

Public Document Pack

Blackpool Council

29 August 2014

To: Councillors Blackburn, Cain, Campbell, Collett, Cross, Jackson, Jones, Rowson, Taylor and Wright

The above members are requested to attend the:

EXECUTIVE

Monday, 8 September 2014 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room A, Town Hall, Blackpool

A G E N D A

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

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

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

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------|
| 2 | OFFICER CODE OF CONDUCT | (Pages 1 - 14) |
| 3 | BETTER START FUND | (Pages 15 - 24) |
| 4 | COMMUNITY TRIGGER THRESHOLDS | (Pages 25 - 30) |
| 5 | FINANCIAL MONITORING AS AT MONTH 3 2014/2015 | (Pages 31 - 76) |

Venue information:

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

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager, Tel: (01253) 477157, e-mail lennox.beattie@blackpool.gov.uk

Copies of agendas and minutes of Council and committee meetings are available on the Council's website at www.blackpool.gov.uk.

Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Carmel McKeogh, Deputy Chief Executive Mark Towers, Director of Governance and Regulatory Services
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Date of Meeting:	8 th September 2014

OFFICER CODE OF CONDUCT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider a proposed draft officer code of conduct which is fit for purpose and can be considered for recommendation to the Council, as part of the Council's Constitution.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 The Executive is asked to recommend this draft Officer Code to the full Council, as part of the Council's Constitution.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To recommend an officer code of conduct to Council for approval to be part of the Council's Constitution.

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

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

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

Not to agree an officer code of conduct and retain the current 'Employee code of conduct'. This is not recommended as the current code is almost wholly about contractual obligations and disclosures and does not include sufficient sections relating to standards of behaviours or disclosure of information and safeguarding issues.

To have a different code of conduct. A variation on the proposed code would be possible but this draft has been through consultation with the union representatives and various officer groups and is also of a similar format now to that published by other Councils and

the Elected Members Code of Conduct.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

“Deliver quality services through a professional, well-rewarded and motivated workforce.”

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Council’s Constitution has a section in it for an Officer Code of Conduct which dates back to the Local Government Act 2000, when it was stated that Government would issue a model officer code of conduct in the same way they did at that stage for elected members. The Act gave the Secretary of State the power to issue a statutory code of conduct for employees in England.

5.2 A consultation paper was produced by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in 2004. The intention was that the statutory code would be a brief statement of core values and obligations. This would underpin local codes of conduct, which would remain of great importance in communicating appropriate standards and procedures. The proposed statutory code was to be part of employees' contracts of employment and any breaches of the code would be dealt with under an authority's local disciplinary procedures. There would be no other investigation or enforcement mechanism such as applies in cases of misconduct by elected members. There were further consultation papers in December 2005 ('Standards of conduct in English local government – the future') and in 2008 (Communities in control: Real people, real power - Codes of conduct for local authority members and employees).

5.3 These consultation papers still proposed a statutory officer code, but no gave no indication of when. They included lessons learned from the review of the elected members’ code of conduct which had taken place at that time. The Local Government Association was of the view that a statutory code was not necessary, as Councils had clearly defined codes emanating from draft produced in 1994 by the Local Government Management Board and the Local Government Associations.

5.4 Finally schedule 4 of the Localism Act 2011 amended Section 82 of the Local Government Act 2000. In effect it deleted power for the Secretary of State to issue a code in England. This was done it is understood seemingly in line with localism approach where it was down to individual local authorities to adopt their own code.

5.5 All Councils, including Blackpool do have an officer code of conduct, (many now in their constitutions) but all as part of their management policies and procedures. This last 12 months has seen a review of Blackpool’s officer code of conduct to bring it up to date, in particular issues such as working with children and vulnerable adults,

updates to equality and diversity laws, references to contract procedure rules, data protection and Freedom of Information Issues.

5.6 It is also considered opportune to present the code in a way to be of a similar format to the elected members' code of conduct and also include it in the Council's constitution to provide transparency to the public in relation to the standards expected of officers. The draft code attached is in essence an 'overview' code underpinned by more detailed terms and conditions in personnel codes/ contracts of employment etc, already in existence. It is also supplemented by the Employment Procedure Rules for Chief Officers, already part of the constitution regarding employment, dismissal and disciplinary action.

5.7 Officers may also be expected to follow service related codes of conduct such as, General Teaching Council, Solicitors, Royal Town Planning Institute, Personnel and Development, Trading Standards and Social Workers. Professional codes though are about the profession not the relationship with the employer and are therefore not referenced in the attached draft code.

5.8 **Summary of proposed Changes**

5.9 Proposed changes to the code will, if agreed, bring the document in line with current Council policies and best practice that have been introduced within the Council i.e.:

- Council's customer care standards - makes reference to the key aspect of customer standards which states that employees should provide the highest possible standard of service and which makes a general reference to standards of dress which is expected in specific roles.
- Safeguarding requirements - by making reference to the government guidance document about safer working practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People Government Safeguarding and the specific Council code for employees working with vulnerable Adults.
- Information Governance Policies which were introduced as a result of a data governance audit and the extended statutory data governance requirements which the code now includes a specific section about the requirements of the data protection action, Information management and intellectual property and retaining information upon termination of employment.
- Equality Framework which was amended in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.
- Whistleblowing Policy which was amended in accordance with the Bribery Act 2010.

5.10 **Embedding the code of conduct**

As the Code of Conduct is an important part of an employee's contract, all officers regardless of level need to be made aware of its content. It is therefore intended (when approved) to communicate the launch of the approved document by the following means:

- Induction
- IPool
- IPA process
- Leaflets
- Hub News items
- Newsletters

5.11 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.12 **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 2a draft Officer Code of Conduct

6.0 **Legal considerations:**

6.1 The proposed officer code of conduct will form part of the Council's Constitution, when final approval is given by Council and will be an important part of an employee's contract.

7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 The Code applies to all employees of Blackpool Council and will be incorporated into and form part of the contractual relationship between the Council and its employees. As such, it may be used in any proceedings under the Council's disciplinary and grievance procedures.

8.0 **Equalities considerations:**

8.1 Equality issues of this policy have been explored along side the code of conduct, and an Equality Analysis has been completed accordingly.

9.0 **Financial considerations:**

9.1 There are no financial considerations with this proposed revised code of conduct.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 A clear revised officer code of conduct will reduce or eliminate the risk of inconsistent employee practices and procedures and ensure compliance with behaviours and legal requirements.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 The proposed Code of Code of Conduct will be integral to the ethos of the Council's Core value:

'We act with integrity and we are trustworthy in all our dealings with people and we are open about the decisions we make and the services we offer'.

It is, therefore, important for the Council to provide guidance on standards of conduct which is available to and understood by staff at all levels.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Consultation has taken place with:

- Senior Leadership Team – in the form of a specific workshop
- Recognised Trade Unions ,
- HR colleagues
- Internal Audit
- Procurement Team
- Officers involved in safeguarding issues

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 An Equalities Analysis which has been completed in relation to the draft code.

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process?

No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed:

N/A

Date approved:

N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 **Date of Decision:**

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 **Date Decision published:**

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1

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Officers' Code of Conduct	
Effective from XXXXXX	Approved by Council on XXXXXX

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council believes that its activities demand the highest standards of confidence from the public and that this confidence will derive from the way in which the Council and its employees conduct themselves in undertaking its business.
- 1.2 This Code is integral to the ethos of all the Council's core values in particular:
- 'We act with integrity and we are trustworthy in all our dealings with people and we are open about the decisions we make and the services we offer'.***
- 1.3 It is, therefore, important for the Council to provide guidance on standards of conduct which is available to, and understood by staff at all levels. Where examples are listed in the Code as guidance they are not intended to be exhaustive.
- 1.4 The Code is additional to appropriate statutes, sections of the National Scheme of Conditions of Service, the Financial Regulations and the Council's Constitution, in particular the Protocols on Member /Officer Relations.
- 1.5 The Code applies to all employees of Blackpool Council and is incorporated into and forms part of the contractual relationship between the Council and its employees. As such, it may be used in any proceedings under the Council's disciplinary and grievance procedures.
- 1.6 The Code of Conduct cannot cover all areas that are likely to arise in practice, but the principles of the Code will apply in order to ensure the integrity of the Council is maintained at all times.

2. STANDARDS

- 2.1 Employees are expected to give the highest possible standard of service to the public, communities, councillors and fellow employees in a courteous, efficient, and impartial manner. All employees are expected to treat others with respect at all times and adhere to the Council's Customer Care Standards.
- 2.2 The Council is committed to the prevention of fraud and corruption. Employees must ensure that they use public funds entrusted to them in a responsible and lawful manner in accordance with the Bribery Act 2010. All employees should act honestly and with integrity and to safeguard the public resources for which they are responsible. Where appropriate they will also be bound by the Council's Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy.
- 2.3 Employees should deal with all matters with a level of competence appropriate to the role and in line with any professional codes of conduct which apply to them.
- 2.4 Employees should raise any serious and genuine concerns about any wrong-doing in the Council's work or decisions by using the Council's Whistleblowing Policy. They can do this without fear of harassment or victimisation.

- 2.5 Council policies relating to equality issues in employment and service delivery must be complied with, in addition to the requirements of the law. All members of the local community, customers and other employees have a right to be treated with fairness and equity in accordance with the Council's Equality Policy and the Equality Act 2010.
- 2.6 Standards of dress, personal appearance and hygiene, as well as those required in the interests of health and safety, can be matters affecting public confidence and employees should therefore make themselves aware of and comply with the expected standards for their role.
- 2.7 In the interests of the public and colleagues, employees must adhere to the Council's Health and Safety Arrangements. Employees must not act either wilfully or unintentionally in a manner liable to place the public, their colleagues, or themselves at risk, and must adhere to the duty of care prescribed in the Council's Health and Safety arrangements. This is particularly the case where an employee has direct responsibility for the welfare of service users.
- 2.8 It is important that all employees working with children, young people and vulnerable adults understand that the nature of their work places them in a position of trust. Such employees should be familiar with government guidance, local procedures and protocols for safeguarding the welfare of children young people and vulnerable adults have a duty to report any child protection or welfare concerns to a designated member of staff in their organisation.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

- 3.1 Employees must respect the confidentiality of any information they are given. Managers and supervisors should make themselves and their staff aware, where information they come into contact with in the course of their employment is confidential. Employees should not prevent another person from gaining access to information to which that person is entitled by law.
- 3.2 All information contained in personal data relating to members of the public and employees must be obtained, held and processed fairly and lawfully in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and must not be used or disclosed in any manner incompatible with that Act. In addition employees in the course of their employment with the Council will have access to and be entrusted with information about the business of the Council and/ or its customers and clients which is confidential or commercially sensitive and must abide by any restrictions set down.
- 3.3 To protect the confidentiality of this information and without prejudice to other obligations an employee may have in handling information, employees must:
- ◆ Not to disclose to any person or make use of any such confidential information unless authorised to do so;
 - ◆ Not make any copies, abstracts or summaries of the whole or part of any document, computer record or other records belonging to the Council, except when required to do so in the course of their employment.
- 3.4 Employees must not use any information obtained in the course of their employment for personal gain of benefit, nor should they pass it on to others who might use it in such a way. This does not apply to staff benefits schemes.
- 3.5 **Intellectual property** is a generic term that includes inventions, creative writings and drawings. If any of these are created by employees in the course of their employment with the Council then as a general rule they exclusively belong to the Council and cannot be sold or lent to any other person or organisation without prior written permission of the relevant Chief Officer.

- 3.6 Upon the termination of their employment with the Council for whatever reason or otherwise at the Council's request, an employee must immediately return all property belonging to the Council or third party held in connection with their employment which may be in their possession or control.
- 3.7 Employees must not contact the media or disclose information relating to the work of the Council to the media, other than as an official spokesperson of the Council and in accordance with the Member/ Officer Protocol. This includes employees having due regard to the Council's policy on social media.
- 3.8 Employees are required to accept, in full, the rules contained in the relevant Information Governance Policies. Any breach of these policies will be considered a serious breach of the employee's contract terms of employment and the Council may instigate disciplinary proceedings held by the Council.

4. POLITICAL NEUTRALITY

- 4.1 Employees holding politically restricted posts are disqualified, under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, from membership of any local authority, other than a parish or community council, from being an MP or MEP and are subject to prescribed restrictions on their political activity. All employees holding a politically restricted post will have been notified, in writing.
- 4.2 Political restricted posts fall into two broad categories: specified posts and sensitive posts. Postholders in specified posts are politically restricted without the right of appeal.

(a) Specified Posts

- Head of the Council's Paid Service (s4 Local Government and Housing Act)
- Statutory and Non Statutory Chief Officers
- Deputy Chief Officers reporting to a Chief Officer
- The Monitoring Officer (s5 Local Government and Housing Act)
- Officers exercising delegated powers ie: employees whose posts are for the time being specified by the Authority in a list maintained in accordance with s100G(2) of the Local Government Act 1972
- Assistants to political groups.

(b) Sensitive Posts

These are posts where the primary role is to give advice on a regular basis to:

- the Authority itself
- any committee or sub-committee of the Authority
- any joint committee on which the Authority is represented
- the Executive of the Authority or any committee of the Executive
- any member of that Executive.

Sensitive posts also include those where the postholder would be expected to speak on behalf of the Council on a regular basis to journalists or broadcasters.

Note: Teachers and head teachers are all exempt from political restrictions.

- 4.3 Employees, whether or not in a politically restricted post, must not allow their own personal or political opinions to interfere with their work. This shall not prevent employees expressing a professional view in accordance with their duties.
- 4.4 Employees may be required to advise political groups. They must do so in ways which do not compromise their political neutrality and in line with the Protocol on Member/Officer Relations.
- 4.5 Mutual respect between employees and councillors is essential to good working relationships. Close personal familiarity between employees and individual councillors can damage the relationship and prove embarrassing to other employees and councillors and should therefore be avoided when dealing with Council business.

5. APPOINTMENT AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

- 5.1 Employees involved in appointment and promotions should ensure that any decisions are made in accordance with the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy and Procedures on the basis of merit.
- 5.2 In order to avoid any possible accusation of bias, employees should not be involved in an appointment where they are related to an applicant, or have a close personal relationship outside work with them, or seek to influence an appointment or promotion for any purpose.
- 5.3 Similarly, employees should not be involved in decisions relating to discipline, promotion or pay for an employee who is a relative, partner or close friend.
- 5.4 Employees must not approach elected members on matters relating to reorganisations, terms and conditions of employment or other employment matters that affect them individually except through procedures laid down in Human Resources Policies and Procedures or agreed by the Head of Paid Service.

6. OUTSIDE COMMITMENTS

- 6.1 All employees should not engage in any other business or take outside employment which conflicts with the Council's interests, for example, working with or for someone who does business or seeks to do business with the Council or obtain grants, consents or permits from the Council.
- 6.2 Officers on administrative, professional or technical grades above NJC SCP 29 must not engage in any other business, such as any paid or unpaid employment or running a business, or take up any other additional appointment, without first receiving the express consent in writing from their relevant Chief Officer. The Deputy Chief Executive (responsible for HR) should be notified of any approvals granted.

Consent is **not**, however, required for:

- a) work in connection with religious bodies
 - b) work in connection with the social and charitable life of the Town
 - c) work in connection with Friendly Societies, trade unions, staff organizations etc
 - d) contributions to professional and trade periodicals or societies and other literary and recreational and artistic pursuits
 - e) part-time teaching in technical colleges, evening schools, and tutorial work outside normal working hours.
- 6.3. Employees may not undertake outside work for payment by a member of the public on any matter connected with their official duties.

- 6.4 Employees may accept appointments as Presiding Officers / Poll Clerks at Elections or as Census Enumerators, with the necessary days of absence to count against their leave entitlement.
- 6.5 The Council will not attempt to preclude any of its employees from engaging in any other businesses or from undertaking additional employment but any such employment must not, conflict with or be detrimental to the Authority's interests, or in any way weaken public confidence in the conduct of the Authority's business.
- 6.6 Employees should not use the Council's premises, facilities and other resources in connection with their outside commitments.

7. PERSONAL INTERESTS

- 7.1 Employees must declare in writing via the appropriate form to their relevant Chief Officer, if they have any personal interests or involvement which might conflict with their employment or with the interests of the Council.

For example:

- membership of another local authority with which the Council deals regularly
- membership of any voluntary organisation, club or society that regularly seeks assistance from the council or to which the Council appoints representatives
- membership of any organisation (other than a political party or a trade union) which seeks to influence the Council's policies and decisions.
- any land in which they have an interest which is to be, or likely to be, the subject of a Council decision.

8. INVOLVEMENT IN CONTRACTS

- 8.1 Orders and contracts must be awarded on merit by fair competition against other tenders, in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations and Contracts Procedure Rules. No special favour should be shown to businesses run, for example, by friends, partners or relatives in the tendering process and the process should fully comply with the Council's Equality framework
- 8.2 Employees who have access to confidential information on tenders or costs for contractors must not disclose that information to any unauthorised party or organisation.
- 8.3 Employees who engage or supervise contractors, or have any other official relationships with contractors and have previously had or currently have a relationship in a business or personal capacity with contractors or potential contractors, must not declare that relationship in writing via the register of interest form to their relevant Chief Officer.
- 8.4 Employees in their official relationships with contractors and potential contractors must not conduct themselves in such a manner so as to imply that they are in a position of giving special favour. Nor shall they canvass directly or indirectly or infer that they seek a gift, loan, fee, reward or advantage, or any offer of such.

9. GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY

- 9.1 Employees need to be aware that it is a serious criminal offence for them to receive or give any gift, loan, fee, reward or advantage for doing or not doing anything or showing favour or disfavour to any person in their official capacity. Employees should advise their Chief Officer at the earliest opportunity

of any such approach which is made to them. Any allegation of wrongdoing will be investigated under the Authority's Disciplinary Procedure.

- 9.2 Employees should only accept offers of hospitality if there is a genuine need to represent the Council. Offers to attend purely social or sporting functions must not be accepted unless there is a reasonable expectation for the Council to be represented. The acceptance of hospitality must should be properly authorised in advance, formally accepted and registered, by informing the employee's Chief Officer. Hospitality should be registered within 28 days of its acceptance.
- 9.3 When receiving authorised hospitality employees should be particularly sensitive as to its timing in relation to decisions which the Authority may be taking affecting those providing the hospitality. Employees should not accept hospitality, entertainment or working lunches from contractors and outside suppliers or people or organisations subject to decisions by the Council, such as environmental health, licensing and development control. Where visits to suppliers are required, employees should ensure that the Council meets the employees' costs of such visits rather than accept hospitality from suppliers.
- 9.4 Acceptance by employees of hospitality through attendance at relevant conferences and courses is acceptable where it is clear the hospitality is corporate rather than personal and where the Authority is satisfied that any purchasing decision is not compromised. In those circumstances, employees are not required to register the hospitality.
- 9.5 Employees should not accept personal gifts from contractors and outside suppliers, people or organisations subject to decisions by the Council, with the exception of items of token value such as pens, and diaries.
- 9.6 Each employee is personally responsible for decisions regarding the acceptance of hospitality or gift items. If there is any doubt such items should be refused and employees should seek advice from a more senior member of management or the Chief Officer.
- 9.7 Employees must register any gift other than of token value, which cannot be politely refused, by completing the appropriate form and submitting this to their relevant Chief Officer within 28 days of receipt. Guidance written on this subject matter is intended so that employees can make their own decisions about what should be declared. However, as a general rule any gift that has an estimated value of over £25 must be declared.
- 9.8 Where an outside organisation wishes to sponsor or is seeking to sponsor a Council activity, whether by invitation, tender, negotiation or voluntarily, the requirements of this Code concerning the acceptance of gifts or hospitality apply. Particular care must be taken when contractors or potential contractors are potential sponsors to avoid the appearance that providing sponsorship is linked to the awarding of any contract.

10. COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE

- 10.1 The Code of Conduct is part of every employee's contract. Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct for Employees may result in disciplinary action being taken under the Disciplinary Policy and Procedure. The Council reserves the right to take legal action against employees where breaches of the Code warrant such action.
- 10.2 The Deputy Chief Executive (responsible for HR) and the Monitoring Officer and are jointly responsible for the implementation of the Employee Code of Conduct and for ensuring it is regularly reviewed.

Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Sue Harrison, Director of Children's Services
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Ivan Taylor, Cabinet Member for Children's Services
Date of Meeting:	8 th September 2014

BETTER START FUND

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The budget implications for the Council concerning BetterStart.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To agree the budget commitments and recommend Council to include these commitments when approving or reviewing the budget.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To consider the implications for the authority of the successful bid and funding envelope.

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 Priority is

"Tackle child poverty, raise aspirations and improve educational achievement "

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Better Start Blackpool

Our pledge..

..is to make a generational shift, ensuring today's babies enjoy the early care and nurture they need for healthy development and to be ready for school. And that in turn, as they grow up and become parents themselves, they will pass on the Better Start legacy to the next generation"

5.2 In January 2013 the Big Lottery Fund (BLF) asked all Local Authorities to submit an expression of interest for a £165 million bid to redesign early support services in their area. Through a process, three – five Local authorities were chosen to receive between £30 to £50 Million each, to be invested over the next 10 years to help improve services for babies, young children and families. The Councils had to identify a Lead partner from the voluntary and community sector. Blackpool identified the NSPCC as their preferred partner. A total of 80 Councils submitted an expression of interest and from these, 39 Councils were chosen to go through to the next stage. Blackpool was successful and submitted a Stage One Bid and was again successful as one of only 15 Councils to go through to the Stage 2 process with a bid that was submitted in February 2014. Stage 2 had access to £400,000 to develop the bid and the partnership.

5.3 In February 2014, the Cabinet Member for Children's Services considered a report regarding the submission of the bid for the Better Start Fund and resolved (decision PH25 refers) :

"To delegate to the Assistant Chief Executive, Children's Services after consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive, Treasurer Services and the Cabinet Member for Children's Services:

(a) the authority to confirm that the Council will be part of the Blackpool bid to the Big Lottery Fund, led by the NSPCC, along with partner organisations for the Better Start Fund; and

(b) that if the bid is successful, authority to enter into an agreement on behalf of the Council with partner organisations for the Better Start project, subject to a further detailed report being submitted to the Executive regarding appropriate budget approvals being identified and secured for the Council's contributions. "

5.4 That decision forms the basis of this report, in particular in relation to budget commitments

- 5.5 In June 2014, Blackpool and the NSPCC were informed they were one of five bids that had been chosen to receive the funding from the Big Lottery and were awarded £45 million. The bid will focus on the conception to three age group and a population of between 40 and 50 thousand. There are seven wards in Blackpool with this population which are the Better Start wards – Brunswick, Park, Claremont, Victoria, Clifton, Talbot, Bloomfield. However, although the funding from the Big Lottery can only be used on these wards it is intended to roll out the learning and programmes across Blackpool.
- 5.6 The Lottery dictated that three major strands form the core of the work and services undertaken - language and communication, diet and nutrition and personal and emotional well-being.
- 5.7 The project will create a whole system change by developing a stronger partnership working that delivers collaborative services organised around the needs of Blackpool children aged pre-birth to three. The services will secure strong social, emotional and physical health foundations for children, leading to better educational and economic achievement, which is sustained over time.
- 5.8 The Partnership is made up of VCS services, the Local Authority and Health, delivering a variety of important and vital services for families in co-production. Collaborative systems will be put in place for true integrated working, informed by user consultation, using Children’s Centres as a main delivery venue.
- 5.9 Those at risk will be identified by developing a shared approach to assessment that is streamlined, promotes engagement, avoids duplication, and reduces the burden for families and partners. Robust early measures will help identify those families with multiple risk factors from the outset. Learning and evaluation will be key. The project will draw upon significant collective experience to achieve a fully holistic integrated service model approach that is preventative and proactive rather than reactive.
- 5.9 The project will tackle those critical pressures, barriers and risks for families e.g. domestic abuse, drugs and alcohol, mental ill health and isolation by offering support, services and empowering parents and communities to build their capabilities.
- 5.10 Families will be instrumental in the project development, community based engagement and accountability will increase service quality and commitment among voluntary and statutory agencies for identifying, assessing and supporting children and families in need and understanding the impact creating a better future for all children.

- 5.11 There will be four main areas of approach:
- a public health approach – producing universal campaigns e.g. breastfeeding, drinking in pregnancy etc.
 - evidence based intervention – making a changing for those with additional and complex needs
 - Reframing and System Transformation - Building a shared understanding and shared action
 - Centre for Early Child Development - Building and sharing learning about the projects delivered
- 5.12 The evidence based interventions – which will be delivered:
- 5.13 Intervention at Universal Partnership Plus level
- Family Nurse Partnership
 - Parents Under Pressure
 - Parent-Infant Psychotherapy
 - Safecare
 - Survivor Mums
 - Domestic Abuse
 - Pre-birth risk assessment
 - Alcohol in pregnancy
- 5.14 Intervention at Universal Plus level
- Baby Steps
 - Video Interaction Guidance
 - Hanen and REAL
 - Triple P for toddlers
 - Early Learning with Families
- 5.15 Intervention at Universal level
- Health Promotion resources and 4 new public health campaigns
 - Maternity and Community Health
 - Children’s Centres
- 5.16 Community programmes
- Beach School
 - Food Dudes
 - FNP graduate mentors
 - Safe space and play fund
- 5.17 All projects will be commissioned from either the Local Authority, Health, NSPCC, third/private sector.

5.18 Blackpool Better Start Outcomes at the end of the project

- All babies in Blackpool are born healthy
- Blackpool's children are ready for school
- Families in Blackpool feel more included in their community

5.19 Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.20 **List of Appendices:**
None

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 As part of the bid submission, the parties agreed a draft Partnership Agreement to be presented by the NSPCC as part of the bid application. The Council is advising on the final Partnership Agreement

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 As part of the bid a full resource plan was put together. This plan included the secondment of a Senior Manager from Children’s Services to lead the Better Start programme. Any other appointments within Better Start will be subject to normal open recruitment processes.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 As part of the bid a full equalities analysis was compiled.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 The Better Start bid provides Big Lottery Grant funding to partners of £45m over the next ten years. However, partners are also expected to invest matched-funding and Blackpool partners are proposing to contribute a further £30 million over the life of the project, bringing the total investment to £75m. The expected breakdown by partner and financial year is shown in the table below:

Partner	Contribution (£000s)										
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total
Childrens Services	136	525	2,672	2,738	2,529	2,579	2,639	2,699	2,658	2,718	21,892
Public Health	-	-	233	239	246	251	257	263	259	264	2,012
Health	595	262	252	250	250	384	365	348	320	306	3,332
NSPCC	40	42	42	43	44	45	46	47	46	47	440
TBC*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,150	1,175	2,325
	771	829	3,199	3,269	3,069	3,258	3,306	3,356	4,432	4,511	30,000

* To be reviewed following successful pilots

9.2 Given ever reducing budgets, the only possible way the Council's share of this amount of funding can be found would be from re-investing the savings expected from the Better Start funded projects. These interventions, if successful, would reduce spend in several Council-funded areas.

9.3 From a Council perspective this commitment to re-investing savings would obviously mean that these savings would not be able to contribute to any future Council funding gap. The matched funding contributions would be contractual and written into the partnership agreement. The Delivery Partners are also to seek legal advice during the first 12 months as to whether these monies should be held in a joint trust account or remain ring-fenced in each Delivery Partner's bank account.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 The project will require a local performance reporting arrangements and there is a full plan for monitoring and learning.

10.2 An Executive Board is due to be established, chaired by the Chief Executive Officer of NSPCC. This Board will be responsible for monitoring the bid finances and delivery programme.

10.3 Blackpool Children's Trust will play a key monitoring role on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Council.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 The decision helps to deliver the Council's vision namely "We will build a Blackpool where aspiration and ambition are encouraged and supported. We will seek to narrow the gap between the richest members of our society and the poorest and deliver a sustainable and fairer community, of which our communities will be proud."

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 The parents and community have been an integral part of the bid winning process and they have formed their own Better Start Partnership Group. They have been fully consulted on the bid and a number of parents and community organisations along with public sector strategy leaders spent two whole days in January planning the bid priorities, outcomes and projects. The community and parents have continued to be a part of the Better Start process.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 Equalities Analysis

ONLY APPLICABLE FOR REPORTS WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE EXECUTIVE/ CABINET MEMBER

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? Yes

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 2/2014

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed: 29th August 2014 Date approved: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1

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Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Alan Cavill, Director for Places
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor G. Campbell, Cabinet Member for Housing, Public Safety and Enforcement
Date of Decision:	8 th September 2014

COMMUNITY TRIGGER THRESHOLDS

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 Setting the thresholds for the forthcoming Community Trigger.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To agree the threshold for the Community Trigger as that outlined in section 5.8 and in line with neighbouring Lancashire authorities namely:

- If you (as an individual) have complained about three or more incidents of antisocial behaviour in the last six months, or
- If five individuals have complained about the same or similar incidents in the last six months, or
- If you (as an individual) have complained about one incident or crime motivated by hatred (Hate Incident/Hate Crime) in the last six months

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 It is a statutory requirement pursuant to the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 that the Council set a Community Trigger threshold. The threshold proposed will ensure that Blackpool Council is consistent with neighbouring Lancashire Authorities.

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:

To establish a different set of thresholds.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

‘Create safer communities and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour’.

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Community Trigger is one of the new provisions introduced by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, which will come into effect in October 2014. The Community Trigger will give victims and communities the right to require agencies to deal with persistent anti-social behaviour that they feel hasn't been adequately dealt with previously. The aim is that the Community Trigger will ensure that victims of persistent anti-social behaviour have a say in the way their complaints are dealt with.

5.2 Home Office guidance states that relevant bodies (Local Authorities, Police, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Registered Social Landlords) will have a duty to undertake a case review when someone requests one and the case meets a locally defined threshold. The threshold and procedure for carrying out the case review is to be set by the local agencies, taking into consideration the nature of anti-social behaviour experienced by victims in their area and working practices of the agencies involved. The threshold must be no higher than three complaints of anti-social behaviour within a six month period.

5.3 The threshold may also take into account:

- the persistence of the anti-social behaviour;
- the harm or potential harm caused by the anti-social behaviour;
- the adequacy of the response from agencies.

5.4 For the purpose of the Community Trigger, anti-social behaviour is defined as any behaviour causing harassment, alarm or distress to a member, or members, of the public. However, when deciding whether the threshold is met, agencies should consider the cumulative effect of the incidents and consider the harm or potential harm caused to the victim, rather than rigidly deciding whether each incident reached the level of harassment, alarm or distress.

- 5.5 Through the Lancashire Community Safety Strategy Group, it has been proposed that a pan-Lancashire threshold is agreed between all partner agencies following the learning from the 'test pilot' areas, and that the threshold is agreed pan-Lancashire in order to achieve a consistent and standardised approach across the County.
- 5.6 Although the Home Office guidance states that agencies may wish to consider consulting the local community about what they would consider to be an appropriate threshold in their area, the decision to do so has not been undertaken in Blackpool. However there will be an opportunity for consultation to take place after a twelve month period to discuss whether the threshold is appropriate locally. Consultation has been held through the BSafe Blackpool Strategic Partnership Group.
- 5.7 Through the Lancashire Community Safety Strategy Group, it has been proposed that a pan-Lancashire threshold is agreed between all partner agencies following the learning from the 'test pilot' areas.
- 5.8 The proposed Trigger thresholds are as follows:
- If you (as an individual) have complained about three or more incidents of antisocial behaviour in the last six months, or
 - If five individuals have complained about the same or similar incidents in the last six months, or
 - If you (as an individual) have complained about one incident or crime motivated by hatred (Hate Incident/Hate Crime) in the last six months
- 5.9 Each statutory responsible agency (Blackpool Council, Lancashire Constabulary, Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group and Blackpool Coastal Housing) will have a single point of contact for any victim who wishes to utilise the trigger. For Blackpool Council, these contacts are:
- Suzy McCafferty, Antisocial Behaviour Co-Ordinator
Dominic Blackburn, Community Safety and Drugs Officer
- 5.10 The Community Trigger process of review will be carried out primarily by Blackpool Council in conjunction with other statutory responsible bodies and/or other relevant agencies. This will be done through the already established ASBRAC (Antisocial Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference) group. The Community Trigger response will be signed off by:
- Paolo Pertica, Community Safety Manager
- 5.11 Equality data will be monitored as part of the Community Trigger application process to enable investigation into whether all facets of the community are being fairly represented within the applications. After twelve months there will be a period

whereby the Community Trigger can be consulted upon to ensure that it accurately reflects local need and further equality work can be done through this consultation if necessary.

5.12 Community Trigger applications will be administered to allow full accessibility to all members of the community (for example, large text, braille, translations etc.) and work to ensure proactive publicity of the Community Trigger amongst equality groups will be undertaken. To mitigate any Trigger applications that are specifically relating to equality issues as opposed to actual antisocial behaviour problems, a vexatious complaints procedure will be put in place.

5.13 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? NO

5.15 **List of Appendices:**

None

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 The proposed course of action is a requirement Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and is in line with the statutory guidance of this act.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 There are no human resources considerations arising from this decision.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 To ensure these triggers do not discriminate against people because of any protected characteristic, the Council through the Lancashire Community Safety Strategy Group will undertake equality monitoring on these cases. The Council through the Lancashire Community Safety Strategy Group will periodically assess these against our local community profile and explore any anomalies with the Council's Equalities team.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 There is a risk framework already in place in terms of anti-social behaviour which will be used for Community Triggers.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Consultation BSafe Strategic Partnership

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/207468/community-trigger-trials-report-v4.pdf

BSafe Blackpool Strategic Partnership Minutes 30th April 2014
Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Home Office Statutory Guidance
Notes from the Lancashire Anti-Social Behaviour County Group 12th August 2014

ONLY APPLICABLE FOR REPORTS WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE EXECUTIVE/ CABINET MEMBER

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? NO

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? N/A

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? NO

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed: N/A

Date approved: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 Date of Decision:

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1

Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Date of Meeting	8 th September 2014

FINANCIAL MONITORING AS AT MONTH 3 2014/2015

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 The level of spending against the Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for the first 3 months to June 2014.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To note the report and require the respective Directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage financial and operational performances, particularly in Children's Services, Adult Services, Parking Services and Community and Environmental Services.
- 2.2 To recommend to Council that that the in-year budget gap explained at paragraph 4.2 be met by transferring £852,000 from the Earmarked Reserve for Potential Pay Liabilities and the balance of £164,000 from Contingencies.
- 2.3 To reconsider the previous Executive decision of 16th June 2014 that underspending services in 2013/2014 could carry forward their budget surpluses into 2014/2015 and accept the Director of Resources' recommendation that these underspends (with the exception of Area Forum and Ward Budgets) totalling £462,000 be redirected to bolster working balances.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 Members' information and comment.

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 Priority is

“Deliver quality services through a professional, well-rewarded and motivated workforce”

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 List of Appendices:

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

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

9.0 Financial considerations:

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

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Impact of financial performance on Council balances.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

**ONLY APPLICABLE FOR REPORTS WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE
EXECUTIVE/ CABINET MEMBER**

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed: N/A Date approved: N/A

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

18.2 **Date of Decision:**

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

19.1 Date Decision published:

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1

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BLACKPOOL COUNCIL
REPORT
of the
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
to the
EXECUTIVE
8TH SEPTEMBER 2014

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 3 2014/2015

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report is the first of the standard monthly financial performance monitoring reports for 2014/2015 and sets out the summary revenue budget position for the Council and its individual directorates for the first 3 months of 2014/2015, ie. the period to June 2014, together with an outlook for the remainder of the year. The report is complemented with an assessment of progress to date against the Council's latest capital programme.

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 - Deputy Chief Executive
- Appendix 3c - Governance and Regulatory Services
- Appendix 3d - Area Forum and Ward Budgets
- Appendix 3e - Resources
- Appendix 3f - Places
- Appendix 3g - Strategic Leisure Assets
- Appendix 3h - Community and Environmental Services
- Appendix 3i - Adult Services
- Appendix 3j - Children's Services
- Appendix 3k - Public Health
- Appendix 3l - Budgets Outside the Cash Limit

These incorporate summary financial which continue to be prepared on a full accruals basis and focus on the forecast revenue and capital outturns for 2014/15. 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. Also included is a graph which shows the monthly progress of cumulative net revenue expenditure against the approved budget.

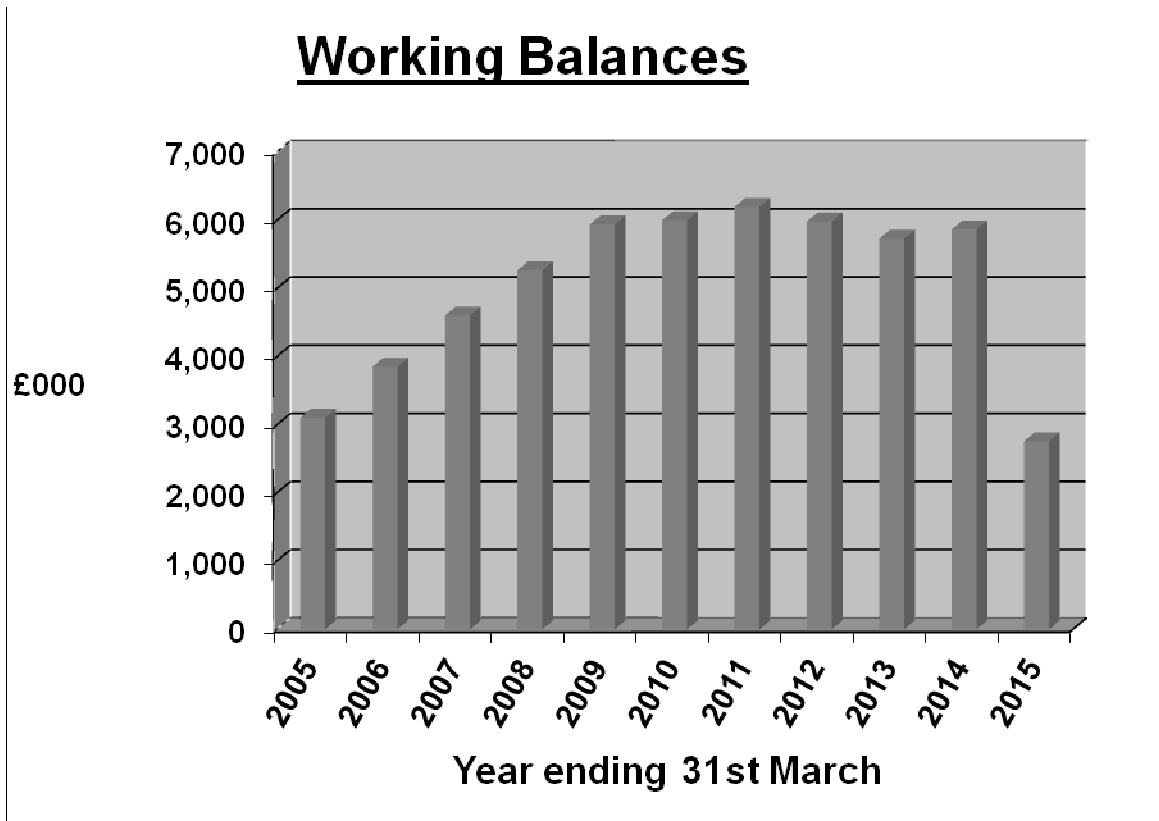
- 2.2 The combined effect of the directorates' financial performances is aggregated in a summary financial statement at Appendix 1 which mirrors the Council's Revenue Budget Book as restructured. This summary allows proactive month-on-month monitoring of the Council's forecast working balances to be 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

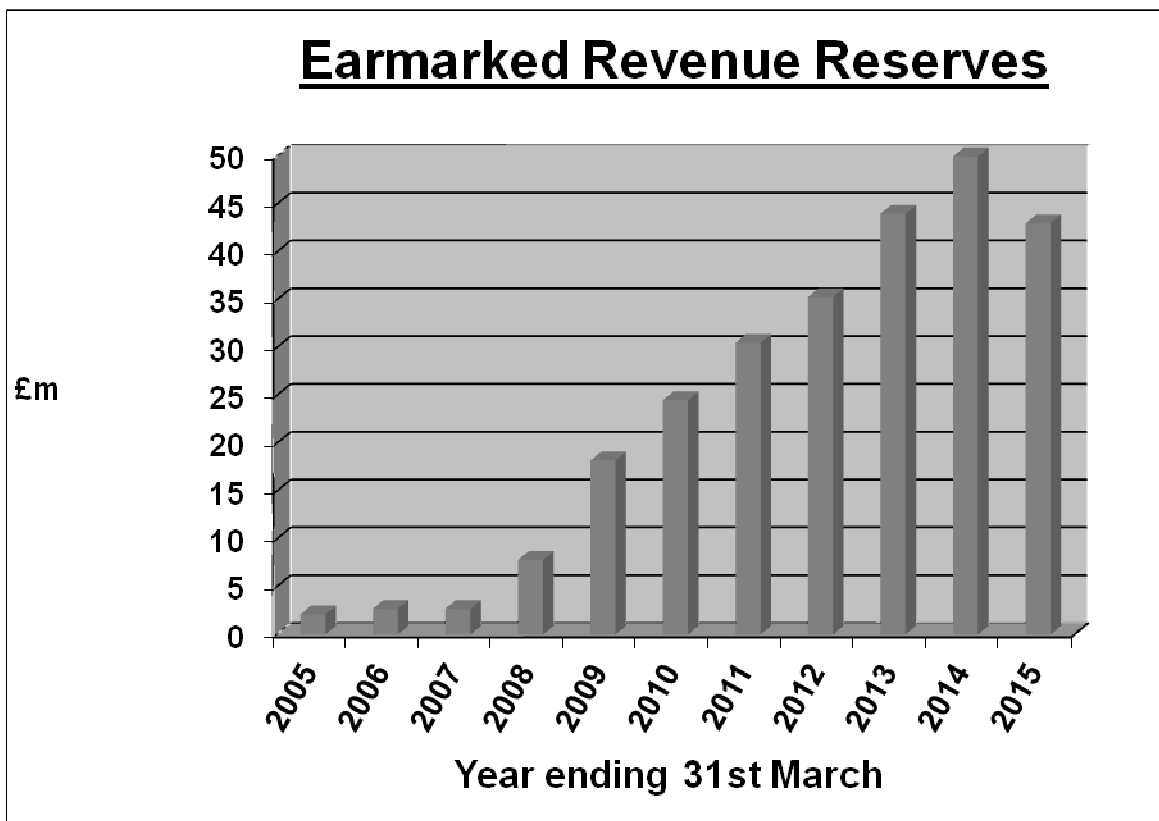
3.1 The impacts of directorates' revenue budget performance and progress in achieving planned savings fall upon the Council's working balances. The main areas accounting for the month 3 forecast overspend of £3,109k for 2014/15 are summarised below:-

Directorate	Service	Forecast Variance £000
Children's Services	Within the £1,842k overspend Children's Social Care is forecast to overspend by £932k, particularly because the reduction in the number of Looked After Children is not meeting plan. An imbalance between the reduced Education Services Grant and the commitments against it (£688k pressure) is to be dealt with based on a plan which is being prepared by the Deputy Director of Children's Services. Further pressures are also predicted, in particular in Early Help for Children and Families (£191k).	1,842
Adult Services	Adult Commissioning Placements are forecasting an overspend of £1,218k. Safeguarding is forecasting a £400k overspend following recent Deprivation of Liberty (DoL) cases, partially mitigated by £54k staff savings. More work is needed to identify recurrent savings in this directorate.	1,545
Community and Environmental Services	With Project 30 pressures being underwritten by Local Transport Plan funding, the remaining financial pressures are: Travel & Road Safety (£352k) which is awaiting management action, Building Services (£192k) which is being reviewed, and Building Cleaning (£131k) where savings are lower than anticipated.	675
Governance and Regulatory Services	The Directorate's pressure of £125k has arisen in Cemeteries and Crematorium, which temporarily has reduced capacity.	125
Places	The Directorate's pressure of £114k mainly comprises £100k which is the remaining balance of the brought forward overspend by Visit Blackpool, for which a recovery plan is in place.	114
Resources	Property and Asset Management is forecasting a £162k pressure, particularly from the leisure centres. Legal Services is forecasting an overspend of £103k and Customer First £83k. These have been mitigated by other savings within the directorate.	99
Contingencies / Reserves, Strategic Leisure Assets	This favourable position is due to the release of uncommitted prior year Public Health funding (£300k) and the adjustment to reserves to cover the net 2013/14 overspend. Current trading within Strategic Leisure Assets is breaking even.	(155)
Area Forum and Ward Budgets	The forecast underspend of £500k is based on previous years' spend patterns.	(500)
Budgets Outside Cash Limit	Parking Services is £959k down on its income target. The Investment Portfolio will overspend by £88k as a consequence of the delay in demolishing the Syndicate building. Treasury Management has a £1,688k favourable position due to the continuing temporary windfall on low interest rates payable.	(636)
Total		3,109

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



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



4. Directorate Budget Savings Performance and In-year Budget Balancing

- 4.1 As at 30th June 64% of the 2014/2015 savings target of £15.8m had already been delivered and this increases to 92% when extrapolating the full-year effect. This is a very encouraging position after only 3 months.
- 4.2 The in-year target of £15.8m included an assumption that £1,616k would be met from an increment freeze to staff's terms and conditions. Following subsequent extensive consultation, full Council agreed on 25th June 2014 to replace this proposal with a pay freeze (£1,016k) together with chief officer / senior officer disestablishments (£150k) and procurement savings (£450k), the latter resulting from the deed of variation to the existing Joint Working Agreement relating to the Lancashire Municipal Waste Private Finance Initiative as approved by Executive on 21st July.

Extensive consultation was undertaken on the proposal for a pay freeze and following representations made by staff and unions it was agreed to consider alternative ways of funding the pay award in 2014/2015. As at the date of this report no formal agreement to a national pay offer to local government employees has been made, but assuming that this will eventually materialise and at the expected 1.0% then the current year's Revenue Budget would have an imbalance of £1,016k.

Having reviewed the aforementioned Earmarked Reserves in the context of current information, it is the recommendation of the Director of Resources that this in-year gap be met by the following:

- £852k, the latest estimate of the cost of a 1.0% pay award, from the Earmarked Reserve for Potential Pay Liabilities (a reserve established to meet the costs of redundancies, pension strain, restructures and equal pay claims) on the basis that settlement has recently been reached with the 2 main legal firms dealing with first generation Equal Pay claims; and
 - the balance of £164k from Contingencies.
- 4.3 2015/2016 is the 3rd year of the Council's current 3-year Revenue Budget. The planning, preparation and finessing of next year's Budget will be commencing this month. The previous budget gap for that year as reported in February 2014 was £19.8m. Funding the 2014/2015 pay award by the method proposed will create a further pressure in 2015/16, which, along with other adverse announcements such as changes to the Better Care Fund and removal of the local welfare assistance grant, reinforce the importance of ensuring that this year's Budget is managed appropriately.

5. Collection Rates

5.1 Council Tax

At the end of month 3 the collection rate for Council Tax was 26.4%. This compares to 26.8% at the same point in 2013/14.

In the context of the reductions in discount and the introduction of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme, the target collection rate is now 98% over a 5-year collection period.

5.2 Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)

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

At the end of month 3 the collection rate for those who have to pay Council Tax Reduction Scheme, either for the first time or in addition to a proportion of their Council Tax, is

18.2%. This compares to 17.9% at the same point in 2013/2014.

There is a possibility that for 2014/2015 the underlying rate of collection of Council Tax Reduction Scheme will be lower than 2013/2014 due to accumulated arrears.

5.3 Business Rates

Prior to 1st April 2013 Business Rate income was collected by billing authorities on behalf of central government and then redistributed among all local authorities and police authorities as part of Formula Grant. From 1st April 2013 the Business Rate 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 3 the collection rate for Business Rates was 24.9%. This compares to 26.4% at the same point in 2013/14.

The estimated Business Rate deficit for 2013/14 was £2.82m. The Council's share of this is £1.38m (49%) and provision was included in the 2013/14 revenue accounts.

6. Capital Monitoring Performance

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

6.2 As at month 3 an overall nil variance on capital schemes is anticipated.

7. Summary Cash Flow Statement

7.1 As part of the reporting format for this financial year a summary cash flow statement is included at Appendix 5. This provides a comparison of the actual cash receipts and payments compared to forecast for 2014/15.

7.2 During the first 3 months of the year the Council's net cashflow has resulted in a decrease in the level of temporary borrowing due to the receipt of front-loaded Government Grants. While temporary borrowing rates and temporary investment rates are low, the Treasury Team will continue to delay taking any new long-term borrowing to fund planned capital expenditure. Similarly the interest charged by Lancashire County Council on the Local Government Reorganisation Debt is lower than anticipated. As a result of these 2 measures a favourable credit variance is once again forecast for 2014/2015.

8. Summary Balance Sheet

8.1 In order to provide a complete picture of the Council's financial performance, Appendix 6 provides a snapshot of the General Fund balance sheet as at the end of the quarter. The key areas of focus are any significant movements in debtors, cash and cash equivalents, bank overdraft and creditors, as these impact upon the Council's performance in the critical areas of debt recovery, treasury management and Public Sector Payment Policy.

8.2 Over the 3-month period there has been an increase in Property, Plant and Equipment of £14.5m, a decrease in short-term borrowing of £12.1m and a decrease in creditors of £8.9m, which in the main reflect the aforementioned front-loading of Government Grants.

9. Conclusion and Recommendations

- 9.1 This is the first formal financial performance monitoring report of the 2014/2015 financial year. Although an improvement upon the internally-reported forecasts as at months 1 and 2, which are typically too early in the year to make any precise assessment, the Council is still predicting a significant deterioration in its financial standing in comparison with Budget. Working balances are estimated to fall by £3,109k against the budgeted position over the year. This fall is in the context of working balances at the start of the year of £5,869k, an erosion of 53%.
- 9.2 If this forecast position became the actual outturn, then in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules within its Constitution the two specific conditions that excess spending does not:
- exceed 1% (ie. £1.4m) of the Authority's net revenue expenditure; and
 - have the effect of reducing the Authority's reserves and working balances below 50% of their normal projected level (ie. £3.0m)
- would be contravened. However, with 7 months of the financial year remaining there should still be sufficient time to redress this position, though this will inevitably require a bringing forward of budget savings plans from next year.
- 9.3 As a supportive measure it is the recommendation of the Director of Resources that the Executive reconsiders its previous decision of 16th June 2014 that underspending services in 2013/2014 could carry forward their budget surpluses into 2014/2015 and instead that these underspends (with the exception of Area Forum and Ward Budgets) totalling £462,000 be redirected to bolster working balances. This would at least have the effect of taking forecast working balances to £3.2m and above 50% of their normal projected level.
- 9.4 The Executive is asked to:
- i) To note the report and require the respective Directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage financial and operational performances, particularly in Children's Services, Adult Services, Parking Services and Community and Environmental Services;
 - ii) To recommend to Council that that the in-year budget gap explained at paragraph 4.2 be met by transferring £852,000 from the Earmarked Reserve for Potential Pay Liabilities and the balance of £164,000 from Contingencies; and
 - iii) To reconsider its previous decision of 16th June 2014 that underspending services in 2013/2014 could carry forward their budget surpluses into 2014/2015 and accept the Director of Resources' recommendation that these underspends (with the exception of Area Forum and Ward Budgets) totalling £462,000 be redirected to bolster working balances.

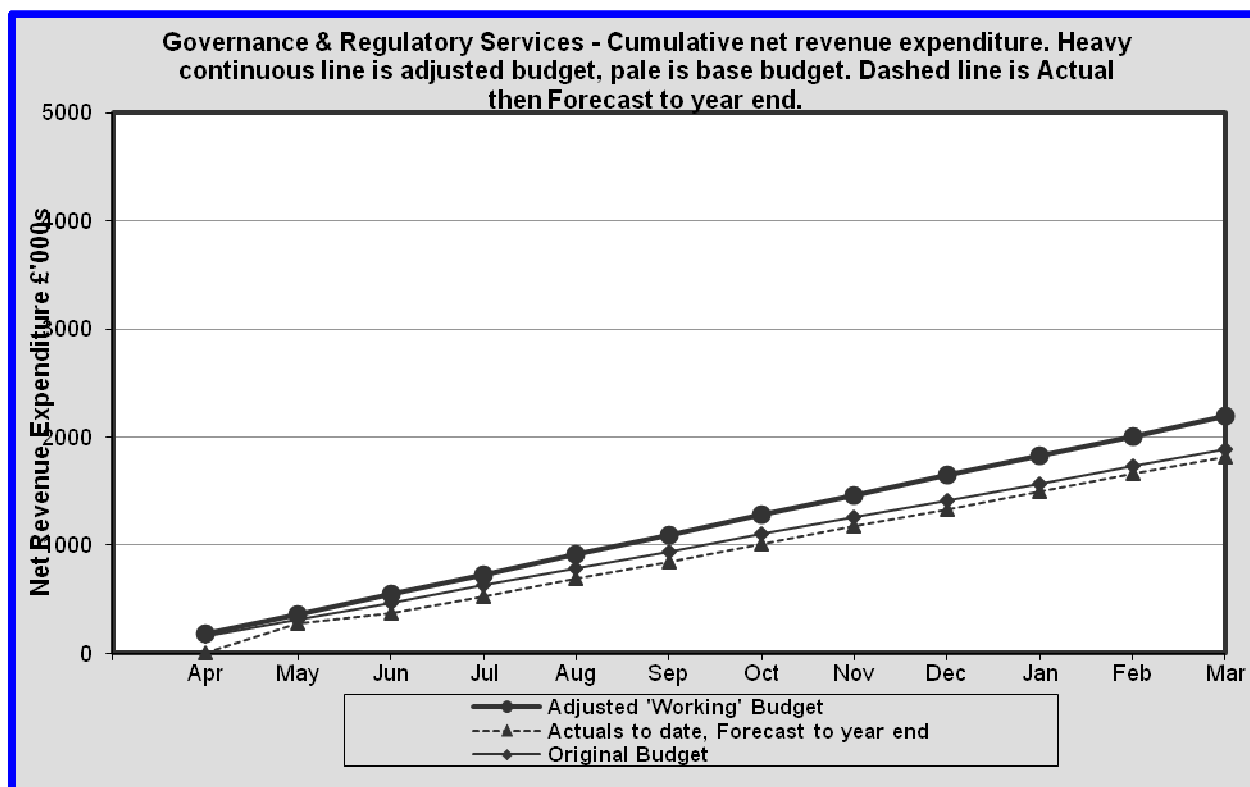
Steve Thompson
Director of Resources

Blackpool Council – Governance and Regulatory Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2014/15					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
GOVERNANCE & REGULATORY SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
GOVERNANCE & REGULATORY SERVICES	2,334	414	1,920	2,334	-	(48)
LICENSING	(386)	(44)	(342)	(386)	-	-
CEMETERIES & CREMATORIUM	(821)	(133)	(563)	(696)	125	-
GOVERNANCE & REGULATORY SERVICES	1,127	237	1,015	1,252	125	(48)
AREA FORUMS AND WARDS	1,067	130	437	567	(500)	(639)
TOTALS	2,194	367	1,452	1,819	(375)	(687)

Directorate revenue summary graph - budget, actual and forecast:



Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary

- The Revenue summary on the previous page lists the outturn projection for Governance and Regulatory Services against its currently approved, revenue budget. The adjusted budget includes the approved 2013/2014 underspend carried forward. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2014/2015 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.

Governance and Regulatory Services

- Governance and Regulatory Services is forecasting a breakeven position for 2014/15. Pressures are anticipated in the Coroners and Mortuary Service due to changes in the way the Coroner operates following the implementation of the Coroners Act 2009 (which came into force on 1 July 2013) and the charge to Lancashire County Council. These are currently being looked at.
- Licensing is forecasting a breakeven position for 2014/2015.
- Cemeteries and Crematorium is forecasting a pressure of £125k due to further delays in the completion of the remedial works at the Crematorium. This has reduced the capacity of the service and it is anticipated that the works will be completed by the end of December 2014.
- Area Forums and Ward Budgets are forecasting a £500k underspend for based on previous spend patterns. 2014/2015

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

Blackpool Council
Area Forum and Ward Budgets
2014/2015
Month 3

Area Forums

Area Forum	Total No. of Requisitions Submitted	No. of Requisitions Approved	No. Awaiting Approval	Total No. of Requisitions Completed	Total 2014-15 Budget	Budget Committed to <u>Approved</u> Schemes	Remaining 2014-15 Budget
Sandhurst Area Forum BC2008	2	2	0	0	£36,230.27	£7,500.00	£28,730.27
Beacon Area Forum BC2009	3	3	0	0	£37,743.46	£5,850.00	£31,893.46
The Gateway Area Forum BC2010	6	6	0	0	£37,817.52	£5,625.00	£32,192.52
Parklands Area Forum BC2011	5	5	0	0	£25,464.89	£10,300.00	£15,164.89
Revoe Area Forum BC2012	7	7	0	0	£37,176.28	£18,874.00	£18,302.28
Cherry Tree Area Forum BC2013	5	5	0	2	£40,370.86	£16,908.58	£23,462.28
South Shore Area Forum BC2014	5	5	0	2	£31,072.94	£14,178.94	£16,894.00
Area Forum Totals	33	33	0	4	£245,876.22	£79,236.52	£166,639.70

Wards

Ward	Councillors	Total No. of Requisitions Submitted	No. of Requisitions Approved	No. Awaiting Approval	Total No. of Requisitions Completed	Total 2014-15 Budget	Budget Committed to <u>Approved</u> Schemes	Remaining 2014-15 Budget
Anchorsholme Ward BC1001	Cllr. Galley Cllr. Williams	1	1	0	1	£36,374.95	£2,600.00	£33,774.95
Bispham Ward BC1002	Cllr. Clapham Cllr. H Mitchell	4	4	0	0	£15,457.57	£1,495.00	£13,962.57
Bloomfield Ward BC1003	Cllr. Cain Cllr. Jones	8	8	0	3	£42,586.48	£10,412.52	£32,173.96
Brunswick Ward BC1004	Cllr. Blackburn Cllr. G Coleman	3	3	0	2	£25,232.99	£6,004.00	£19,228.99
Claremont Ward BC1005	Cllr. I Taylor Cllr. Mrs Taylor	7	7	0	1	£43,537.95	£24,500.83	£19,037.12
Clifton Ward BC1006	Cllr. Hutton Cllr. L Taylor	4	4	0	3	£27,147.09	£5,675.00	£21,472.09
Greenlands Ward BC1007	Cllr. Ryan Cllr. Wright	3	3	0	2	£45,841.90	£841.90	£45,000.00
Hawes Side Ward BC1008	Cllr. Mrs Jackson Cllr. Mrs Haynes	11	11	0	6	£28,957.02	£24,544.00	£4,413.02
Highfield Ward BC1009	Cllr. Mrs Henderson MBE Cllr. Hunter	2	2	0	1	£36,934.68	£1,345.00	£35,589.68
Ingthorpe Ward BC1010	Cllr. Cross Cllr. Rowson	5	5	0	5	£54,455.53	£29,311.44	£25,144.09
Layton Ward BC1011	Cllr. Mrs Benson Cllr. M Mitchell	5	5	0	3	£34,798.90	£18,037.38	£16,761.52
Marton Ward BC1012	Cllr. D Coleman Cllr. Elmes	2	2	0	1	£32,303.91	£2,379.83	£29,924.08
Norbreck Ward BC1013	Cllr. Callow Cllr. Mrs Callow	2	2	0	0	£37,695.41	£21,250.00	£16,445.41
Park Ward BC1014	Cllr. Campbell Cllr. Doherty	4	4	0	1	£45,090.58	£4,565.39	£40,525.19
Squires Gate Ward BC1015	Cllr. Cox Cllr. Green	5	5	0	3	£58,466.91	£27,260.00	£31,206.91
Stanley Ward BC1016	Cllr. Evans Cllr. Stansfield	2	2	0	1	£47,901.81	£5,020.00	£42,881.81
Talbot Ward BC1017	Cllr. I Coleman Cllr. Smith	4	4	0	2	£26,479.31	£6,638.01	£19,841.30
Tyldesley Ward BC1018	Cllr. Collett Cllr. Matthews	2	2	0	1	£62,389.82	£29,870.00	£32,519.82
Victoria Ward BC1019	Cllr. Jackson Cllr. Owen	7	7	0	2	£42,229.04	£17,625.00	£24,604.04
Warbreck Ward BC1020	Cllr. Brown Cllr. Mrs Delves	6	6	0	1	£58,343.64	£20,305.00	£38,038.64
Waterloo Ward BC2021	Cllr. O'Hara	7	7	0	4	£29,397.22	£8,350.00	£21,047.22
Ward Totals		94	94	0	43	£831,622.71	£268,030.30	£563,592.41
Unallocated Budget		-	-	-	-	£33,864.40	£0.00	£33,864.40
Income Budget		-	-	-	-	-£45,000.00	£0.00	-£45,000.00
Area Forum and Ward Totals		127	127	0	47	£1,066,363.33	£347,266.82	£719,096.51

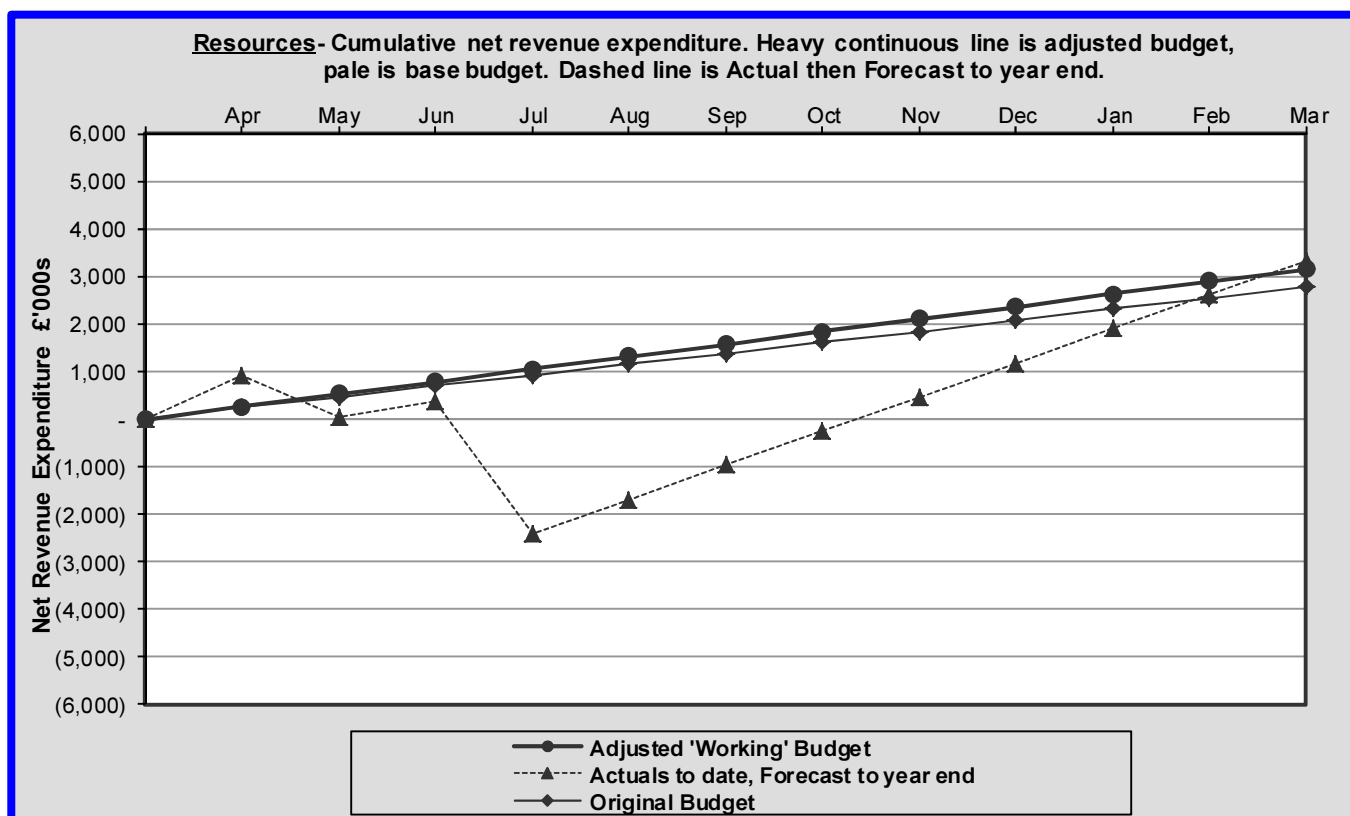
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Blackpool Council - Resources

Resources summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	2014/15			F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
		EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000		
RESOURCES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
PROCUREMENT & DEVELOPMENT	53	(99)	119	20	(33)	(96)
REVENUES, BENEFITS & TRANSACTIONAL	(755)	(2,954)	1,960	(994)	(239)	(204)
LEGAL SERVICES	(43)	252	(192)	60	103	(9)
CUSTOMER FIRST	(429)	187	(533)	(346)	83	(100)
ACCOUNTANCY	13	352	(303)	49	36	(33)
RISK SERVICES	5	19	(27)	(8)	(13)	(27)
PROPERTY & ASSET MANAGEMENT	4,307	(289)	4,758	4,469	162	155
TOTALS	3,151	(2,532)	5,782	3,250	99	(314)

Directorate revenue summary graph - budget, actual and forecast:



Commentary on the key issues:**Directorate Summary**

- The Revenue summary on the previous page lists the outturn projection for each individual service within Resources against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. The adjusted budget includes the approved 2013/2014 underspend carried forward. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2014/2015 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 & Development

- The favourable variance of £33k is due to one-off staff savings and unprogrammed income generation streams which will be achieved in year.

Revenues, Benefits & Transactional Services

- The service is forecast to meet its savings requirement in 2014/2015. This service projects a £239,000 favourable position in 2014/15. Additional income has been received in-year from Department for Work and Pensions and Department for Communities and Local Government for welfare reform and implementation of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. This extra income is to provide the funding to assist Councils in their statutory duty to administer and process extra workload Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit during the economic downturn, implementation of welfare reforms (Local Housing Allowance changes, Bedroom Tax, Benefits Cap) and implementation of Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

This additional funding has been used in part for software changes, process changes, additional staff and equipment due to the increased caseload. The head of service is managing this extra workload by using existing employees and overtime with some filling of posts on a temporary basis.

- The Local Discretionary Support Scheme is forecast to break even in-year.

Legal Services

- Legal Services is forecasting an £103k overspend for 2014/15, which is partially due to pressures on staffing costs as a result of some increased salaries during 2012/13 due to the pay review process. Pressures are also forecast on computer licence costs relating to the Iken system, the Techniforce system contract exit fee and postage costs.

Customer First

- Customer First is forecasting a £83k pressure in 2014/15. The majority of this pressure falls within the staffing budget due to the need to keep as many staff as possible answering the phones and the extra duties involved while staff are migrating to Bickerstaffe House. It is hoped that some income will be received in year to mitigate some of these costs.

Accountancy

- Accountancy is forecasting a £36k overspent position in month 3 due to an income pressure.

Risk Services

- Risk Services is forecasting £13k underspend position due to employee costs relating to temporary staffing being off-set by income generation and a staff saving within investigations.

Property and Asset Management

- Property and Asset Management is forecasting an overspend of £162k. This is due to a worsening income forecast in the Facilities directorate.

Summary of the revenue forecast

After three months of the financial year, Resources is forecasting £99k 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.

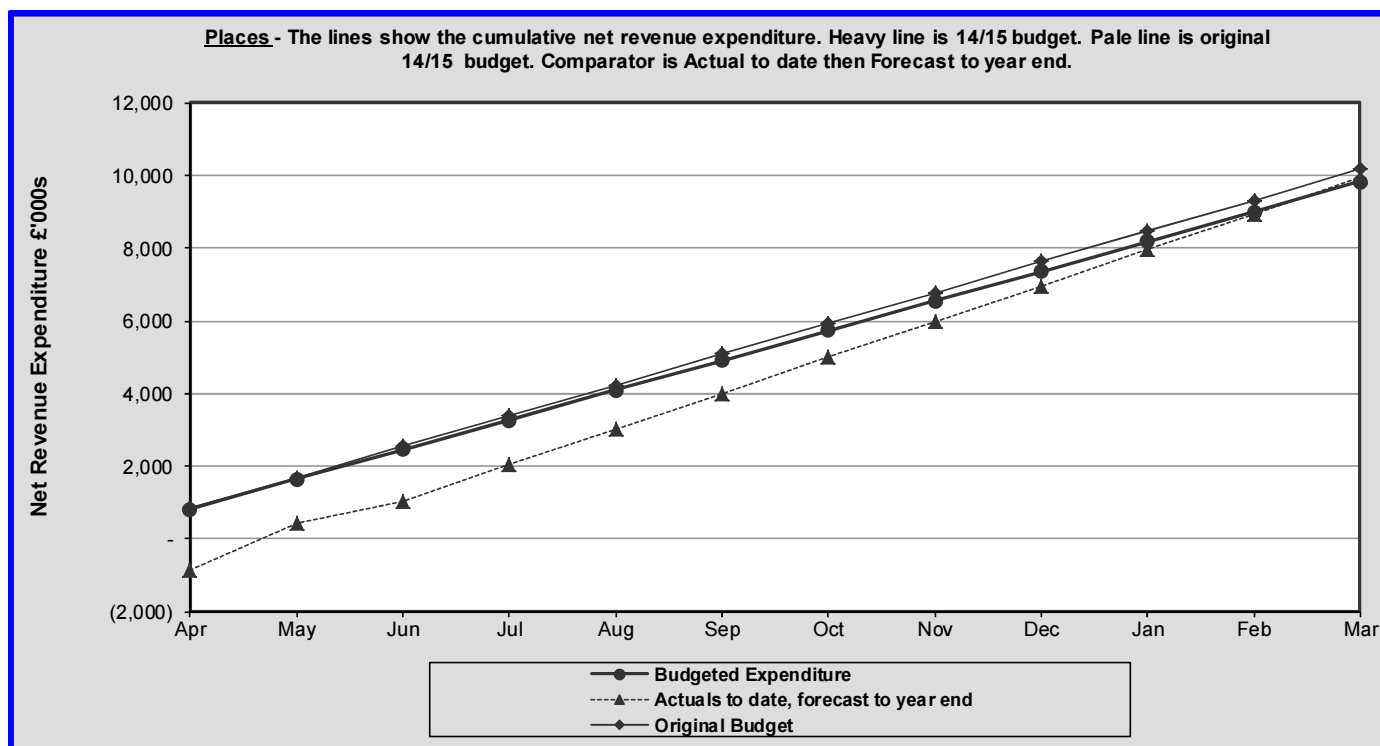
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Blackpool Council - Places

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2014/15					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED	EXPENDITURE	PROJECTED	FORECAST	F/CAST FULL	
	BUDGET £000	APR - JUNE £000	SPEND £000	OUTTURN £000	YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
PLACES						
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	669	37	632	669	-	274
VISITOR ECONOMY	5,433	971	4,576	5,547	114	
ARTS & HERITAGE	520	(587)	1,107	520	-	
LIBRARY SERVICES	2,158	342	1,816	2,158	-	
HOUSING	660	102	558	660	-	
PLANNING	380	174	206	380	-	
TOTALS	9,820	1,039	8,895	9,934	114	274

Revenue summary graph - budget, actual and forecast:



Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary

- The Revenue summary above lists the outturn projection for each individual service within the Places directorate against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. The adjusted Budget includes the approved 2013/2014 overspend carried forward. The forecast outturn of £114k overspend is based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2014/2015 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.
- The Places Directorate is newly constituted following the recent Council restructure, and comprises elements of the old Regeneration, Tourism and Culture department, Housing, Planning and Beach Patrol from the

former Built Environment department, and Corporate Print Services, inherited from the former Leisure and Operational Services department.

Visitor Economy

- Visitor Economy comprises: Illuminations, Visit Blackpool, Partnerships and Business Development, Beach Patrol and Corporate Print Services.
- The £114k overspend is made up of £14k in Corporate Print Services due to a predicted short fall of income and £100k being the remaining balance of 2013/2014 overspend in Visit Blackpool. A recovery plan is already in place to address this overspend.

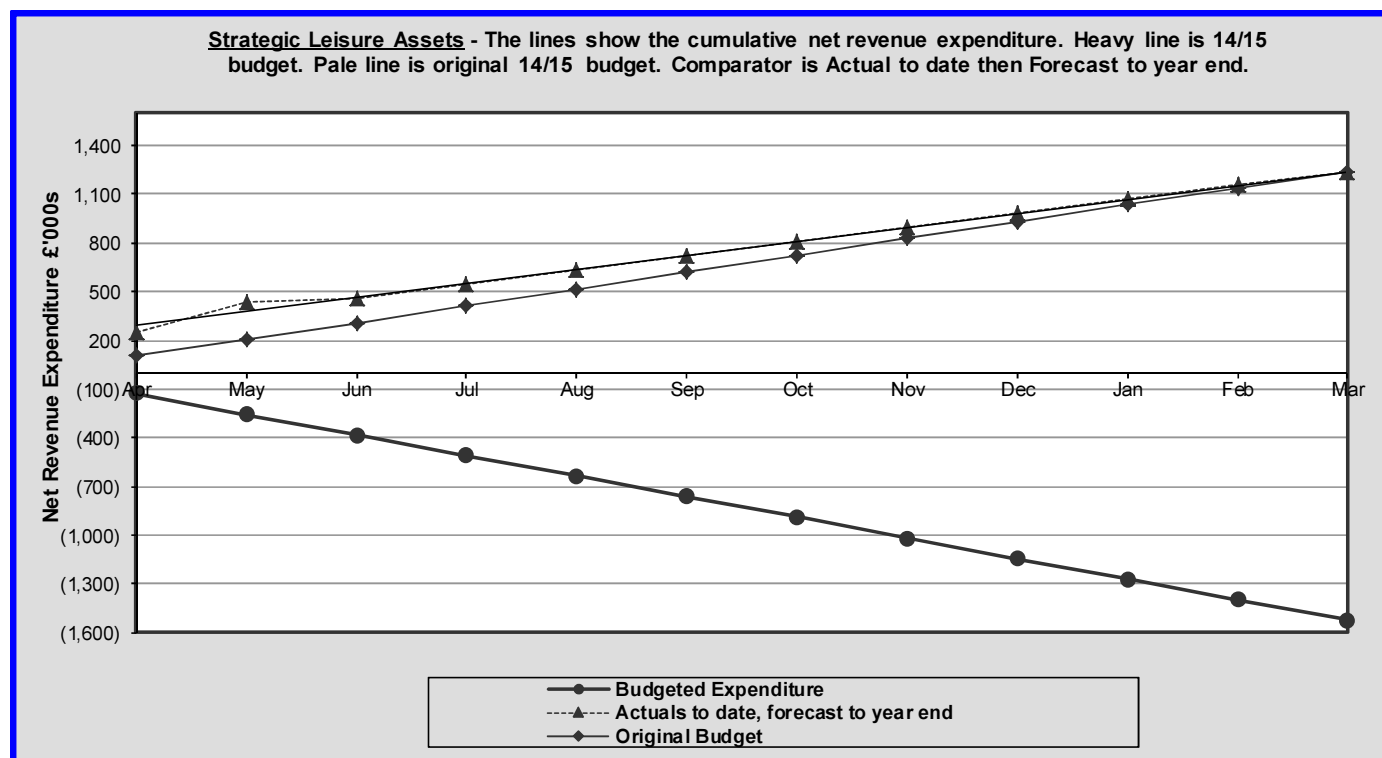
Budget Holder – Mr A Cavill, Director of Place

Blackpool Council – Strategic Leisure Assets

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2014/15					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED	EXPENDITURE	PROJECTED	FORECAST	F/CAST FULL	
	BUDGET £000	APR - JUNE £000	SPEND £000	OUTTURN £000	YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS						
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	(1,523)	463	779	1,242	2,765	2,765
TOTALS	(1,523)	463	779	1,242	2,765	2,765

Revenue summary graph - budget, actual and forecast:



Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary

- The Revenue summary above lists the outturn projection for Strategic Leisure Assets against its currently approved, revenue budget. The adjusted budget includes the approved 2013/14 overspend carried forward. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2014/15 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 overall Leisure Assets portfolio financial position is £2,765k. This is the balance brought forward from 2013/2014.

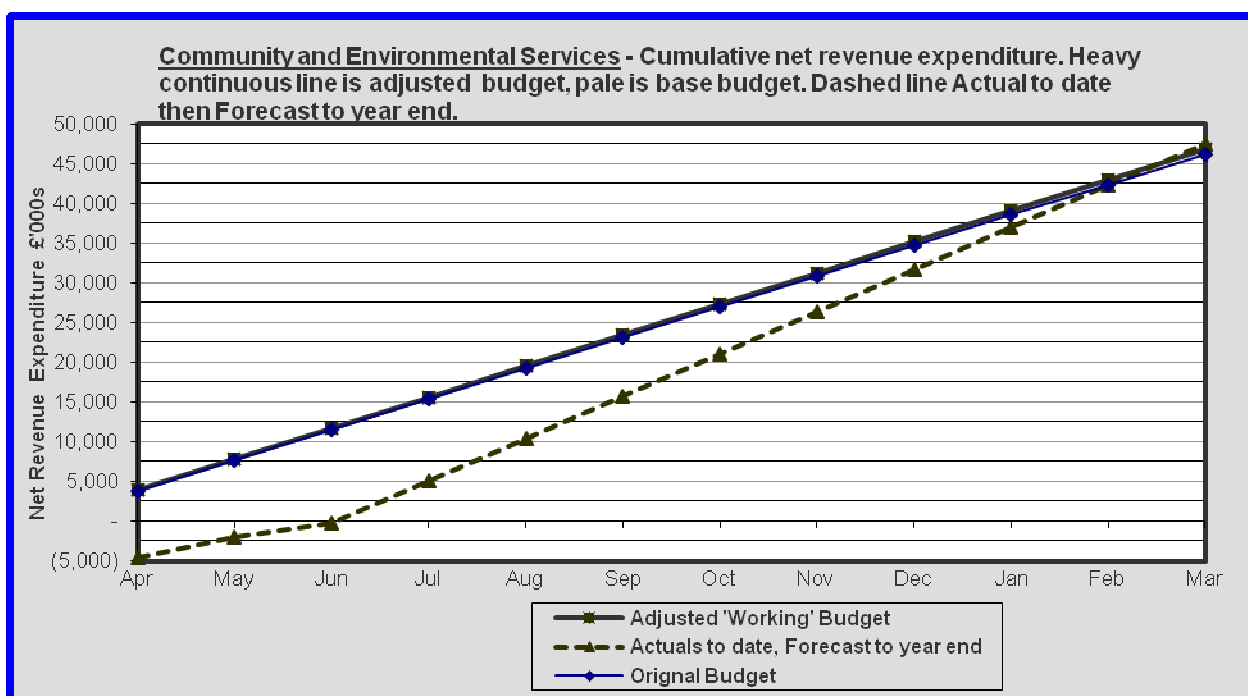
Budget Holder – Mr A Cavill, Director of Place

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Blackpool Council – Community and Environmental Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	2014/15			F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
		EXPENDITURE APR - JUNE £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000		
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
BUILDING SERVICES	287	380	99	479	192	151
BUILDING CLEANING	(138)	125	(132)	(7)	131	(8)
CONVENIENCES	1092	265	827	1092	-	5
SECURITY & CCTV	(63)	52	(15)	(63)	-	(45)
CAPITAL PROJECTS	(6)	93	(99)	(6)	-	21
HIGHWAYS	15,112	228	14,884	15,112	-	(98)
TRANSPORT	616	(376)	992	616	-	54
STREET LIGHT PFI & COASTAL PARTNERSHIP	4,072	(434)	4,506	4,072	-	(1)
ENFORCEMENT AND QUALITY STANDARDS	1716	(203)	1919	1716	-	(3)
CVMU	62	115	(53)	62	-	2
INTEGRATED TRANSPORT SERVICES	87	(246)	333	87	-	(7)
TRAVEL AND ROAD SAFETY	237	103	486	589	352	-
WASTE MANAGEMENT	16,191	(16)	16,207	16,191	-	(191)
STREET CLEANSING AND LEAF	3,033	585	2,448	3,033	-	9
PARKS	1617	(152)	1,769	1,617	-	(20)
CATERING SERVICES	255	7	248	255	-	4
LEISURE FACILITIES & SPORT DEVELOPMENT	1026	(246)	1272	1026	-	(8)
BUSINESS SERVICES	1676	(486)	2,162	1,676	-	131
TOTALS	46,872	(206)	47,753	47,547	675	(4)



Commentary on the key issues:

Community and Environmental Services - Department Summary

Community and Environmental Services is a new Directorate in Period 3. The Directorate is constituted from the majority of services that were in Leisure and Operational Services and has inherited services from Neighbourhoods, Transportation and Quality from Built Environment.

The Revenue summary on the previous page lists the outturn projection for each individual service within Community and Environmental Services against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. The adjusted budget includes the approved 2013/14 underspend carried forward. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2014/15 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

Building Services is a trading account and is not meeting its target for Day to Day income. The service has reduced core staffing to reduce overheads and a formal review of the service and its viability going forward is being carried out in June/July. The current position reflects an income pressure of £192k.

Building Cleaning has a pressure of £131k. The service has a CSR target of £100k in relation to the drop from 5 to 3 days cleaning and building closures. These savings have not materialised to the level anticipated in the CSR as savings are less than planned due to less building closures than plan, and there is additional cleaning for new locations. Furthermore as commissioning departments are recharged at cost, the saving will show in the purchasing department. There is an additional pressure on Shelter income.

A pressure of £587k within Highways as a result of Prudential borrowing costs associated with Project 30 has been offset, in part, by scheme income and it is anticipated that the remaining pressure will be offset by LTP monies.

A pressure of £352k is forecast in relation to Travel and Road Safety. The main component of this pressure is a proposed CSR saving no longer deemed achievable and where no replacement saving has yet been identified.

Conclusion – Community and Environmental Services financial position

Community and Environmental Services is currently forecasting a position of £675k pressure due to income pressures on Building Services, CSR pressures on Building Cleaning and Travel and Road Safety.

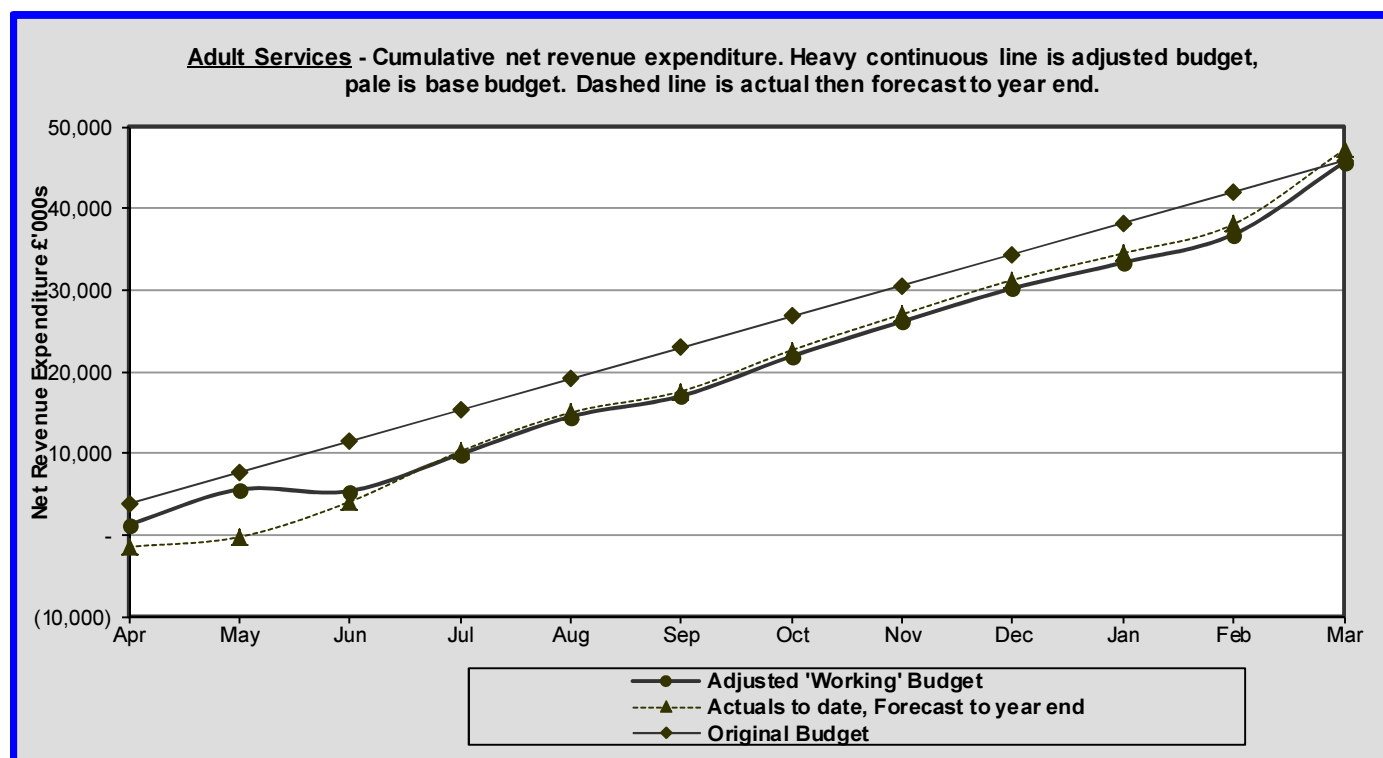
Budget Holder - Mr J Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services

Blackpool Council - Adult Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	2014/15			F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
		EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000		
ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT						
ADULT SOCIAL CARE	5,292	451	4,877	5,328	36	-
CARE & SUPPORT	9,503	848	8,619	9,467	(36)	-
COMMISSIONING, CONTRACTS & SYSTEMS DEV	1,285	(82)	1,348	1,266	(19)	-
ADULT COMMISSIONING PLACEMENTS	26,270	2,408	25,080	27,488	1218	81
ADULT SAFEGUARDING	263	(537)	1,146	609	346	-
BUSINESS SUPPORT & RESOURCES	2,995	960	2,035	2,995	-	-
TOTALS	45,608	4,048	43,105	47,153	1,545	81

Directorate revenue summary graph - budget, actual and forecast:



Commentary on the key issues:**Directorate Summary – basis**

- The Revenue summary on the first page of this appendix lists the latest outturn projection for each individual service within the Adult Services against their respective, currently approved revenue budget. The adjusted budget includes the approved 2013/14 overspend carried forward. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2014-15 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Adult Commissioning Placements (Social Care Packages)

- The Adult Commissioning Placements division is currently forecasting a £1,218k over spend. The budget in this area was reduced by £2.5m in 2013-14, following the Priority Led Budgeting process (PLB), with the aim to realise further savings from the extension of the Review Team Plus work. This team ensures there is a stricter adherence to the eligibility criteria whilst also ensuring client needs are met but in a different way. Once high cost packages had been reviewed it became increasingly evident that further savings would not be achieved based on care needs. However, the further integration of Health and Social Care services have released additional cost savings, budget right sizing around Ordinary Residence and Fairer Charging income has reduced the recurrent budget gap to £717k. 2014-15 demand increases were not funded via the Cash Limit, therefore the total recurrent gap is currently c£1.6m. One-off savings relating to the release of the Adults bad debt provision and review of the balance sheet have reduced this down to £1.218m in year.
- It should be noted that the forecast outturn within the Adults Commissioning Placements Division is based on trend analysis using invoiced amounts drawn from the financial ledger. A system called Frameworki is currently being implemented and will incorporate financial data in phase 2 of the development which should provide improved forecasting in the future.

Safeguarding

- Following recent Deprivation of Liberty (DoLs) case law this Division is forecasting a £400k over spend as a result of additional legal and staffing costs, this has been offset slightly by the removal of a senior management post.

Summary of the Adult Services financial position

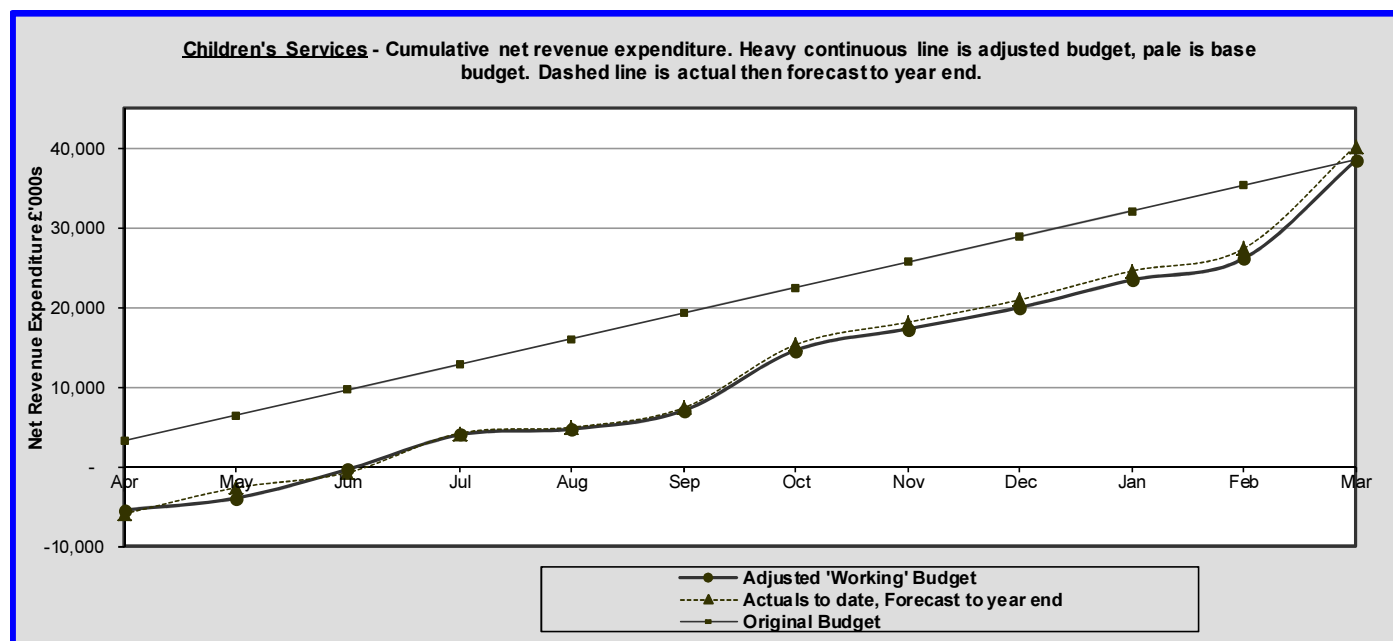
As at the end of June 2014 the Adult Services Directorate is forecasting an overall overspend of £1.545m for the financial year to March 2015.

Budget Holder - Mrs D Curtis, Director of Adult Services

Blackpool Council – Children’s Services

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2014/15					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
CHILDREN ADULT & FAMILY SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - ISB	81834	12,318	69,516	81834	-	-
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - NON DELEGATED	550	(100)	650	550	-	-
LEARNING & SCHOOLS	20,170	5,043	15,232	20,275	105	-
COMMUNITY EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	301	75	226	301	-	-
CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE	-	-	-	-	-	-
DEDICATED SCHOOL GRANT	(103,856)	(21,731)	(82,125)	(103,856)	-	-
CARRY FORWARD OF DSG	-	-	(105)	(105)	(105)	-
TOTAL DSG FUNDED SERVICES	(1,000)	(4,396)	3,394	(1,000)	-	-
CHILDRENS SERVICES DEPRECIATION	5,303	-	5,303	5,303	-	-
LEARNING & SCHOOLS	4,665	(925)	5,471	4,546	(118)	-
COMMUNITY EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	5,353	(1,175)	6,719	5,544	191	-
CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE	24,282	5,816	19,398	25,214	932	-
YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM	1024	195	829	1024	-	-
CHILDRENS SAFEGUARDING	957	100	924	1024	67	-
LOCAL SERVICES SUPPORT GRANT	(118)	-	(36)	(36)	82	-
EDUCATION SERVICES GRANT	(2,100)	(387)	(1,025)	(1,412)	688	-
TOTAL COUNCIL TAX FUNDED SERVICES	39,365	3,624	37,583	41,207	1,842	-
TOTAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES	38,365	(771)	40,977	40,207	1,842	-

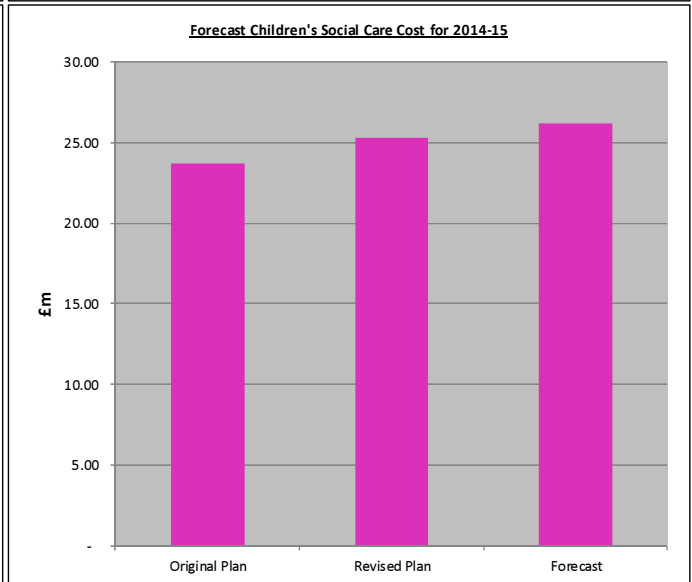
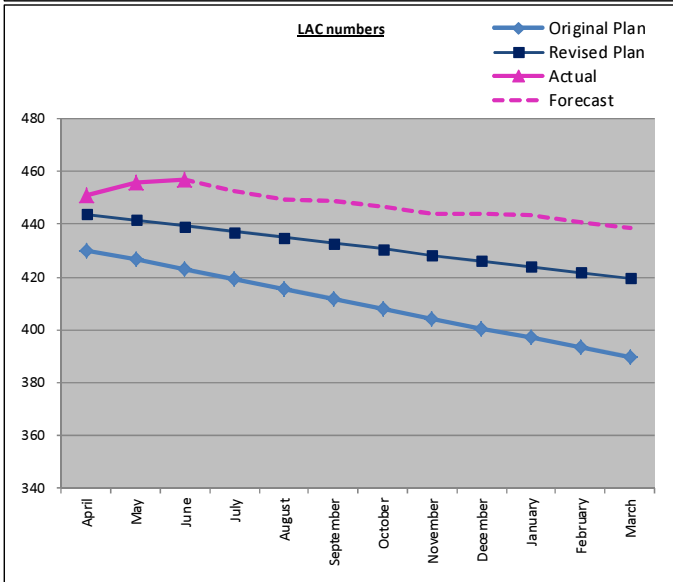
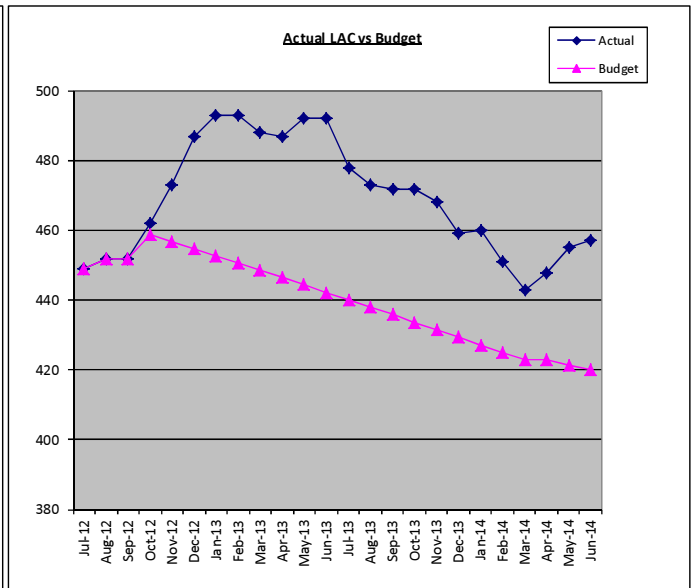
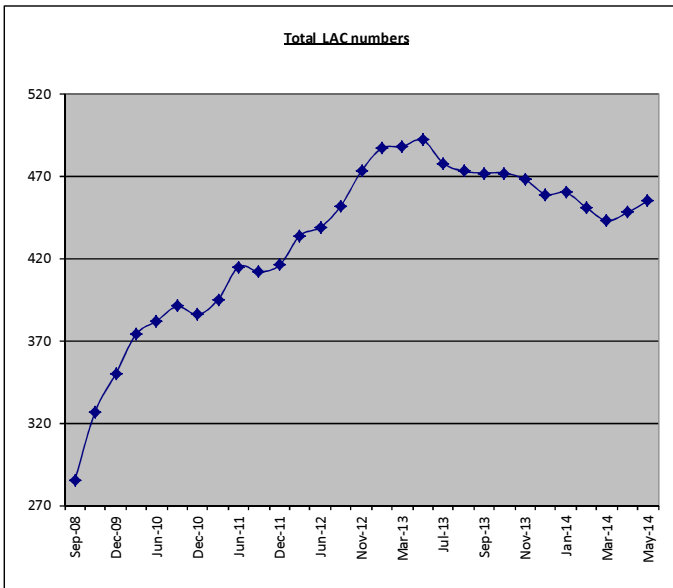
Directorate revenue summary graph - budget, actual and forecast:

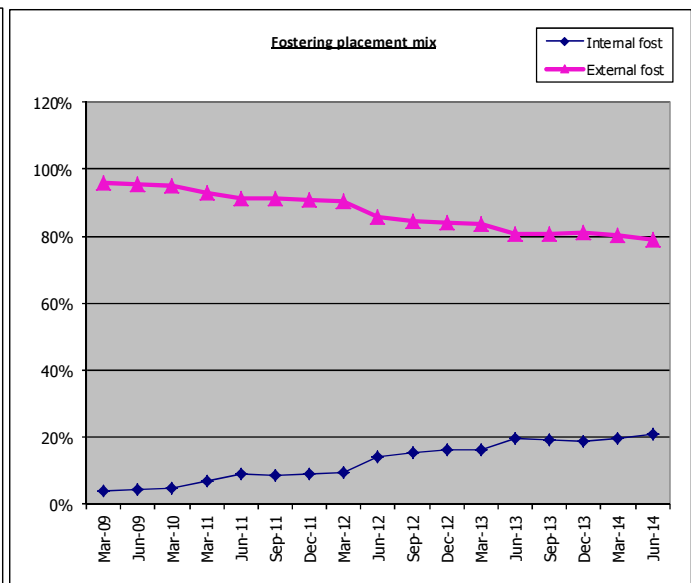
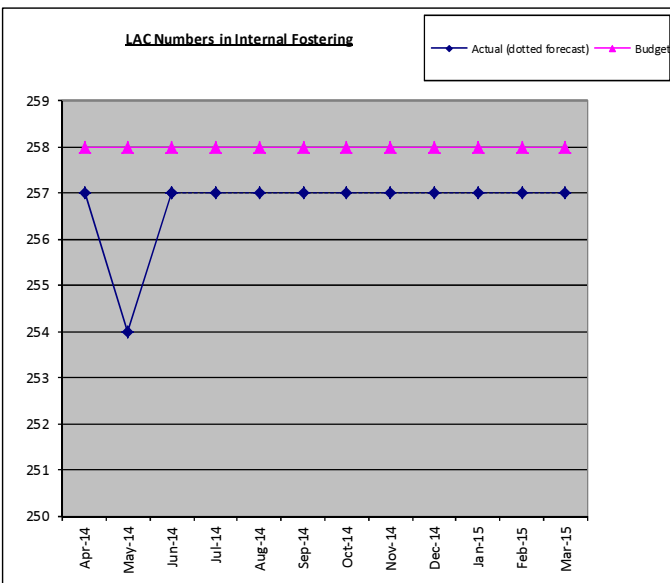
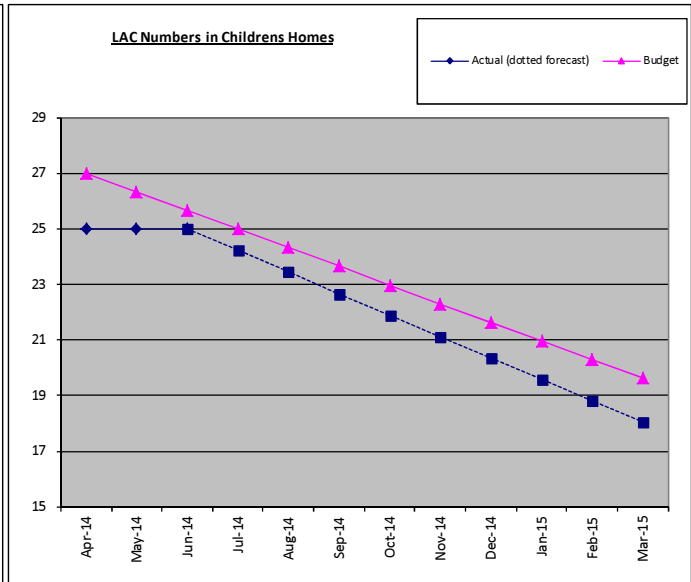
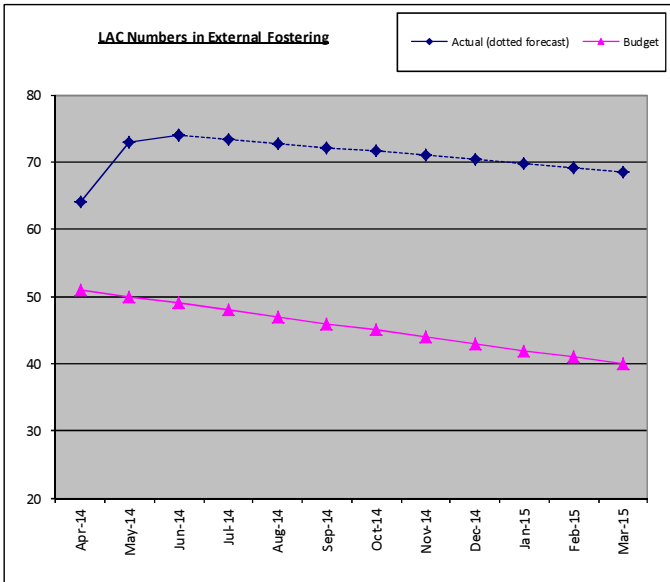


Childrens Social Care Trends

Date	External Placements						Total			Internal Fostering			Total LAC Numbers
	Fostering			Residential									
	FTE	£000's	£ per placement	FTE	£000's	£ per placement	FTE	£000's	£ per placement	FTE	£000's	£ per placement	
Dec-08	8.67	411	47,453	27.50	2,624	95,423	36.17	3,035	83,926	no data	no data	no data	285
Mar-09	8.77	403	45,979	28.07	2,772	98,747	36.84	3,175	86,186	208.91	2,510	12,015	323
Jul-09	12.10	466	38,549	40.85	4,290	105,007	52.96	4,757	89,820	no data	no data	no data	334
Mar-10	13.35	513	38,445	39.02	4,295	110,083	52.37	4,809	91,824	263.88	2,889	10,946	374
Jun-10	20.43	765	37,428	34.20	3,473	101,534	54.63	4,237	77,563	304.83	3,357	11,012	382
Mar-11	22.69	860	37,912	36.73	3,536	96,272	59.42	4,396	73,983	303.23	3,329	10,977	395
Jun-11	29.54	1,108	37,508	33.62	3,430	102,023	63.16	4,538	71,849	303.23	3,329	10,977	395
Sep-11	30.35	1,129	37,191	33.90	3,457	101,982	64.25	4,586	71,376	316.95	3,527	11,128	412
Dec-11	31.91	1,184	37,118	35.16	3,580	101,808	67.07	4,764	71,031	312.85	3,496	11,175	416
Mar-12	32.68	1,223	37,424	34.27	3,488	101,780	66.95	4,711	70,366	315.07	3,507	11,131	434
Jun-12	49.27	1,816	36,858	36.47	3,710	101,727	85.07	5,526	64,958	296.18	3,480	11,750	439
Sep-12	53.37	1,903	35,657	36.70	4,264	116,185	90.07	6,167	68,469	290.42	3,345	11,518	452
Dec-12	55.80	1,987	35,611	38.08	4,498	118,121	93.88	6,485	69,080	290.55	3,372	11,606	487
Mar-13	57.36	2,028	35,355	38.89	4,645	119,447	96.25	6,673	69,330	291.27	3,377	11,594	488
Jun-13	71.93	2,604	36,202	30.01	3,349	111,596	101.94	5,953	58,400	298.00	3,542	11,887	492
Sep-13	70.51	2,515	35,667	29.05	3,240	111,523	99.56	5,754	57,801	293.58	3,496	11,908	472
Dec-13	68.22	2,494	36,560	29.02	3,398	117,073	97.24	5,892	60,592	292.11	3,455	11,828	459
Jan-14	71.80	2,487	34,633	29.09	3,415	117,399	100.89	5,902	58,499	298.94	3,481	11,646	460
Feb-14	71.50	2,486	34,772	29.68	3,504	118,067	101.19	5,991	59,206	298.48	3,506	11,747	451
Mar-14	72.82	2,480	34,058	29.76	3,525	118,473	102.57	6,005	58,547	295.49	3,474	11,757	443
Apr-14	60.43	2,276	37,663	24.00	2,599	108,277	84.44	4,875	57,737	257.30	3,255	12,650	448
May-14	68.77	2,576	37,454	25.58	2,543	99,418	94.35	5,118	54,251	258.00	3,405	13,197	455
Jun-14	70.35	2,527	35,928	24.74	2,537	102,561	95.09	5,065	53,265	266.65	3,422	12,833	457

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





Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

- The Revenue summary on the first page of this appendix 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 3 months of 2014-15 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Dedicated School Grant Funded Services

- The Dedicated School Grant (DSG) is the funding stream that supports the Schools Budget, which includes amounts that are devolved through the Individual School Budget, 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 2015-16 and, in the case of overspends, become the first call on the grant in that year.

Early Help for Children and Families

- As part of the 2014/15 Priority Led Budgeting process, Children's Services were targeted with savings of £488k to be achieved via commissioning reviews. Although several reviews are currently taking place, the extent of the possible savings remains unclear. This report assumes that the target will not be achieved in full in the current financial year. Although the target was not applied specifically to the Early Help for Children and Families division, it is in this area that commissioning reviews are currently being undertaken, which is why the pressure is shown on this budget line.

Children's Social Care

- The Children's Social Care division is forecasting an overspend of £932k due to the continuing high numbers of Looked After Children (LAC). This cost pressure has already been offset by £260k of savings identified following a review of the balance sheet and maximisation of new grant funding. LAC numbers peaked at around 500 in the early part of 2013, but a new recovery plan has now been implemented which targets a reduction to 420 by the end of 2014/15 and 400 by the end of 2015/16. Numbers had begun to fall with the figure at 443 as at the end of March 2014. However, referrals to social care are at the highest levels ever recorded and have been rising significantly since March. Extensive work is being undertaken by Children's Services and the Blackpool Safeguarding Children Board to understand this rise in demand but it is likely that as cases work their way through our system our progress in reducing LAC numbers may slow. It is worth noting that placement mix, and not just LAC numbers, has an impact on the financial forecast. The variation in unit costs can be significant with an average residential placement equivalent in cost to nine internal fostering placements and the most expensive placement equal to 18. Maximising less costly placements is, therefore, a key element of the recovery plan, and to this end placements are reviewed at a fortnightly panel.

Education Services Grant

- From April 2013, the education functions provided by local authorities have been funded from a new Education Services Grant (ESG). The Council receives £113 per pupil in relation to the pupils in schools maintained by the authority plus £15 for each pupil in all schools and academies in respect of responsibilities retained for every pupil within our boundary. A shortfall in grant of £688k is included in the forecast overspend, relating to the anticipated loss of funding due to both historical and in-year academy conversions.

Summary of the Children's Services financial position

As at the end of June 2014 the Children's Services Directorate is forecasting an over spend of £1,842k for the financial year to March 2015.

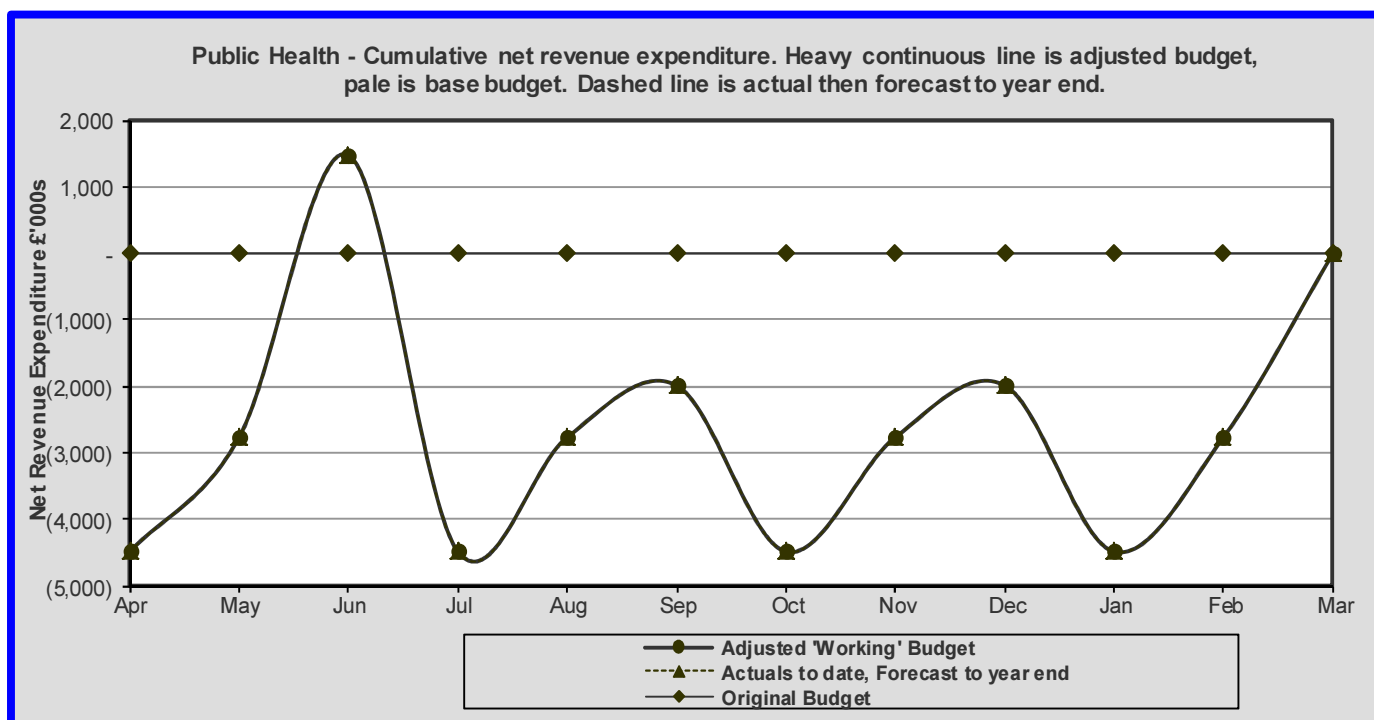
Budget Holder - Mrs S Harrison, Director of Children's Services

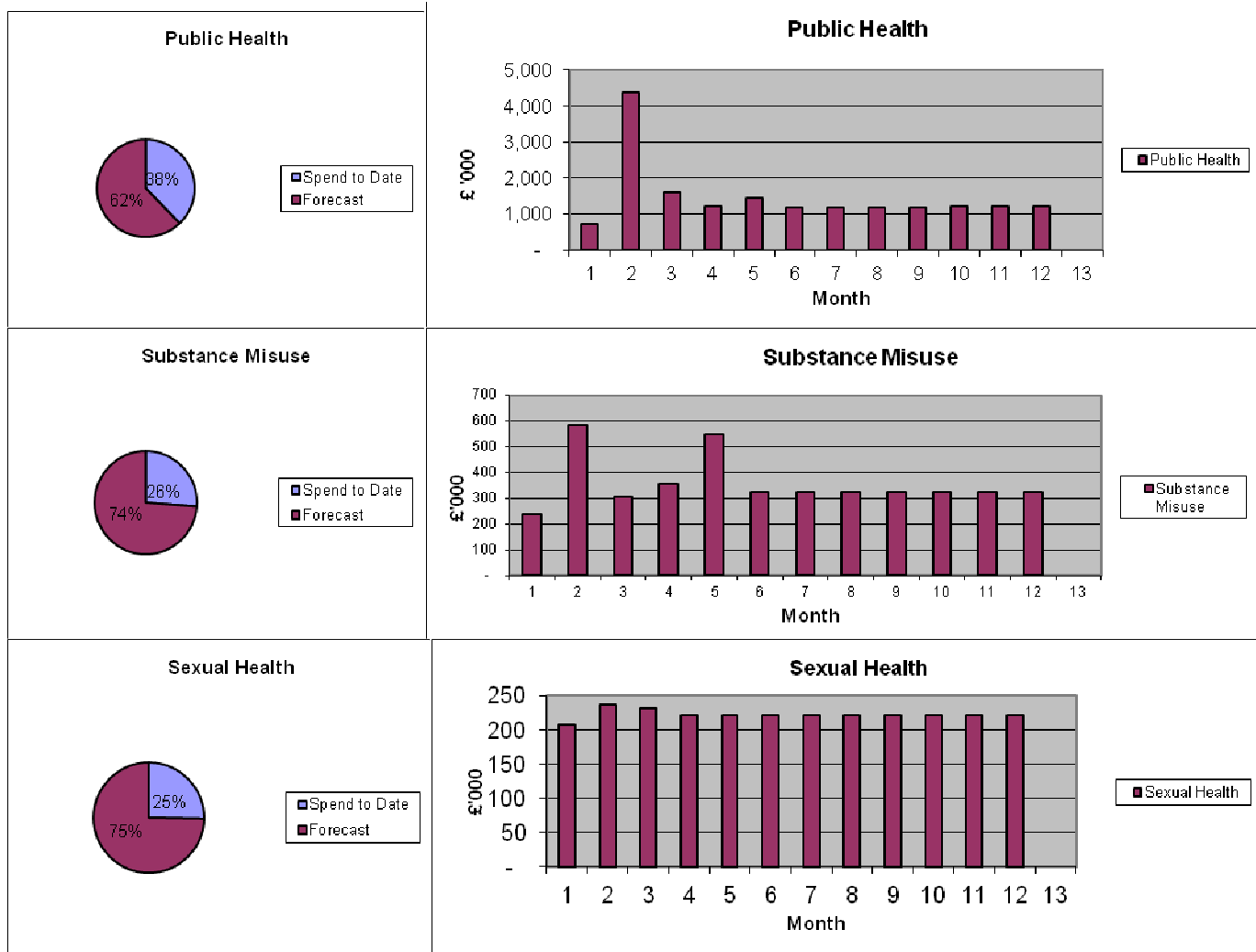
Blackpool Council – Public Health

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	2014/15				
		EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
PUBLIC HEALTH						
MANAGEMENT AND OVERHEADS	1,733	690	1,043	1,733	-	
NHS HEALTH CHECKS - MANDATED	255	11	244	255	-	
CHILDREN (0-19) - NCMP MANDATED	1,242	304	938	1,242	-	
HEALTH PROTECTION - MANDATED	94	3	91	94	-	
TOBACCO CONTROL	798	107	691	798	-	
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING	675	127	549	675	-	
SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES - MANDATED	3,440	665	2,775	3,440	-	
FALLS PREVENTION / ACCIDENTS	183	53	130	183	-	
SUBSTANCE MISUSE (DRUGS AND ALCOHOL)	5,441	1,130	4,311	5,441	-	
HEALTHY WEIGHT/WEIGHT MANAGEMENT	540	127	413	540	-	
OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	745	-	745	745	-	
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	2,800	2,750	50	2,800	-	
GRANT	(17,946)	(4,486)	(13,460)	(17,946)	-	
TOTALS	-	1,480	(1,480)	-	-	-

Directorate revenue summary graph – budget, actual and forecast:





Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

The Revenue summary on the front page of this appendix lists the latest outturn projection for each individual scheme against their respective, currently approved budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2014-15 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with the services leads

Public Health Grant

The Public Health Grant is a central government grant which is ring-fenced until March 2015 after which the grant will be based on a national formula. The allocation for 2014/15 is £17,945,700.

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

Payment by Results (PbR)/ Activity-based Commissioning

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

Summary of the Public Health Directorate financial position

As at the end of June 2014, the Public Health Directorate is forecasting an overall spend of the full grant, £17,945,700, for the financial year to March 2015.

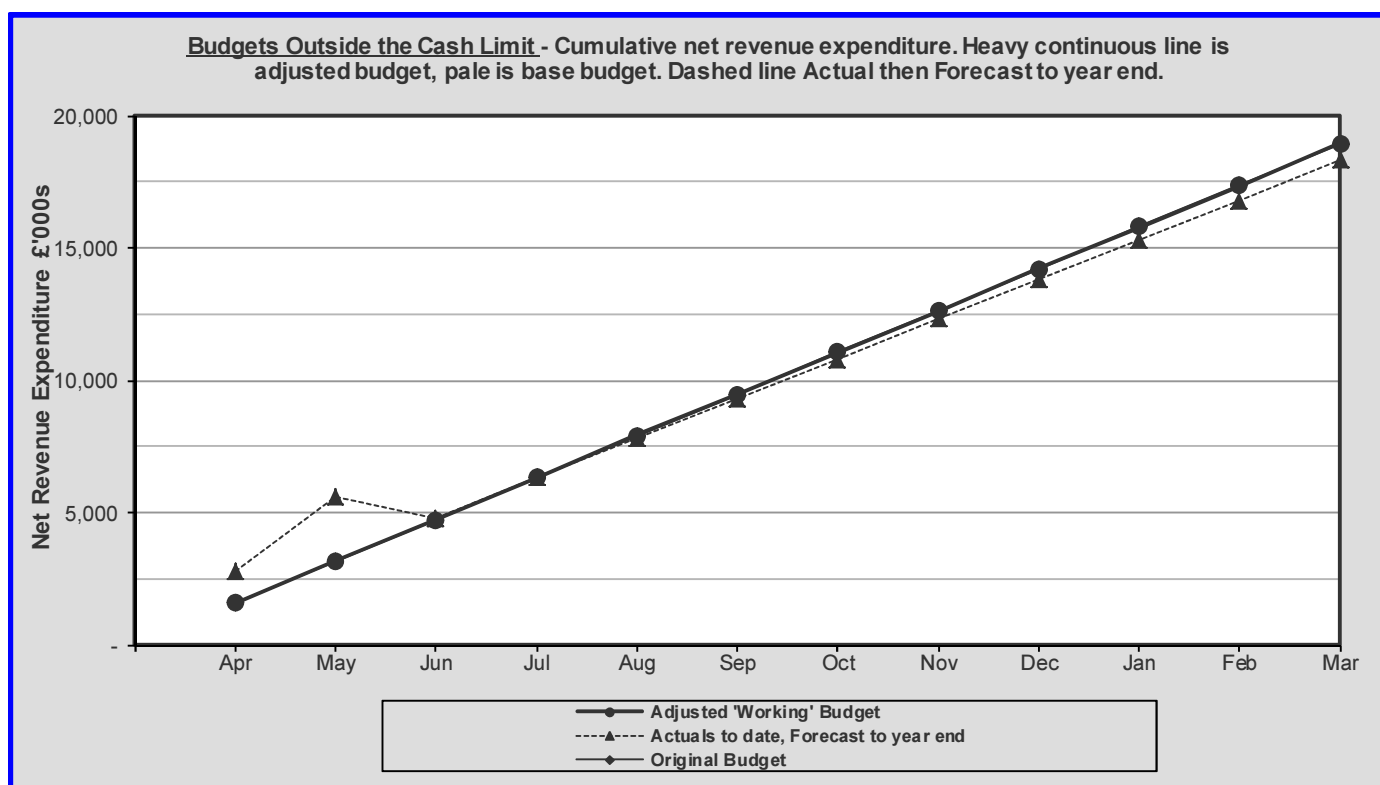
Budget Holder – Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health

Blackpool Council – Budgets Outside the Cash Limit

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2014/15					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUNE £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT						
NET EXPENDITURE						
TREASURY MANAGEMENT	13,668	3,421	8,559	11,980	(1,688)	-
PARKING	(3,190)	(798)	(1,433)	(2,231)	959	-
GRANTS DONATIONS AND SUBS.	439	259	180	439	-	-
HOUSING BENEFITS	1,654	407	1,255	1,662	8	-
COUNC. TAX & NNDR COST OF COLL.	672	165	504	669	(3)	-
SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES	(958)	82	(1,040)	(958)	-	-
CONCESSIONARY FARES	3,915	979	2,936	3,915	-	-
LAND CHARGES	(48)	(31)	(17)	(48)	-	-
INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO	1,520	4	1,604	1,608	88	-
PREVIOUS YEARS' PENSION LIABILITY	2,821	705	2,116	2,821	-	-
NEWHOMES BONUS	(1,569)	(392)	(1,177)	(1,569)	-	-
TOTALS	18,924	4,801	13,487	18,288	(636)	-

Directorate revenue summary graph - budget, actual and forecast:



Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

- The above summary 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 3 months of 2014/2015 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and savings in the remainder of the financial year, which have been agreed by each designated budget manager.

Treasury Management

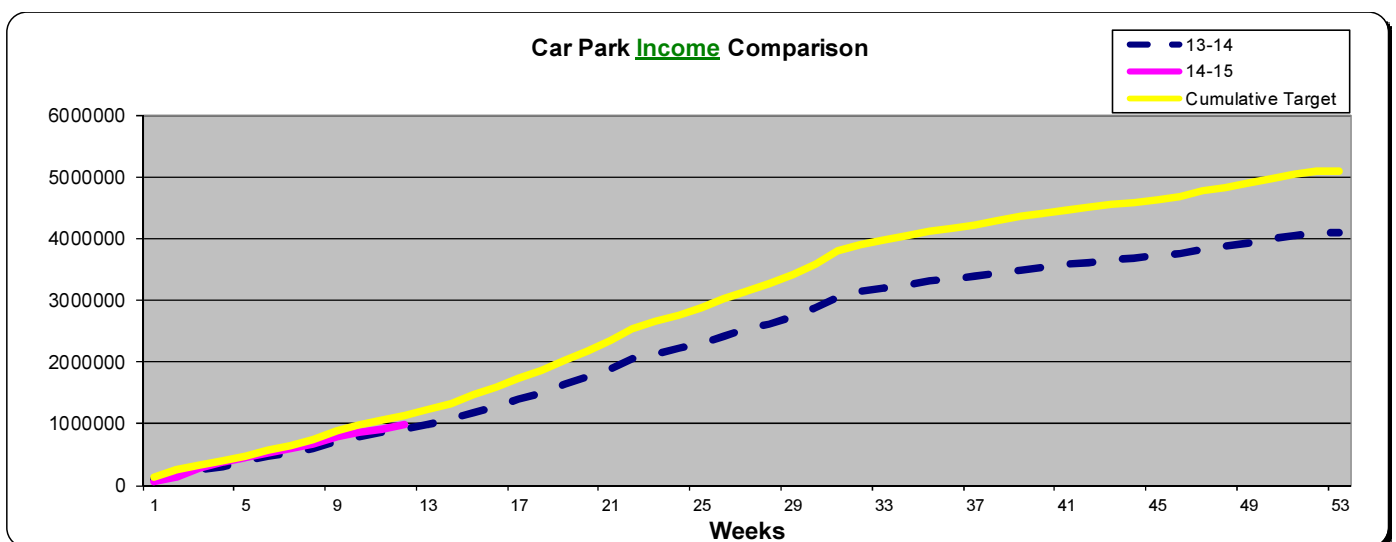
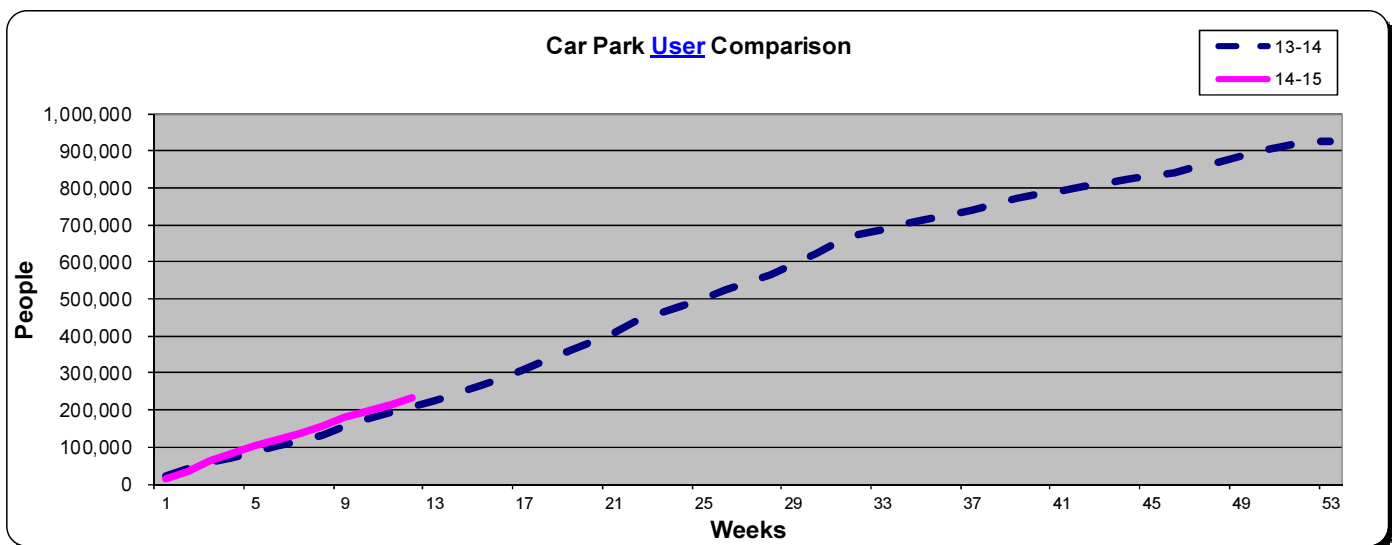
- This revenue account is forecast to achieve a favourable variance of £1,688k for the year. This reflects a temporary windfall from the short-term interest rates currently being paid to finance recent capital expenditure, and a lower interest charge by Lancashire County Council on the Local Government Reorganisation debt.

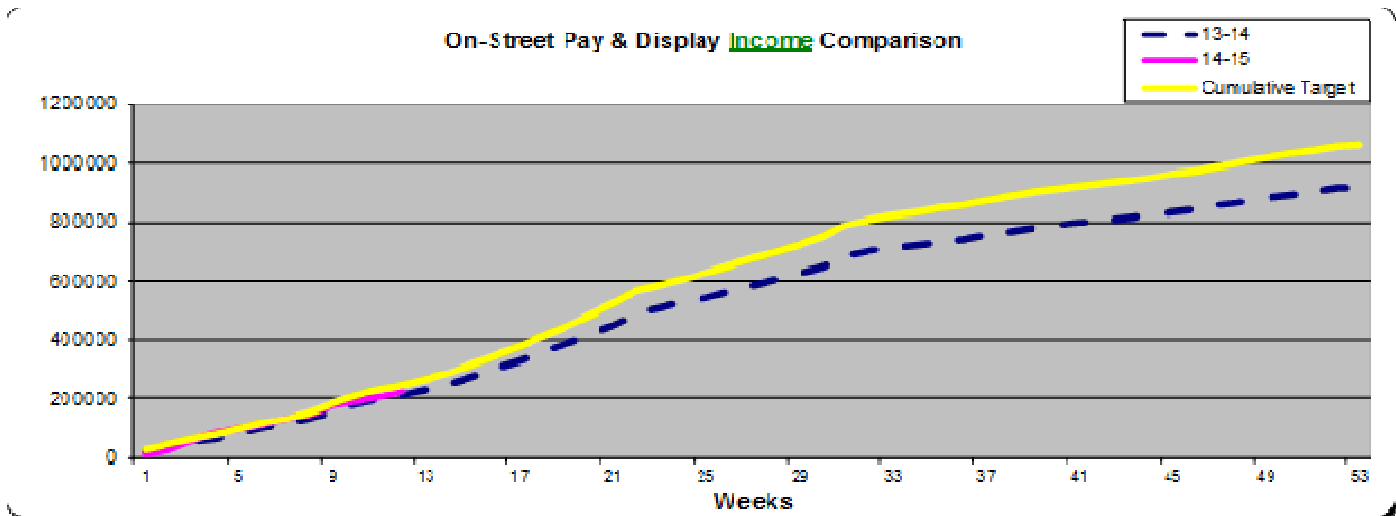
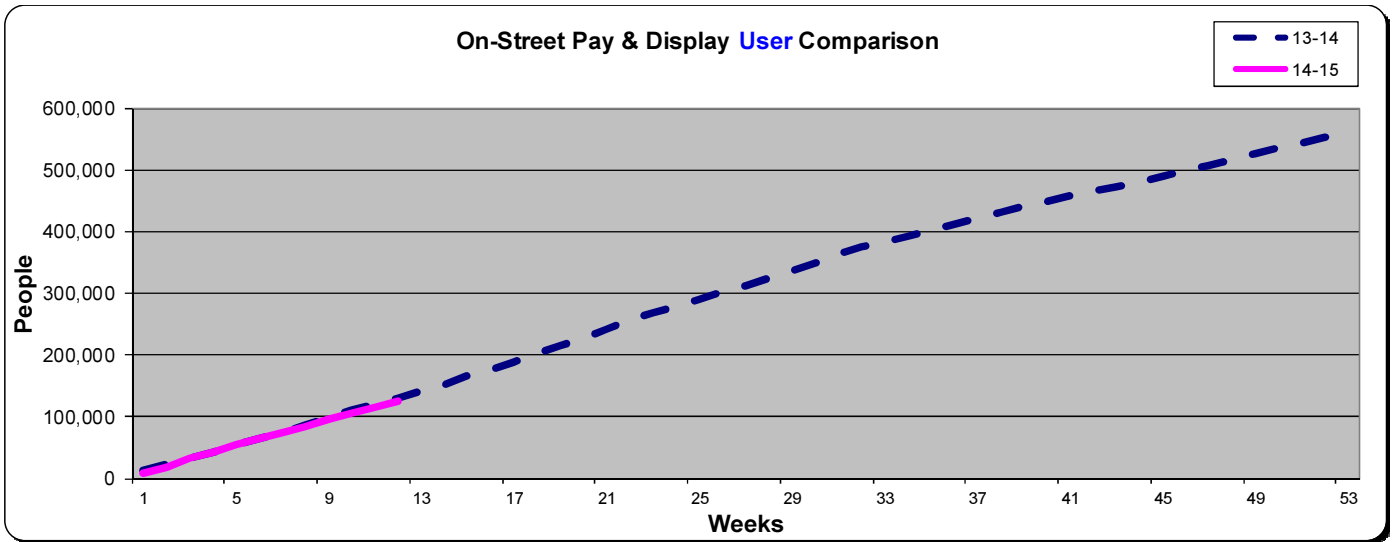
Investment Portfolio

- The forecast overspend of £88k is due to a delay in the demolition of the Syndicate due to the legal issues surrounding the communications mast and the resultant loss of forecast parking income.

Parking Services

- Parking Services is performing well in comparison with last year, despite a number of car parks closing. As at Week 12 (w/e 22nd June) Car Park patronage is up by 23,671, with income also up by £85,700 on 2013/14. On Street Pay & Display is down on patronage by 4,910, although up on income by £12,422. However the extremely challenging income target the service has means that it is £959k down on its income budget year to date.





Subsidiary companies

- This service is forecasting to breakeven during 2014/2015.

Concessionary fares

- This service is forecasting to breakeven during 2014/2015.

Land Charges

- This service is forecasting to breakeven during 2014/2015.

Summary of the revenue forecasts

After 3 months of the financial year the Budgets Outside the Cash Limit services are forecasting a £636k underspend.

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**2014/15 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 3**

Capital Schemes	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/14	Budget Brought Forward 2013/14	Adjusted Capital Programme 2014/15	Total Available Budget 2014/15	Spend to Date April - June	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	40,832	35,544	2,472	2,816	5,288	75	5,213	-	
Office Accommodation Strategy	1,408	1,316	92	-	92	-	92	-	
Syndicate	1,300	938	362	-	362	45	317	-	
Other schemes									
Other Resources Schemes	549	325	224	-	224	(14)	238	-	
Total Resources	44,089	38,123	3,150	2,816	5,966	105	5,861	-	
Director Responsible for Adult Services									
Langdale Learning Disability Centre	1,900	1,559	341	-	341	-	341	-	
Support to Vulnerable Adults - Grants	1,066	-	103	963	1,066	315	751	-	
Respite Care Project	655	650	5	-	5	-	-	-	
Other Social Services Schemes	2,527	1,387	706	434	1,140	67	1,073	-	
Total Adult Services	6,148	3,596	1,155	1,397	2,552	382	2,165	-	
Director Responsible for Deputy Chief Executive									
ICT BSF	3,355	3,255	100	-	100	263	(163)	-	
Total Deputy Chief Executive	3,355	3,255	100	-	100	263	(163)	-	

**2014/15 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 3**

Capital Schemes	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/14	Budget Brought Forward 2013/14	Adjusted Capital Programme 2014/15	Total Available Budget 2014/15	Spend to Date April - June	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Director Responsible for Community and Environmental Services								
Anchorsholme Seawall	22,363	1,397	4,430	15,300	19,730	901	18,829	-
Coast Protection Studies	2,621	2,114	169	-	169	22	147	-
Marton Mere Dam	240	156	-	-	-	-	-	-
Street Cleaning Vehicles	352	-	-	352	352	-	352	-
Beach Vehicle	18	-	-	18	18	-	18	-
High Ropes	320	-	-	320	320	-	320	-
Bispham Health Centre	4,290	4,290	-	-	-	(17)	17	-
Transport								
Local Transport Plan 2012/13	2,086	2,086	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2012/13	1,034	1,034	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local Transport Plan 2013/14	2,386	1,123	1,263	-	1,263	470	793	-
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2013/14	1,010	1,010	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local Transport Plan 2014/15	1,840	-	-	1,840	1,840	-	1,840	-
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2014/15	1,050	-	-	1,050	1,050	-	1,050	-
Project 30	26,906	22,071	2,335	2,500	4,835	1,615	3,220	-
Promenade Movement Strategy	2,500	2,670	(170)	-	(170)	-	(170)	-
Blackpool/Fleetwood Tramway	99,990	88,840	11,150	-	11,150	(890)	12,040	-
Sintropher	1,690	2,778	(1,088)	-	(1,088)	1	(1,089)	-
Tramway Emergency Works	10,589	11,040	(451)	-	(451)	(295)	(156)	-
Bus and Tram Shelter Upgrade	1,077	278	799	-	799	-	799	-
Yeadon Way	2,520	-	252	2,268	2,520	2	2,518	-
Other Transport Schemes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Community and Environmental Services	184,882	140,887	18,689	23,648	42,337	1,808	40,529	-
Director Responsible for Governance and Regulatory Services								
Carleton Crem Building Works	1,600	1,568	32	-	32	21	11	-
Carleton Crematorium	391	-	-	391	-	-	-	-
Total Governance and Regulatory Services	1,991	1,568	32	391	32	21	11	0

**2014/15 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 3**

Capital Schemes	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/14	Budget Brought Forward 2013/14	Adjusted Capital Programme 2014/15	Total Available Budget 2014/15	Spend to Date April - June	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Place									
Housing									
Regeneration - Renovation Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cluster of Empty Homes	1,614	502	1,112	-	1,112	124	988		
Tyldesley / Rigby Rd	16,411	6,406	3,244	5,500	8,744	544	8,200		
Other Housing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Work towards Decent Homes Standard	24,670	6,858	172	4,154	4,326	27	4,299		
Queens Park Redevelopment Ph1	13,225	4,403	931	7,891	8,822	910	7,912		
Other HRA	3,977	430	845	898	1,743	-	1,743		
College Relocation/Illumination Depot	12,505	13,924	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Blackpool Leisure Assets Purchase	59,069	59,146	(77)	-	(77)	227	(304)		
Sandcastle Ph.4	607	543	64	-	64	(10)	74		
Central Library Redevelopment	3,125	3,018	107	-	107	-	107		
Total Place	135,203	95,230	6,398	18,443	24,841	1,821	23,020	-	
Director Responsible for Childrens Services									
Devolved Capital to Schools	470	-	470	-	470	(6)	476	-	
St. Mary's BSF Project	21,171	21,232	(61)	-	(61)	-	(61)	-	
Christ The King	5,000	3,473	(1,516)	1,099	(417)	294	(711)	-	
Anchorsholme Primary	2,922	2,916	6	-	6	-	6	-	
Layton Primary	3,587	3,587	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mereside Primary	4,428	4,431	(3)	-	(3)	-	(3)	-	
Unity College	8,824	8,698	126	-	126	164	(38)	-	
My Place	4,430	4,305	125	-	125	2	123	-	
Gateway Academy	5,350	5,030	48	-	48	-	48	-	
Other Children's Schemes	759	554	84	121	205	-	205	-	
Total Childrens Services	56,941	54,226	(721)	1,220	499	454	45	-	
CAPITAL TOTAL	432,609	336,885	28,803	47,915	76,327	4,855	71,467	-	

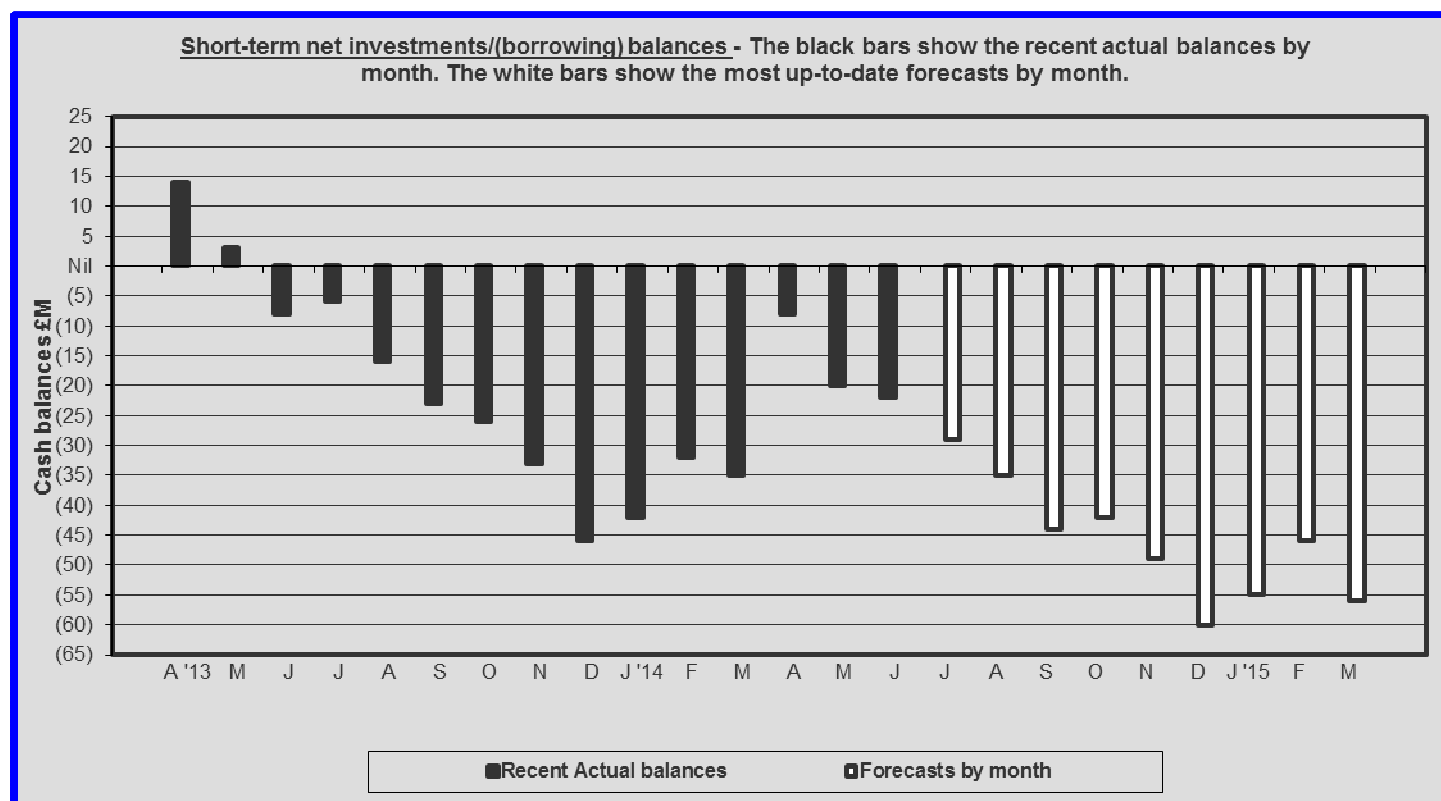
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Blackpool Council

Cash summary - budget, actual and forecast:

CASH FLOW - SUMMARY - 14/15							
FULL YEAR CASH FLOW BUDGET (*)	APR-JUN CASH FLOW BUDGET (*)	APR - JUN CASH FLOW ACTUAL	JUL - 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 - JUN MORE / (LESS) CASH ACTUAL vs BUDGET	JUL - MAR MORE / (LESS) CASH FORECAST vs BUDGET	FULL YEAR MORE / (LESS) AS NOW FORECAST vs BUDGET
£M	£M	£M	£M		£M	£M	£M
				RECEIPTS			
91	23	21	68	Housing Benefit & Subsidy	(2)	-	(2)
96	26	23	70	Council tax and NNDR	(3)	-	(3)
20	5	4	15	VAT	(1)	-	(1)
52	27	27	26	RSG & BRR	-	1	1
124	33	37	90	Other Grants	4	(1)	3
87	21	26	66	Other Income	5	-	5
-	-	71	12	MM Transactions Received	71	12	83
-	-	20	-	Receipt of Loans	20	-	20
470	135	229	347	RECEIPTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES	94	12	106
				PAYMENTS			
8	2	2	6	Police & Fire	-	-	-
284	66	82	213	General Creditors	(16)	5	(11)
5	1	1	3	RSG & BRR	-	1	1
108	27	21	80	Salaries & wages	6	1	7
78	19	19	59	Housing Benefits	-	-	-
42	31	106	26	MM Transactions Paid Out	(75)	(15)	(90)
525	146	231	387	PAYMENTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES	(85)	(8)	(93)
(55)	(11)	(2)	(40)	NET CASH FLOW IN/(OUT)	9	4	13
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 3 months of the year the Council's net cashflow has resulted in a decrease in the level of temporary borrowing due to the receipt of front-loaded Government Grants. While temporary investment rates and temporary borrowing rates are low the treasury team will delay taking any new long-term borrowing to fund planned capital expenditure. The interest charged by Lancashire County Council on the Local Government Reorganisation Debt is lower than anticipated. As a result the delay in taking new long-term borrowing and the lower interest charge from Lancashire County Council mean that a favourable credit variance is once again forecast for 2014/2015.

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 2015.

Blackpool Council

Balance Sheet / Working capital:

BALANCE SHEET 2014/2015				
LAST Y/END		CURRENT	CHANGE	NEXT Y/END
DRAFT				
31 Mar 14		30 Jun 14	Movement since	31 Mar 15
Actual		Actual	31 Mar 14	Forecast
£000s		£000s	£000s	£000s
837,474	Property, Plant and Equipment	852,000	14,526	845,000
129	Intangible Assets	129	-	100
20,461	Long-term Assets	20,322	(139)	20,000
	Current Assets			
39,502	Debtors	42,600	3,098	45,000
550	Short Term Assets Held for Sale	550	-	-
607	Inventories and Work in Progress	617	10	700
6,854	Cash and cash equivalents	6,011	(843)	5,000
905,577	Total Assets	922,229	16,652	915,800
	Current Liabilities			
(41,500)	Borrowing Repayable within 12 months	(29,348)	12,152	(40,000)
(65,602)	Creditors	(56,700)	8,902	(60,000)
	Long-term Liabilities			
(98,434)	Borrowing Repayable in excess of 12 months	(98,434)	-	(98,000)
(10,852)	Capital Grants in Advance	(10,852)	-	(9,000)
(14,042)	Provisions	(13,859)	183	(10,000)
(273,073)	Other Long Term Liabilities	(273,073)	-	(270,000)
402,074	Total Assets less Liabilities	439,963	37,889	428,800
	Reserves			
(74,637)	Usable Reserves	(69,137)	5,500	(65,000)
(327,437)	Unusable Reserves	(370,826)	(43,389)	(363,800)
(402,074)	Total Reserves	(439,963)	(37,889)	(428,800)

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 3. The key areas of focus are any significant movements in debtors, Cash and cash equivalents, bank overdraft and creditors as these impact upon the Council's performance in the critical areas of debt recovery, treasury management and Public Sector Payments Policy.

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

Over the 3-month period there has been an increase in Property, Plant and Equipment of £14.5m and a decrease in short term borrowing of £12.1m and a decrease in creditors of £8.9m, which in the main reflect the aforementioned front-loading of Government Grants.

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