

Blackpool Council - Resources

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2016/17 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2017/18					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR-JUL £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
RESOURCES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
PROCUREMENT & PROJECTS	141	126	(15)	111	(30)	-
BENEFITS	(949)	(2,751)	1,797	(954)	(5)	-
REVENUES & EXCHEQUER SERVICES	1,205	147	1,146	1,293	88	-
CUSTOMER FIRST	28	305	(277)	28	-	-
ICT SERVICES	410	855	(445)	410	-	-
ACCOUNTANCY	52	494	(436)	58	6	-
RISK SERVICES	72	174	(91)	83	11	-
PROPERTY SERVICES (Incl. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO)	2,983	(3,678)	6,856	3,178	195	-
TOTAL RESOURCES	3,942	(4,328)	8,535	4,207	265	-

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 4 months of 2017/18 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 £30k is due to an over-achievement against current and prior years' savings targets in respect of staff savings and additional income.

Benefits

- The Benefits service is forecasting a favourable variance of £5k on a gross budget of £3.8m. Whilst new claims processing times have recently increased due to staff vacancies, the overall processing time for new claims for Housing Benefit, new claims for Council Tax Reduction and changes in circumstances notifications is 19 days; this is within the current target of 21 days.

Revenues and Exchequer Services

- Revenues and Exchequer Services is forecasting an overspend of £88k. This is in part due to a service re-structure in 2017/18 within the Revenues Service and a long standing income pressure in Payroll. It is anticipated that a review of the supplies and services and unbudgeted income receivable will reduce the overspend.

Customer First

- Customer First will fully meet their savings target in-year.

ICT Services

- ICT is forecasting to achieve its savings target and break-even on a gross budget of £4.4m.

Accountancy

- Accountancy is forecasting to achieve its savings target.

Risk Services

- Risk Services are forecasting a £43k budget pressure but additional income is being pursued which could offset the pressure to £11k.

Property Services (incl. Investment Portfolio)

- Property Services is forecasting an overspend of £195k. This projection is based on the current pace of property rationalisation. There is also a forecast pressure from rental income within the Central Business District until all units are filled and any rent-free periods lapse.

Summary of the revenue forecast

After 4 months of the financial year, Resources is forecasting a £265k overspend. The Directorate continues to operate on the basis of not filling staff vacancies other than in exceptional circumstances.

Budget Holder - Mr S Thompson, Director of Resources