 2019. The first major conference to use the new centre is the GMB, one of Britain's biggest unions, which will return to the resort in June 2020.

5.11 **Next Generation Hotels**

Following the completion of the Hampton by Hilton hotel in 2018 and the plans for the Holiday Inn as part of the Talbot Gateway, work is also underway on two more "next generation" hotels that will complement the new conference and leisure offer.

The new Boulevard Hotel at Blackpool Pleasure Beach is at an advanced stage with a provisional May 2019 opening date and steelwork is now being erected for the new Premier Inn on Talbot Square. Construction work is also underway on the resort's first five-star hotel, the new Sands Venue Resort Hotel. Outline planning consent has also been received for the proposed Winter Gardens 4 star hotel and we are working with the majority site owner to support the scheme to development.

5.12 Blackpool Central

In December 2018 the Council made a public announcement regarding Nikal Ltd and Media Invest Entertainment's proposals for a £300 million investment in Blackpool Central. The proposals to agree to the adoption of the proposed Masterplan were subsequently approved by the Executive on 10th December. The Masterplan forms the basis for progressing a major leisure development on the site in line with the adopted planning framework.

The scheme involves the comprehensive redevelopment of the site with a mixed use leisure development, which includes a number of new world class attractions, food and beverage venues together with new hotels, car parking and residential apartments. The scheme will be themed upon the novel 'Chariots of the Gods' written by Eric Von Däniken in the 1960's and 1970's, based upon unsolved mysteries of the past such as the pyramids of Egypt and Mexico, ancient cave drawings, the monuments of Easter Island and hypothesis of extra-terrestrial visitors.

There will be six key leisure components to the scheme, these are:

- i) The Flying Theatre
- ii) Adventure Land
- iii) Thrill and Gaming Zone
- iv) Virtual Reality Experience
- v) Multi-Media Exhibition
- vi) Alien Diner

The proposals are to be undertaken in four phases over a period of 8/9 years. Enabling works are planned to commence on site 2020 with the construction of a 1000 space multi-storey car park, followed by Phase One which will consist of the main attractions. Phase One is planned for completion and opening to the public during 2024, with subsequent phases being constructed up to 2029.

The agreement between the Council and the Developer will be that of land sale, with developable plots being sold under the terms of a long lease. Draft Heads of Terms have been agreed with the detailed negotiations continuing to agree the final legal and financial matters. It is anticipated that these discussions will have concluded towards the end February 2019. Thereafter, consultation regarding the proposals will continue into 2019, with the Developers looking to submit a planning application at

the end 2019.

It is estimated that upon completion the proposal will see an additional 600,000 visitors in to Blackpool, with £75m additional spend and approximately 1,000 jobs being created.

5.13 **Blackpool Museum**

Work is progressing on the development of the museum that will celebrate Blackpool's unique place in popular culture and create another year-round visitor attraction. The museum team continues to pursue funding streams and a detailed bid to the Coastal Communities Fund is expected to be made in Spring 2019 and all funding will be in place before the end of 2019. The museum is to be located on the first floor of the new Sands Venue Resort Hotel.

5.14 **Quality Corridors**

The aim of the £7.34m Quality Corridors Project is to encourage the economic revitalisation of Blackpool town centre through a programme of highways, public realm and building improvement schemes. The project is jointly funded by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and Blackpool Council.

There are two distinct elements to the project, the first, and largest, being improvements to the highways network in the town centre. This element will renew road surfaces and paving to improve both traffic flow and pedestrian access across the town centre. Investment has already taken place in part Church St/Caunce St, Cookson St and Dickson Road. Further phases in 2019/20 will see investment in in Topping St, Edward St, Leopold Grove (opposite the conference centre), and Talbot Road (aligned with the tramway infrastructure). Public art and green infrastructure will be incorporated wherever possible.

The second element seeks to improve the appearance of the commercial properties in a designated grant area. i.e. shopfronts Over £1million is available with grants of up to 95% considered for schemes that preserve and enhance the quality and character of the town centre through the repair and refurbishment of buildings. Significant interest has been shown from businesses and property owners with several at an advanced stage of design and quotes for work. 3 projects have been approved so far, with one completed. This will be increasingly visible over 2019 as these multiple smaller investments get underway.

5.15 **Business Loans Fund**

In February 2017, Full Council approved an extension of a former £10m loans fund to £100m to create a new Blackpool Business Loans Fund. The primary purpose of the fund is to promote economic development in Blackpool whilst ensuring that any such investment delivers a secure financial return for the Council. The Council has subsequently approved several strategic investments in health, transport,

accommodation and manufacturing sectors, as well as smaller loans to facilitate new hospitality-related businesses. In terms of town centre, there are four relevant investments totalling £8.86m: the largest relates to the new 5 star Sands Resort Hotel currently under development. Additional investments included the Brew Room pub/brewery on Church Street of the Wok Inn Asian noodle bar.

5.16 **Car Parking Strategy**

Existing town centre parking provision provides a total of 4,173 spaces (3,221 public and 952 private). During peak periods, there are acute pressures on town centre car parks. These are likely to increase as the major regeneration initiatives in the Council's £1 billion Growth and Prosperity Programme that are currently being driven forward by the Council in partnership with the private sector increase the attractiveness of the town centre and the resort. Parking and associated traffic circulation issues are therefore being addressed, together with the need to improve and replace Blackpool's coach handling facilities

The reductions include the impacts of Talbot Gateways Phase 1 and 2 and future phases, the loss of the Tower Street car park as a result of the Wilko and Imax style cinema, and the loss of the surface level car park on the former Central Station site (although the intention is for the current provision here to be replaced on and off site). There is also the additional demand to be created by Blackpool Central, the new Conference centre, the new hotels and the extension of the Houndshill shopping centre and the further development of Talbot Gateway.

As a consequence a significant piece of work is being undertaken to review the position and the opportunities for providing additional car parking with a full report to be presented to the Council's Executive in February 2019.

5.17 **Future High Streets Fund**

Due to the challenges faced by high streets throughout the country, the Government announced in November a forthcoming new fund - the £675 million "Future High Streets Fund" set up to help local areas to respond and adapt to changing shopping habits and customer needs.

The objective of the £675m Fund is to: **"Renew and reshape town centres and high streets in a way that improves experience, drives growth and ensures future sustainability"**.

Capital co-funding is available towards regeneration projects that bring transformative change through innovative proposals.

Identified need for investment should fall under the following 5 themes:

- Investment in physical infrastructure
- Acquisition and assembly of land including to support new housing, workspaces and public realm (consolidating properties)
- Improvements to transport access, traffic flow and circulation in the area
- Supporting change of use including (where appropriate) housing delivery and densification
- Supporting adaptation of the high street in response to changing technology

Bidding local authorities need to put forward a single, transformative submission covering one high street or town centres in their area.

It is expected that projects are co-funded by public and private sector additions and this will be taken into consideration as part of the assessment of projects. The Fund will contribute up to a maximum of £25 million to each successful place. However, Government expect to see a range of project sizes coming forward, many of which are in the region of £5-10 million per town centre.

There will be **two** rounds of the Fund, both with a two-phase application process

Phase 1

Phase 1 has an application deadline of 22 March 2019: this is an Expression of Interest stage where they will assess places on the need for funding, nature of the challenge, strategic approach and the vision for the future of the town centre.

Phase 2

Shortlisted places will receive some revenue funding to support the development of their high street strategies which shall include specific project plans and associated business cases setting out how they shall regenerate these places. These business cases will be assessed in accordance with departmental and HM Treasury Green Book appraisal methodologies and criteria to be published in due course.

The full business case development phase is expected to take 6 to 12 months, with some places taking less time and receiving decisions on capital funding at an earlier stage.

The Council intends to make a submission to support its Town Centre regeneration strategy and will be consulting with partners to maximise the prospects of a successful submission.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

6.0 List of Appendices:

6.1 None

7.0 Legal Considerations:

7.1 Most of the developments referred to either do or will include individual legal agreements to protect the Council's investment and to secure the planned outcomes.

8.0 Human Resources considerations:

8.1 The implementation of this programme generates a heavy work load for which staff resources have been put in place.

9.0 Equalities Considerations:

9.1 The implementation of the Council's Growth and Prosperity Programme is designed to create extensive opportunities for employment and economic benefit to Blackpool residents and businesses.

10.0 Financial considerations:

10.1 Each of the developments referred to have significant financial implications for which individual business cases are prepared and factored into the Council's budget. This includes securing significant levels private sector investment and grant funding.

11.0 Risk Management considerations:

11.1 Each of the developments has a business case which includes a review of risks.

12.0 Ethical considerations:

12.1 None

13.0 Internal / External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 Both formal and informal consultation has been and will continue to be a key part of the implementation of such an extensive programme of improvement.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None

Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	John Hawkin, Chief Operating Officer, Community and Environmental Services
Date of Meeting	23 January 2019

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS (SUP) POLICY UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To provide an update on the development of the 'Single Use Plastics Policy' and associated Charter for the Council and wholly owned companies to sign up to and implement.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To provide feedback on the draft policy and charter as well as the associated work and communication programmes.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 Reducing single-use plastics (SUP) is something our members have told us they expect and value. As a seaside tourist destination, we recognise that poorly managed waste plastics pose a threat to the global marine environment. Therefore, within the context of this Policy we commit to minimizing our use of plastics, in particular SUP's, and to reducing its impact on the environment.

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

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes/No

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 Do nothing, maintain the status quo.

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priorities are:

- "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"

- “Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”
- “Organisational resilience”

6.0 Background information

- 6.1 Following the initial report on single-use plastics in 2018, Cllr Humphreys tabled a motion for the Council to develop a policy in relation to the reduction of SUP’s within the organisation. He has also requested that a ‘Charter’ be developed for Council partners and wholly owned companies to signal their commitment to the policy. The attached policy, charter, Communications plan and timeframe documents will be referred to CLT for approval in late January/early February.
- 6.2 Central governments much anticipated Resources and Waste Strategy (RAWS) was finally published in late December, following a lengthy delay due to Brexit. In support of the government’s 25 year Environment Plan, the RAWS provides a clear focus on plastics, in particular SUP.
- 6.3 By introducing new incentives – regulatory and economic, along with better infrastructure and information, these measures help people do the right thing. Moreover, by protecting the natural world, and leaving it in a healthier state for the next generation, it will help uphold the core pledge of the 25 Year Environment Plan. The Strategy reflects that ambition. Leaving the European Union is an opportunity to refresh and renew our environmental policy, and show domestic and international leadership.
- 6.4 Secondly, these new measures support the commitments, in the Industrial and Clean Growth Strategies, to double resource productivity and eliminate avoidable waste, both by 2050.
- 6.5 Thirdly, and as importantly, we know there is an urgent need for new thinking to tackle avoidable waste, particularly plastic.
- 6.6 An estimated eight million tonnes of plastic waste enter the sea each year. Devastating evidence of the damage to wildlife and habitats has been shown in programmes such as Blue Planet II on the BBC, and Sky’s Ocean Rescue campaign. The government will consult on increasing the successful 5p plastic bag charge to 10p, and extending the scheme to small retailers.
- 6.7 It will also consult on introducing a deposit return scheme for drinks containers, to reward people for bringing back bottles and encourage them not to litter their empties. Government has also consulted on banning plastic straws (except for medical use), stirrers and cotton buds.
- 6.8 Plastic pollution is, however, far from the only threat to the environment. Radical

action is necessary to improve our use of resources and our handling of waste. Government moves to cut consumption of single-use plastics have paved the way for the fundamental reforms set out in the strategy.

- 6.9 Moving forward, the Council policy seeks to get our own house in order first. The policy will then seek to solicit the co-operation and commitment of local businesses, schools and the community – supported by a dedicated media and communications programme.
- 6.10 It is worth noting that some of the wholly owned companies have already made significant advancements. For example, The Sandcastle (BOCL) has already replaced all plastic cutlery with wooden and card alternatives, including paper straws. It is proposed to draw on the experiences of where successful implementation of sustainable alternatives have already taken place, in delivering the Councils solution.
- 6.11 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? Yes/No

7.0 List of Appendices:

- 7.1 Appendix 8(a) – Draft Policy
Appendix 8(b) – Draft Charter
Appendix 8(c) – Draft Work/Communications Programme
Appendix 8(d) – Draft Action Plan

8.0 Legal considerations:

- 8.1 None

9.0 Human resources considerations:

- 9.1 Implementing the draft policy and charter will require the co-operation and co-ordination of service heads across the organisation, particularly Procurement and Waste Management as well as the directors of the wholly owned companies.

10.0 Equalities considerations:

- 10.1 In the course of developing this policy, we have considered whether there could be unintended adverse impacts on people because of shared characteristics protected by the Equality Act. We believe the policy will not have any indirectly discriminatory effects.

11.0 Financial considerations:

- 11.1 There may be potential additional costs associated with sourcing suitable sustainable

alternative products.

12.0 Risk management considerations:

12.1 Potential reputational damage due to continued use of SUP's.

13.0 Ethical considerations:

13.1 The policy and charter supports the Councils ethical pursuit of corporate social responsibility and sustainability (including organisational resilience) as well as the Councils core values.

14.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

14.1 None at this stage but will likely involve further consultations as the policy develops.

15.0 Background papers:

15.1 Our Waste, Our resources: A Strategy For England (2018)

Appendix 8(a) Blackpool Council Draft Reduction of Single-use Plastics Policy

Our Commitment

Blackpool Council is committed to environmental protection, including supporting the circular economy, preventing pollution arising from our activities and embedding best practices for corporate sustainability. Our message is simple: we want to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Our Policy

The Head of Waste Policy is responsible for this policy. All employees share responsibility for its delivery. To achieve this, we have set out a number of commitments:

1. We will minimise the use of SUP's to the point where they become unnecessary, supported by recyclable and compostable alternatives.
2. We will work with our employees, supply chain and companies to use suitable alternatives where practicable and encourage and enable them to take practical steps to reduce the use of single-use plastic.
3. We will seek innovative recycling opportunities for the plastic waste we, our companies and our supply chain partners produce in our offices, buildings and daily operations.
4. We will remove disposable cups at locations where it is most practical with the aim of expanding this throughout all of our buildings where disposable cups are used. We will investigate alternatives to the composite coffee cups.
5. We will support and encourage employee and community initiatives to remove plastic waste and litter from the local environment through the **Keep Blackpool Tidy Campaign** and expect the same from our wholly owned companies.
6. We will expect all members of this Charter to publish key achievable milestones in their journey to becoming plastic-free.

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Appendix 8(b) Blackpool Council Draft Reduction of Single-use Plastics Charter

This charter is a declaration of our organisation’s commitment to environmental protection, including supporting the circular economy, preventing pollution arising from our activities and embedding best practices for corporate sustainability. We acknowledge that significant progress has been made in achieving greater levels of reuse and recycling over recent years. We also acknowledge that further progress is required to achieve better national and local outcomes. Our message is simple: we want to reduce, reuse and recycle.

We, Blackpool Council and our wholly owned companies, commit to:

- Minimise the use of SUP’s wherever possible. Only after all efforts have been exhausted to reduce our use of SUPs will we then look to use recyclable / compostable alternatives.
- Work with our employees to raise awareness of their responsibility to reduce their use of SUPs.
- Work with our supply chains and partners to minimise the use of SUPs wherever possible. This will mean including environmental standards, specifically focused on reducing SUPs, into our procurement criteria.
- Find innovative recycling opportunities for the plastic waste we, our companies and our supply chain partners are unable to eradicate from offices, buildings and daily operations.
- We will support and encourage employee and community initiatives to remove plastic waste and litter from the local environment through the **Keep Blackpool Tidy Campaign** and expect the same from our wholly owned companies.
- We will expect all members of this Charter to publish key achievable milestones in their journey to becoming plastic-free.

Signatories

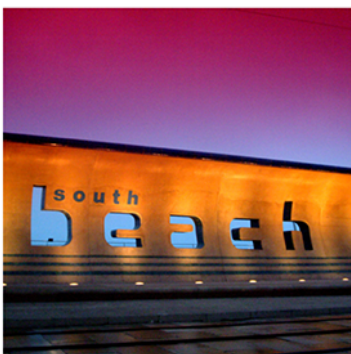
..... (Blackpool Council Chief Executive)

Date:

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Single-use plastic

Communications plan
January 2019



Single-use Plastics policy – comms plan

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Single-use Plastics policy – comms plan

Introduction

Plastic waste is one of the greatest environmental challenges facing the world today.

Blackpool Council is committed to environmental protection, including supporting the circular economy, preventing pollution arising from our activities and embedding best practices for corporate sustainability.

The council, by its very nature delivers a large number of diverse services – from School Breakfasts and Leisure Services to Social Care and Bereavement Services. All these services will, inadvertently, make use of SUP's in carrying out their day-to-day operations.

The council plans to make key changes to processes and procedures, including throughout the council's supply chain, to reduce the use of SUP's where possible and implement more sustainable alternative options.

The use of single-use plastic will be reduced to the point where they become unnecessary, supported by recyclable and compostable alternatives.

Aim

The aim of the communications activity is to raise awareness of the council's plan to become free of single-use plastic by 2020 and engaging staff and key stakeholders.

Key stakeholders will be kept informed on how the council plans to eliminate single-use plastic products.

A communications plan has been developed to outline how we will do this.

Objectives

Objective	Aims	Target/deliverable	Evaluation
Raise awareness of the council's aim to become free of single-use	Communicate with all Blackpool Council employees Recruit ambassadors/case studies from across the council	Recruit at least two positive spokespeople At least one piece of positive press coverage in print	Monitor internal comms analytics/social media reach/engagement

Single-use Plastics policy – comms plan

plastic by 2020	Better informed staff able to promote key campaign messages Liaise with print and broadcast media		Monitor press coverage Monitor opening rate of e-newsletter
Raise Blackpool Council's profile in terms of leading the way in reducing SUP usage	Generate interest from regional and national media	At least one article in trade press Publish LinkedIn posts for each phase of plan	Monitor press coverage Monitor follower numbers
Increase staff pride	Ensure the campaign narrative informs key internal comms messages	Include campaign narrative on every channel and keep this on SLT agenda Include campaign narrative in monthly staff e-newsletters distributed to 2,100 and quarterly printed magazine to 380 staff	Monitor opening rate of staff e-newsletter, Hub posts and spot check staff

The performance of activity will be monitored and evaluated as part of the campaign to determine which measures have been successful.

Primary audience and stakeholders

It is important to consider the following stakeholders in our communications:

- Blackpool Council employees (primary audience)
- Wholly owned companies
- Other council services e.g. property services
- All cabinet and elected members
- Blackpool residents

Single-use Plastics policy – comms plan

- Sport Blackpool members
- Schools
- Local businesses
- Media

Budget/funding

Most internal communication channels will be free. Once a full plan is developed potential costs will be agreed with Waste Services.

Branding

Blackpool Council's branding guidelines will be followed for all communication. Where appropriate, reference to partners will feature in artwork or communication

Key messages

The key messages that will be used across all communications include:

The message is simple: we want to reduce, reuse and recycle.

- Reduce your plastic footprint
- Join the reuse revolution
- Recycle at work
- Take action to stop plastic-pollution
- Keep up-to-date by following updates on the Hub
- Thanks for supporting a good cause

Communications schedule

Channels

The following channels will be used:

- Staff Intranet – Hub
- Monthly newsletter

Single-use Plastics policy – comms plan

- Digital screens
- Poster holders
- 1Quarter staff magazine
- Website
- Film
- Local media/trade media
- Your Blackpool council newspaper – print and e-version
- Staff as ambassadors

Initial communications plan to be developed once timescales are agreed

Date	Action	Supporting Comms Activity	Officers
Dec 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft policy developed for approval • Charter version for signing developed 	Proof draft of charter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPL • SB/Comms
Jan 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charter approved at CLT and signed • Source availability and supply of suitable alternatives to plastic stirrers, milk pots, composite coffee cups and water cups 	Internal comms launch via Hub and January e-newsletter. Using photo from charter signing and supporting artwork. Press release to local media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLT • JPL • Comms
Feb 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaign launched to remove & replace the above with suitable alternatives. • Review of Procurement policies to build in sustainability with a focus on SUP <p>****Pre-election period starts on March 12 ****</p>	Internal campaign Hub, screens and poster holders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comms • JPL/KF (JB)

Single-use Plastics policy – comms plan

March 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan Easter 'beach-clean' with Keep Blackpool Tidy volunteers Easter recycling campaign 	Internal promotion via Neil Jack's blog and usual channels. Create content for social media for beach clean. Promote via local press	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JPL/Comms/JE Comms
April 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with Blackpool Business Leadership Group to seek buy-in from local businesses and extend the policy. 	Presentation at next BBLG meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PW/JPL
May 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress report (including wholly owned companies) Publish milestones 	Updates to local media. Release to trade press on achievements so far. Update to staff via usual channels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JPL Comms

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Appendix 8(d) Minimisation of single-use plastics Draft Action Plan

Date	Action	Supporting Communications Activity	Responsible officers
Sept 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutiny Report on SUP Review council use of SUP's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JPL JPL
Dec 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft policy developed for approval Charter version for signing developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a Review and proof draft charter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JPL SB/Comms
Jan 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charter signed Source availability and supply of suitable alternatives to plastic stirrers, milk pots, composite coffee cups and water cups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal comms launch via Hub and January e-newsletter. Using photo from charter signing and supporting artwork. Press release to local media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JPL
Feb 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campaign launched to remove and replace the above with suitable alternatives. Review of Procurement policies to build in environmental sustainability with a focus on SUP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal campaign Hub, screens and poster holders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comms JPL/KF (JB)
March 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan Easter 'beach-clean' with Keep Blackpool Tidy volunteers Easter recycling campaign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal promotion via Neil Jack's blog and usual channels. Create content for social media for beach clean. Promote via local press 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JPL/Comms/JE Comms
April 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with Blackpool Business Leadership Group to further roll-out and extend the policy. 		
May 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress report (including wholly owned companies) Publish milestones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates to local media. Release to trade press on achievements so far. Update to staff via usual channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JPL Comms

June 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Engage with schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Campaign TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Comms

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Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Date of Meeting:	23 January 2019

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 and to note the input of the scrutiny task and finish group into the development of the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy

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.
- 2.3 To note the input of scrutiny task and finish group into the development of the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy.

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 9(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 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.

5.2.2 The Committee is recommended to monitor its recommendations over the course of the year.

5.2.3 No recommendation are outstanding at this time.

5.3 Scrutiny Review Checklist

5.3.1 The Scrutiny Review Checklist is attached at Appendix 9(b). 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.

5.4 Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy

5.4.1 During 2018 the Council's three Scrutiny Committees considered the draft Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy and agreed to establish a task and finish group to study the draft strategy and action plan in more detail in order to feed into its development.

5.4.2 The comments of the task and finish group and the response from Officers and the Cabinet Member are attached at Appendix 9(c).

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.5 List of Appendices:

Appendix 9(a) - Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee
Workplan

Appendix 9(b) - Scrutiny Review Checklist

Appendix 9(c) - Green and Blue Infrastructure: Scrutiny Input into
Strategy Development

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 - Work Programme 2018-2019	
6 June 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provisional Revenue Outturn 2017/2018 2. Treasury Management Outturn Report 2017/2018 3. Annual Performance of the Blackpool Community Safety Partnership. 4. Annual Council Plan Performance report on whole of Priority One, complete with 'Blackpool Outcomes' 5. Homelessness Action Plan (moved from 25 April 2018) 6. Tourism Performance Update (moved from 25 April 2018)
12 Sept 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Car parking Performance 2017/2018 2. Financial Reporting 3. Priority One - Key Priority Reports
14 Nov 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial Reporting 2. Tourism Performance Update 3. Flooding Report 4. Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy 4. Engagement of Consultants Annual Report 5. Annual Customer Feedback Report 2017/2018 7. Budget Scrutiny 2019 – 2020 (18 December 2018 meeting)
23 January 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial Reporting 2. Town Centre Regeneration Update – To include information on the progress and forecasts for current regeneration projects. 3. Single Use Plastic Update – To update members on the progress of implementing a Council resolution to reduce single use plastics usage.
19 June 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provisional Revenue Outturn 2017/2018 2. Treasury Management Outturn Report 2017/2018 3. Tourism Performance Update – To include a representative of a Blackpool Tourist attraction. 4. Annual Performance of the Blackpool Community Safety Partnership. 5. Annual Council Plan Performance report on whole of Priority One – To include performance info on areas not cover in other annual reports.
25 Sept 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial Reporting 2. Car Parking Annual Performance 2018/2019
20 Nov 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial Reporting 2. Tourism Performance Update - To include a representative of a Blackpool Tourist attraction. 3. Annual Engagement of Consultants Annual Report 4. Annual Customer Feedback Report

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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:

Green and Blue Infrastructure: Scrutiny Input into Strategy Development

The three Scrutiny Committees considered the draft Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy and agreed to establish a task and finish group to study the draft strategy and action plan in more detail in order to feed into its development.

Members were very supportive of the Strategy and recognised the importance of introducing more green spaces within Blackpool, noting that the town was one of the most urban towns in the country. The benefits in relation to health and wellbeing were also considered in detail.

Councillors Galley, Humphries, Hutton, O'Hara and Mrs Scott attended the meeting of the task and finish group, which was supported by John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services, Judith Mills, Consultant in Public Health, Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager and John Greenbank, Senior Democratic Governance Adviser.

The following key points were raised by the Committees and the task and finish group and Members requested that the Director of Community and Environmental Services and Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities) consider incorporating them within the final strategy. The Cabinet Secretary and Director have provided a response to each of the suggestions made as follows:

Scrutiny Recommendation	Cabinet Member/Director Response
The green and blue implications of all decisions taken must be considered and clearly set out in reports in order to place green and blue at the heart of decision making.	Included in action plan.
That the Council must ensure that other policies are not contravened in the bid to create an attractive setting e.g. tree skirts must not be sponsored by premises selling alcohol.	Agreed as this would break our ethical policy.
Children as young as nursery age should be included in the strategy in order to embed the importance of a green environment.	Included within the Better Start actions in the plan.
Ensuring that developers building new large scale developments including the Central Leisure Quarter are aware of the Strategy and take account of it when designing developments, including those that are currently ongoing such as the Conference Centre.	Included in action plan.

<p>The importance of ensuring the road and rail gateways to the town such as Train Stations have green areas in them and establishing the necessary links to Network Rail to do so.</p>	<p>Included in action plan.</p>
<p>To consider the potential to allow paid leave for employees to volunteer on green and blue projects in order to lead from the front as a Council and inspire businesses.</p>	<p>Included in the action plan for consideration and exploration.</p>
<p>Targeting socially isolated people to engage them in activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider how to provide street drinkers with opportunity to be involved and play a part in the green agenda. • To set up a scheme to allow disabled and less physically abled residents to contribute, such as a growing plants in their own garden which could then be passed to businesses or other residents to plant around the town. 	<p>Included in action plan.</p>
<p>The importance of fostering a 'can do' attitude amongst Parks staff. It was considered that saying 'no' to ideas too often was often seen as a lack of support amongst volunteers.</p>	<p>Consideration of joining Leisure and Parks Development together to form a new unit and team which is focussed on making things happen in relation to leisure, sport and parks development.</p>
<p>To consider installing green, living bus shelters.</p>	<p>This requires greater thought and understanding in terms of how this could be developed.</p>
<p>That the Strategy include an action to issue guidance to residents of the importance of having a garden and how to look after their own green space.</p>	<p>Included in action plan and linked to Blackpool in Bloom.</p>
<p>To consider if it would be possible to ensure that roofs were south facing to allow installation of solar panels, if economically viable.</p>	<p>Flagged as an option to the strategic planning team.</p>
<p>To consider entering Britain in Bloom's small neighbourhood award scheme to give direction and opportunity.</p>	<p>Included in action plan and linked to Blackpool in Bloom.</p>

To request that consideration be given to establishing an Urban Community Group to lead on supporting green space across the town centre.	To be discussed with Blackpool's existing Open Spaces Network.
To continue to make improvements to Stanley Park, whilst not neglecting any other green space in the town.	Highlighted in action plan.
To amend the wording in the action plan around hedgerows noting that they can often be an area prone to anti-social behaviour and a barrier to linking a green space to a community.	Hedgerows replaced by shrubs in the action plan.
To engage with the Chamber of Commerce in order to obtain the backing of more businesses.	The implementation of the plan would include engagement with business including the Chamber of Commerce.

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