

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
	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	
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

