

## Blackpool Council - Resources

### 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	EXPENDITURE APR - NOV	PROJECTED SPEND	FORECAST OUTTURN	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£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**