

Public Document Pack

Blackpool Council

23 October 2015

To: Councillors Blackburn, Cain, Campbell, Collett, Jackson, Jones, Kirkland, Smith, I Taylor and Mrs Wright

The above members are requested to attend the:

EXECUTIVE

Monday, 2 November 2015 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 COUNCIL PLAN 2015-2020** (Pages 1 - 28)
- 3 REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF POLICY- GAMBLING ACT 2005** (Pages 29 - 56)
- 4 STREET LIGHTING AND TRAFFIC SIGNAL PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE REFINANCING 2015** (Pages 57 - 64)
- 5 TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF-YEARLY PROGRESS REPORT TO THE 30TH SEPTEMBER 2015** (Pages 65 - 90)
- 6 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 5 2015/2016** (Pages 91 - 96)

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 Leader of the Council
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Date of Meeting:	2nd November 2015

COUNCIL PLAN 2015-2020

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To approve the new Council Plan 2015-2020 which presents two new refreshed priorities for Blackpool Council for the next five years.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To recommend Council to approve the Council Plan 2015-2020

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The Council Plan sets the strategic direction for the organisation until 2020.

The Council Plan is a key element of the Council's corporate business planning framework and forms part of the Council's Strategic Policy Framework. The framework for the new Plan was outlined and agreed at full Council on the 8th July 2015 subject to consultation. This report takes into account the feedback received on the draft plan and is now presented in a more detailed format for final approval.

The purpose of the Council Plan is to provide a clear and concise summary of the Council's vision for Blackpool, and the key actions that the Council will take to work towards achieving that vision.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council?

No, once approved the Council Plan will form part of the Council's policy framework

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

Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

The Council Plan is not approved and the strategic direction of the organisation is out of date and unclear.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The new Council Plan proposes two new refreshed priorities for the next five years;
Priority One : The Economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool
Priority Two : Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The current Council Plan (2013-2015) has now expired and Blackpool Council has taken the opportunity to refresh the Council's vision, priorities and values of the organisation for the next 5 years. The plan explains clearly what the Council will do to help improve the lives of local people and how the Council will measure progress.

5.2 The Council Plan 2013-2015 focussed on nine key priorities for the Council, which were later translated into three dominant themes. In response to the LGA Peer Review feedback in November 2014, the 2015-2020 plan has now streamlined these priorities into two key areas – the economy and communities. The plan seeks to deliver our messages in a more clear and concise language whilst defining specific actions and measurable targets which focusses on two key priorities. A vision with a more detailed narrative is also a feature of the new plan which is in line with the peer review feedback received.

5.3 Due to the ever changing local and national context, particularly around the economic climate and pressure on the public purse, the focus of the refreshed plan is early intervention, empowering communities and individuals and reducing demand. It stresses the Council's commitment to making the best use of public funds, whilst continuing to realise the Council's ambitions, and delivering the best possible services within the Council's financial capability which meet local needs.

5.4 To ensure effective management and monitoring of the Council Plan, key measures are being identified to ensure that the Council is able to demonstrate how well it is achieving its objectives.

5.5 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.6 List of Appendices:

Appendix 2a – The Council Plan 2015-2020.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 The Equality Forum and the Disability Partnership were consulted in July to ensure that the views of these groups are taken into consideration as part of the development of the Council Plan.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 The proposals for the development of the Council Plan were shared with full Council on 8th July 2015. During the summer months the Corporate Development and Engagement teams ran a number of key events to promote the development of the Council Plan 2015-2020 and seek feedback from staff and residents on the draft priorities.

12.2 A public consultation on Blackpool's developing draft Council Plan ran from 24th June to 17 August 2015. The approach included an open-access online survey, paper copies available in public areas such as libraries and children's centres, and face-to-face street interviews with residents in the town centre. The consultation was supported by a programme of promotion and engagement including an article in the Your Blackpool newspaper, social media engagement, press releases and the Council Couch.

12.3 A total of 396 responses to the consultation were received, comprising of 215 street interviews, 140 online submissions and 41 paper returns.

12.4 Over three quarters of respondents felt that the Council's draft vision for Blackpool fully or mostly meets their own vision. Comments on the vision referred to the need for a clean Blackpool, focus on residents who live in the Borough and involving local people as the vision develops.

12.5 There was an overwhelming agreement for the two key priorities identified in the consultation. Regenerating the town centre, improving employment opportunities and reducing anti-social behaviour are the three most important areas for the economy and maximising growth. Encouraging civic pride and responsibility and encouraging community involvement and participation are the most important areas for creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? Yes

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 10/2015

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: 23rd October 2015 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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Council Plan 2015 – 2020

Blackpool Council

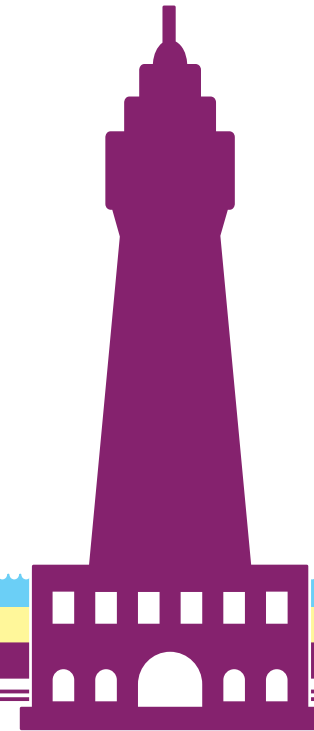


Page 7

A vision for the future of Blackpool

The UK's number one family resort with a thriving economy that supports a happy and healthy community who are proud of this unique town

Page 8



Contents

Foreword by the Leader	2
Foreword by the Chief Executive	3
Blackpool's opportunity	4
Our previous Council Plan	5
Five years to change our future	6
Priority One - The economy: Maximising growth & opportunity across Blackpool	7
Priority Two - Communities: Creating stronger communities & increasing resilience	10
How we'll do it	15

Page 9

Foreword by the Leader

There can be no doubt that the next 5 years will be incredibly challenging for Blackpool Council. The Government has slashed our budget year upon year, with some of the harshest cuts in the country and say they will continue to do so until at least 2020.

Now we also face the additional uncertainty of government restructuring of business rates, which would allow us to keep the business rates we raise in Blackpool - but potentially reduces redistribution between rich and poor areas. We generate about £49 million a year, Westminster generates £1.8 billion).

We will be lobbying Ministers very hard on this over the coming months, to ensure that Councils with a low tax base like Blackpool don't end up with an extra £19 million black hole in our budget - on top of all the cuts (£93 million since 2011 - this supposedly represents only 40% of the total expected cuts by the end of this parliament).

In this context, it is vitally important the Council is very clear about its priorities. Following consultation this summer, we believe this comes down to two main areas, **boosting our local economy by maximising growth and opportunity** and **creating, stronger, healthier, more resilient communities**.

In terms of our economy as it is now, our resurgent tourism industry represents the lifeblood of our town. Enhancing our offer to visitors by promoting the illuminations, hosting world class events like the World Fireworks Championships, and expanding our cultural offer by investing in the new Blackpool Museum must be a priority to bring in the revenue that the town needs. We need residents to recognise and indeed take pride in this unique offer the town possesses, rather than seeing this as a divide between visitors and residents.

But neither can we accept the lack of other career opportunities that see many of our most talented youngsters move away and never return. We must ensure that there are local jobs that match their ambitions, creating professional jobs in those areas which we singularly lack, as well as providing stable, decent paid jobs with clear pathways for development for other workers - and that is why we will push the payment of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation approved Living Wage (not to be confused with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's much less ambitious scheme) beyond council staff to all contractors that the council uses. Similarly, we have taken one of the most pro-active approaches in the country to deal with the town's housing problems, by cracking down on rogue landlords through selective licensing and investing in new housing to create more stable, less transient communities - setting up our new private sector housing management company will see us renew our fight against poor housing standards, which have blighted our town for so long.

Our problems are great, and times are tough but together we can build a better Blackpool, one which people are proud to live in.



Cllr Simon Blackburn
Leader of the Council

Foreword by the Chief Executive

The Council Plan 2015-2020 sees us on the cusp of a fundamental change in how we serve the people of Blackpool. Our response to the unprecedented funding cuts of the previous parliament has been positive and far-reaching. We have re-thought our entire approach to services, blending new and continuing measures to support people who most need it whilst reducing the extent of the work we do. This plan reflects that thinking.

This has meant taking tough decisions on the future of well-used and highly regarded services, focussing our resources on the delivery of initiatives which prevent needs developing in the first place. The NSPCC-led Centre for Early Child Development, which will impact on thousands of young lives in the next ten years, is at the forefront of our approach. By giving individuals and communities tools to deliver their own objectives and development, we will impact on people early enough to make a difference which lasts for the whole of their lives.

Blackpool is a small town with a big profile. Millions of people come from all over the United Kingdom every year to enjoy our unique environment and attractions, and tourism continues to dominate our town like no other place in the country. This plan embraces this fact, recognising the increasing contribution which our cultural and creative economy can make to pulling in new types of visitor and providing the fun and spectacle for which we are renowned. But it also recognises that we must make every effort to exploit new opportunities opening up for us in the energy industry, and equip local people with the skills which will be required.

These two ideas sit behind our new priorities focusing on the economy and communities. We will **maximise growth and opportunity across Blackpool** whilst **creating stronger communities and increasing resilience**. These priorities go hand in hand – we simply cannot hope to deliver one without the other.

The time of a Council which simply delivers services to its residents has gone. In its place is a leaner, more forward thinking organisation, which will listen to and work with every single person in the town to create the Blackpool in our vision together.



Neil Jack
Chief Executive

Blackpool's opportunity

Blackpool is a British institution, and a global phenomenon – the world's first mass market seaside resort, with a proud heritage stretching back over 150 years.

More than two thirds of Britons have visited Blackpool, and with 17 million visits a year from all corners of the country, we're still amongst the most popular destinations. Despite people having more leisure and holiday options than ever, around 24,000 Blackpool jobs still rely directly on tourism – the most of any seaside destination – and we enjoy the greatest concentration of leisure attractions outside London.

It's easy to criticise Blackpool. Being unique, our town and attitude aren't always to everyone's taste. The very thing that makes us what we are – a town built for pleasure and entertainment - can feel constraining, and sometimes visitors abuse our hospitality. We need to find a way of setting out our expectations of what behaviour we will and won't tolerate, just as we did in the 50's and 60's. Together, we can recreate that feeling that 'Blackpool is Back' as the best seaside resort in the UK.

Being the biggest and the brightest isn't without its challenges. We've got major social and health issues to deal with, whilst needing to develop and innovate so our town meets the changing desires of modern day audiences.

Equally, we need to take advantage of other opportunities opening up - in fields like energy generation - with the same vigour our predecessors had when building iconic attractions such as the Winter Gardens, the Tower and Tower Buildings, the Pleasure Beach, and of course the true one-off that is the Blackpool Illuminations.

This Council Plan is our response to this picture. It's our way of telling the story of our town and bringing the strands of our economy and society together so that everyone – residents, organisations and visitors – knows what we're doing, who we're doing it with, and why we're doing it.

Our vision for Blackpool is that it will be:

The UK's number one family resort with a thriving economy that supports a happy and healthy community who are proud of this unique town.



Our previous Council Plan

To set the scene, we need to look at what we've done so far. Our previous Council Plan had three priorities – to raise aspirations, create a prosperous town, and to deliver healthier communities – and a vision which talked about ambition and fairness. We've contributed to **raising aspirations** by improving social care, with people feeling safer and more satisfied with the services they get, getting the Children's Services improvement notice removed, supporting people to live in their own homes, and winning funding for the Better Start and Head Start programmes. We have a more **prosperous town**, with increases in visitor numbers and how satisfied they are, good numbers of business start-ups and £660,000 worth of support for small businesses. We've secured Growth Deal funding for some of the projects you'll read about in this plan and completed phase one of the Central Business District, bringing high quality buildings and office space to the town centre. And we have started to see signs that we have **healthier communities**, with teenage pregnancies starting to fall, smoking rates in decline and the introduction of services which point people to activities they might benefit from, to improve their mental health.

Perhaps the most significant progress has come in housing, with Selective Licencing to regulate the quality of private rented housing in South Beach and Claremont, the completion of phase one of the Queens Park redevelopment, the first of the 400 homes underway in Foxhall Village, and the achievement of the housing decency standard all significantly improving our housing stock.

But we know we've still got a long way to go, and you'll see from the rest of this document that these priorities are still important to our work. The new vision represents a change in emphasis, a recognition that our achievements and improvements can be a launch pad for us to go beyond just being a busy resort and back to our place as the UK's leading seaside destination.

We think that if we use our achievements as a starting point, and focus even more on the main things that make a difference, we can go even further.



Five years to change our future

We all want to live in a thriving, prosperous and beautiful Blackpool where we are proud of the amazing history and heritage of our town and we welcome millions of people who enjoy, share and respect our many wonderful attractions.

The tourist economy is our lifeblood, the one thing which makes us stand out, and it gives more to us than it might seem. Behind the scenes of our hotels, bars and restaurants, are thousands of other jobs in small and medium-sized enterprises – not just those supplying food, transportation, and other services, but others like legal firms, construction, and the retail sector. Some element of most jobs in Blackpool can be traced back to the tourist trade.

So focusing on developing our tourist offer is one way to improve our town for everyone. It's why we're putting so much effort into creating a museum for Blackpool, celebrating and sharing our rich heritage with the whole country and bringing some of the spirit of the past into the present. It's also why we have aspirations to develop more cultural tourism. Bringing in popular musicals for the summer season, developing a nationally recognised quality modern art offer at the Grundy Art Gallery, and our work in partnership with LeftCoast to grow our own creative talent will all ensure we have a number of strings to our bow when attracting new visitors to Blackpool. We'd like nothing more than to develop new local talent, and have agents, scouts and creative directors coming here to find the "next big thing".

Together, these projects represent how we want to make tourism work harder for us, with year round, stable jobs, exciting new leisure attractions, and higher quality hotels – all of which will need us to improve the skills of local workers through a tourism academy, so we can bring more money into the town. All of this effort will also help to make Blackpool a more exciting place to live.

Key tourism projects

- Open our museum
- More world class events and shows
- Deliver a major new leisure attraction
- Develop cultural tourism
- Provide modern conference facilities
- Deliver the new Tourism Academy



Priority One - The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool

Of course, achieving our vision is not just about taking advantage of our profile as a leading resort. We need to be alive to new economic opportunities, the things that influence how the economy changes, and how all of this together can contribute to life in Blackpool. For this reason, our **first priority** is:

The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool

Blackpool is the economic centre of the Fylde Coast, and to develop this role further we need quality office accommodation, a strong retail offer and efficient transport links. In transport, the extension of the tramway to Blackpool North will connect Bispham, Anchorholme and beyond directly to the national rail network, and we will investigate the potential of other extensions to the tram network including a direct link to the Blackpool South rail line. Meanwhile an effective approach to managing our roads, bridges and other transport assets will provide access to jobs, services and schools, get goods to the shops and help everyone make the most of their free time. New green corridors will make pedestrian access to the town centre easier and improve the appearance of our built environment.

Ensuring a constant supply of energy is one of the key challenges facing the world, and Blackpool is well placed to develop a new specialism in this field. A new Enterprise Zone will give added support to this industry as it emerges, and tether important elements of the supply chain to Blackpool. All across the Fylde Coast, developments are taking place in areas such as nuclear, wind and gas power, with further potential offered by other renewable energy sectors, such as tidal power. The national energy college will ensure that we become a significant sub-regional centre in this field, delivering a new class of professional jobs in a rapidly-developing industry. This cannot happen without the new Enterprise Zone planned for the airport. Not only will this give added financial support to this industry, tethering important elements of the supply chain to Blackpool, but it will also catalyse the creation of over 1000 jobs in a variety of industries.

Enterprise zone status would also protect the key infrastructure at the airport including the main runway and in doing so securing the potential for larger commercial flights to return.

Key economic challenges

- High levels of child poverty and deprivation
- Low employment rate
- High levels of ill health and disability
- High numbers of benefits claimants
- Low levels of skills and qualifications
- Few skilled job opportunities and public sector job cuts



Key infrastructure projects

- Deliver the tramway extension to Blackpool North
- Improved access to town through three “green corridors”, improving our environment
- New Business District - more professionals working in the town centre
- Deliver the new Energy College
- Sea defence works



Priority One - The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool

These fundamental shifts and developments need to be supported by measures which span the entire labour market, addressing our low wage and skills levels, which will in turn help us to retain more skilled young people in the town. Key to this is renewing the entrepreneurial verve which boosted Blackpool's early growth, helping those with ideas and talent to develop flourishing young businesses through financial support and high quality advice, connecting them into Blackpool's business community and building a common strength through shared infrastructure. We'll develop more opportunities to keep money in the town by preparing businesses better to bid for public sector contracts by providing training and mentoring.

If all of these projects are successful, we will have delivered a significant change on the makeup of Blackpool's economy. But even all of these developments will be insufficient to create fundamental change. Jobs in tourism are low paid, and with large numbers of people across the town earning the minimum wage in sectors such as manufacturing and social care, we need to set an example to the public and private sector alike. In this way we hope to reduce **economic inequality** – one of our **equality ambitions**.

All Council staff already earn a Living Wage, but the same cannot be said of our directly owned companies, major partners and contractors. Achieving widespread adoption across the town would send a clear signal to residents and the wider world that Blackpool is a place that values fairness, where people earn a decent wage for a hard day's work. As the living wage is adopted, more and more companies will need to compete to offer the brightest stars in our labour market the best wage possible, resulting in increased earnings and additional spending power for Blackpool workers.

Key employment projects

- Expand apprenticeship schemes
- Enterprise education at schools
- Specialist jobs schemes for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the town
- Promotion and delivery of the living wage



Key enterprise projects

- Enterprise Zone at Blackpool Airport
- Business start-up support
- Increase across the Public Sector in the use of local contractors
- Business Champions – mentoring



Priority One - The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool

More than this, a living wage offers a small amount of extra hope for our lowest earners. We will continue to deliver a raft of programmes which enable people to get into the world of work and stay there, whether they are simply distant from the jobs market or require specific support around their needs – such as mental and physical health issues.

Any consideration of Blackpool's economy cannot ignore the failing housing market in parts of the town. Without significant direct intervention to address this, the impact of work in this plan will be minimal. There would continue to be a supply of people - some 8,000 every year - moving into and around Blackpool without support networks. This is driven by the widespread availability of cheap accommodation and poor quality conversions of Bed and Breakfast stock to Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO's), which arose from the decline of the domestic tourist market from the 1960's onwards. This demonstrates the central link between our plans on housing and the tourism economy, and can be addressed in part by the creation of aspirational, high quality homes which transform housing stock in the affected areas, encouraging the formation of more stable communities, easing out the people who have no interest in staying and contributing.

More than this though, it also requires radical national and local action. National action is needed to address the ability of landlords to benefit from the vagaries of housing benefit levels in different parts of the country, addressing the easy money open to opportunists looking for nothing more than a quick profit. Local action is already underway to improve areas in three complementary ways. Better policing will ensure that we use legal powers to force landlords to make improvements, driving up the management standards of private property. Reaching out to local people through the Transience Project will give residents opportunities to volunteer, get training and make community contacts and friends. And continuing the physical transformation of places in Blackpool through new homes on Queens Park and Foxhall Village, the refurbishment of clusters of empty properties,

retrofitting insulation to private terraced properties, and the new private housing company rehabilitating then letting out housing will force the private sector to improve standards to compete. Blackpool's location already makes it a great place to live – these actions are the key to making it exceptional.

Key housing projects

- Reduce transience and stabilise communities by supporting quality public and private homes
- Establish a big new private sector landlord
- Deliver a home energy efficiency scheme
- Lobby for benefits changes to reduce number of HMO's



Key community safety projects

- Strong management of the night time economy
- Adoption of Public Space Protection Orders
- Extension of Selective Licensing and Transience projects across the town
- Behaviour management in the town centre



Priority Two - Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience

It's natural to see improving the economy as the most crucial thing if we're to be Britain's number one seaside resort. In reality, it's only half of the story. So far, we've talked about things which improve the experience people have when living in or visiting in Blackpool through improving our town's appearance, attractions, housing and job opportunities. It's a bit like an uncompleted colouring book – you can tell what the pictures are meant to be, but they haven't been brought to life. To colour them in, we need to think about what gives Blackpool its heart – the people who live here, and the communities they create. We know that a strong economy and a strong community go hand in hand. Our **second priority** is therefore:

Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience

We're ready to do something different. In the past we've had the resources to support people with health and care issues by providing services to them. Now, we're thinking about how we can create the right conditions for those in less need to find support and strength in other ways, becoming less reliant on our help and more in control.

The first thing we need to do is to listen more through things like the Council Couch, and use what you tell us to change what we do. We'll introduce neighbourhood navigators to help bring our services closer to you. Once we've based more of our care services in local neighbourhoods, people will be better prepared to help themselves. This will feel different - you'll be able to have real involvement in decisions, not just commenting on what we do but shaping and directing the support we give.

Key stronger community challenges

- High rates of Looked After Children
- Low GCSE achievement
- Poor life expectancy
- High levels of alcohol and substance misuse
- High levels of teenage pregnancy
- Domestic violence
- Mental health



Key community projects

- Asset-based Community Development bringing people together through the arts café, food growing and farm scheme
- Improving access to community activities
- Reducing isolation through creation of neighbourhood navigators to help the isolated access activities



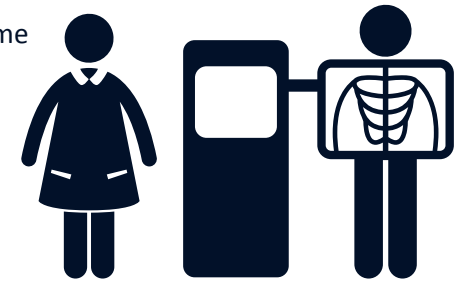
Priority Two - Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience

The other thing we need to do is take action to help people get healthier, both mentally and physically. We'll give people a nudge in the right direction by restrictions on unhealthy activities like smoking – making our attractions smokefree and restricting young people's access to tobacco - and getting more people a health check to help them understand the changes they need to make.

We'll also make it more appealing to choose healthy lifestyles with a new single health programme which people can be referred into to help them get into shape, and enrich the local environment with outdoor activities and trails linking key destinations together. This will help us realise the second of our two **equality ambitions** to address **health inequalities** – the difference in the health of people from different backgrounds. Healthier and stronger communities will be better placed to support those who aren't able to make this kind of change, supported by a new version of our wellness service. They'll also be able to support people going through difficult times before their circumstances spiral out of control. They'll also be well placed to provide a stable environment in which our young children and new parents can flourish, helping to give them the very best start in life.

Key health projects

- New active health referral programme
- Improved wellness service
- More people accessing NHS Health Checks
- Healthier Catering Award scheme



Priority Two - Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience

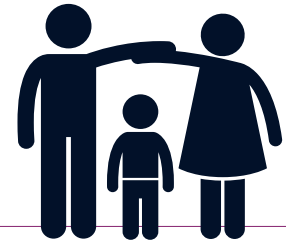
This is particularly important when we think about threats to our communities which we need your help to address. We want everyone in our community to feel supported and safe, and need to concentrate on vulnerable children and adults above everything else. We can make sure we support them and take action against anyone putting them at risk, but we need everyone to tell us of anything happening which seems to be a threat, and to offer what help you can to those involved. Our Children's and Adults Safeguarding Boards will lead work which raises community awareness of the issues and how to tell us about any concerns, as well as co-ordinating efforts to address them.

Social care is our way of supporting individuals and communities where they need extra help to live a good life. It's there to meet people's needs when they can't be met by their families, friends, and volunteers, to get and keep people back home if they've been in hospital, or to provide residential care if their needs are best met through this route.

For those with multiple and complex needs arising from social issues, programmes like the Fulfilling Lives project led by Addaction will lead the process of returning people to more stable lives. The key here is integration – making all of these parts of care work together in an effective and efficient way. The Better Care Programme will reshape what services people get and when, and we'll need to spot areas where need is going unmet so we can find a way of filling the gaps, through new services or more support and training for existing providers. Whilst we're doing this, we're mindful that people are best placed to decide what care they need and how – so we'll help them plan for an independent future away from the formal care system.

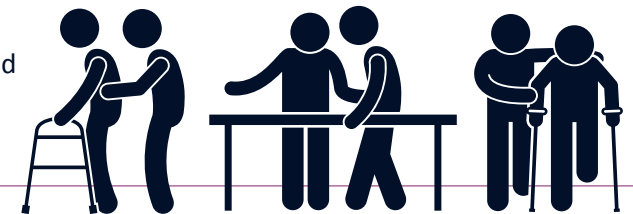
Key safeguarding projects

- Adult and Children's Safeguarding Boards
- Increase number of foster carers
- Wider "Corporate Parent" offer for Looked After Children



Key social care projects

- Better Care Fund programme
- Integration of health and social care
- Support for people to manage their own care
- Ensuring quality non-residential and residential care
- Neighbourhood-centred models of care based on local need



Priority Two - Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience

These are the basic elements on which our approach is based, but there's another factor which is more difficult to control. Our status as a renowned seaside resort makes us an attractive place to live. Often, people move here without being able to access the kinds of social networks or jobs which make life easier, move around in a bid to settle, and it can have a disruptive impact on otherwise solid communities. This all works against our best efforts to get people healthier and communities stronger. So we've come up with some ideas on how we slow down this kind of movement – as you'll have read, our first priority includes some of the work around housing which are designed to stop this from happening as often. This will all make the services we deliver more effective, because they'll be able to complement what's going on locally with professional support and action where it's most needed.

As we start to feel things change, we'll start to see other things improving too. We're now underway with work on the NSPCC-led Centre for Early Child Development, working as part of the Better Start partnership. Not only will this make parents better able to understand how their children develop and how to support this, but it will address how parents can make the best decisions around diet and nutrition, language and communication, and the personal and emotional wellbeing of 0-3 year olds in our most deprived wards. By looking at such a wide spread of issues, we can ensure that children get the best start in life, making sure that they're well placed to contribute to the stronger communities we want to create in the future. Another key time for young people's development is adolescence, and the Head Start project will give 10-14 year olds across Blackpool some ways of coping with this challenging time, helping them live a happy life and giving them a better chance of achieving academically.



Key projects for young people

- Implement Centre for Early Child Development
- Implement Head Start programme
- Continue the Free Breakfasts Scheme
- Increase number of pupils attending "good" or "outstanding" schools
- Improve pupil attainment and the standard of secondary education



Priority Two - Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience

This focus on children is part of a wider effort to get things right early, meaning the benefits are felt throughout their lives. Where families go through difficult times, we'll do everything we can to get the environment right so the children can be safe and supported. And if children do need to stay in foster families, we'll make sure their foster parents know what to do to help their children do their best. Away from the home, our focus is on school life, with the free breakfasts programme and improving the standards of primary and secondary education by working through the Blackpool Schools Partnership to ensure that we give our children every chance of success.

Stronger communities have benefits in other ways, many of which will happen gradually in a way we'll barely notice. People will want to play their role more formally by signing up to become volunteers. Some of the measures we're taking on the economy will make people feel more proud of their neighbourhoods and the town as a whole. Again, the museum is crucial to this. We want everyone to be involved in making the Blackpool museum, so that it's a really strong expression of everything we do to make Blackpool the place it is.

Making Blackpool Britain's number one seaside resort isn't do-able by just delivering the big list of projects above. That would be a bit like going shopping, then leaving everything you've bought in the cupboard.

To make the most of it, you've got to use the items - and that needs people to do something. To do the right thing, everyone who works and lives in Blackpool first needs to understand the role they can play.



How we'll do it

The Council's job

Bringing all of these projects to fruition in a challenging financial climate needs us to be bold and innovative. Although this is Blackpool Council's Plan, we can't deliver it with just the resources of the Council. We always talk to other public sector partners, and work together when there's a mutual benefit. But we're doing more **work with partners** than ever, sharing staff and buildings, joining forces on common issues like workforce recruitment and retention. We've set up a new Public Sector Transformation Board so we can share common back office services like governance and asset management effectively, lessening the impact of budget reductions in other areas. Some projects like Better Start and Head Start are led by other organisations, and the Council is involved to make sure the projects they deliver are ones which work for us all. We'll work with private enterprises too, calling on their sense of social responsibility.

As well as this, we've got another three main things to do. We need to **provide leadership**. Sometimes this might not be popular; not everyone will agree on a way forward. But we'll talk with residents to understand your priorities, and always take these into account, and tell you why we're doing something. We'll **influence** people, organisations and the government, using facts and local opinions so that they understand how they can play a bigger part in making us the number one resort. Sometimes we'll have to **intervene directly**. Just like we think it's in all of our best interests for the Council to own Blackpool Transport, the Tower and Winter Gardens, we need to get involved in the housing market to buy up properties and improve the areas, and we need to organise events and things which get people to come here.

Doing things differently

This is about more than money – it's about us all pulling together in the same direction, with the common interests of Blackpool residents at heart. In the past, communities worked together and played together, supporting each other in tough times and sharing in the good times. We need to bring this spirit back and **help people to help themselves**, with all public and voluntary organisations in Blackpool supporting communities based on their own wants and needs.

Of course, we'll keep doing the basics – the bins won't empty themselves. We'll also **help people to do the right thing** by doing simple things like providing more litter bins. But we'll spend more of our time giving communities skills, building up their confidence and pride in where they live, and helping them make the most of their local buildings and facilities. Imagine a community which chooses to get together so they can develop their own physical and emotional wellbeing through exercise opportunities, parks and community centres which they determine the direction of – this is how we think it might work.

This will also mean tough decisions, and we'll be giving some people less direct help. We know that many people live busy lives and can't always be on hand to take part in local activities. But the more we do together, the more we'll *be able* to do together, however much any one person can take part.

How we'll do it

What we believe in

Going through such a period of change makes it all the more important to have some things which we keep constant. There are certain things that we ask all Council staff to bear in mind when they do their job – we call these our **values**, and we've promoted them since 2011. We use them all the time to think about whether something meets our standards, how we should behave, and how we go about doing our work. They help add a human touch to our relationships with everyone we work and deal with, and affect the way in which we'll achieve our vision.

Our values make us **accountable** for delivering on the promises we make, making us take responsibility for our actions. It's important to us that we're **compassionate** – caring and understanding, and willing to try and assist people even if their problem can't be solved by one of our services. We take pride in delivering **quality** services that are focused on supporting people to become more self reliant and able to enjoy independence. We want everyone to act with integrity, being **trustworthy** in all our dealings with people and open about the decisions we make. Finally, our values mean that we're **fair** to people and treat everyone with dignity and respect.

How we'll know it's working

This plan is our way of describing how everything fits together under the vision and priorities. We've got other strategies and action plans which go into more detail on what we're doing and what we hope it will achieve, which can be found at www.blackpool.gov.uk/strategiesandplans

Progress against these is checked by a series of working groups, boards and ultimately the Council's two scrutiny committees which review project progress and key performance indicators to see how we're doing.



How we'll do it

How we'll pay for it

We're potentially half way through a 10 year programme of cuts to funding, and demand for some services is growing. This has prompted us to **think differently** about what services and projects we can and should deliver, and how to do it. That's why this plan looks and feels different to ones we've produced in the past.

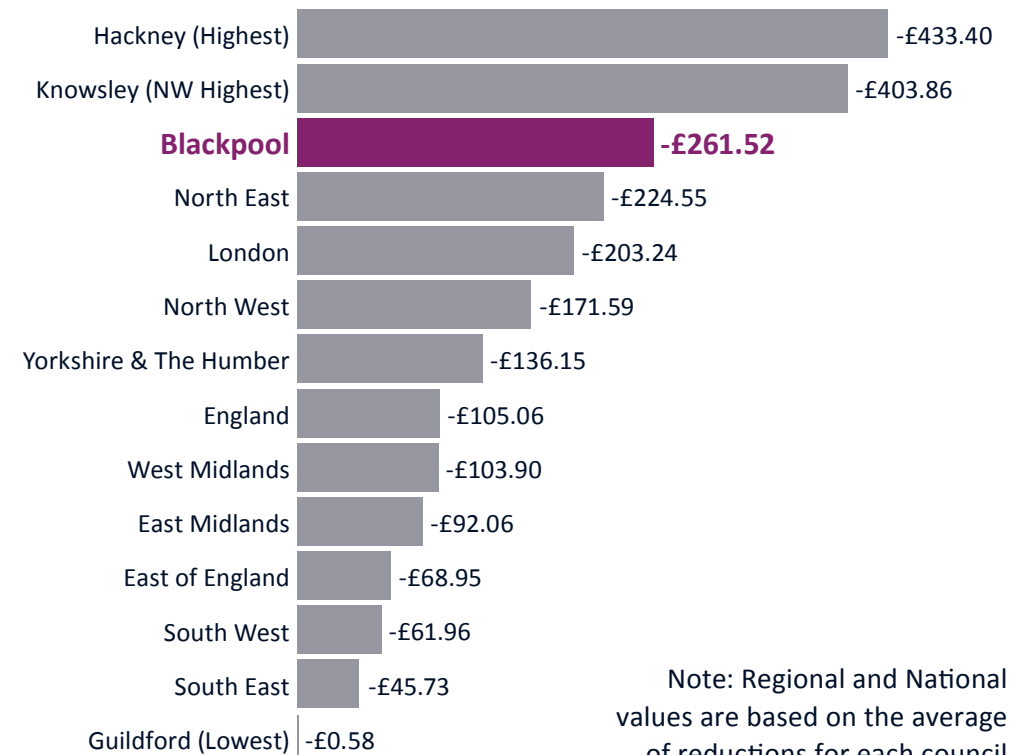
Cuts have not been proportionate across the country - some other local authorities have seen increases in spending per head of the population but when looking at the level of cuts to Blackpool since 2010 this is a very different picture. The graph to the right show the levels of funding cuts per head of the population for Blackpool from 2010/11 to 2015/16 compared to our neighbouring authorities. Most other seaside towns have also faced cuts but none are as severe as Blackpool. Blackpool is estimated to have lost **£261.52** per head of the population, making us one of the **hardest hit** authorities in the country.

In some cases we can't say for certain what we'll be able to afford, but we know that spending money to stop problems before they start - **early intervention** - by working with young people and strengthening the ways in which communities can support themselves is the right thing to do. We'll use the best evidence to help us make the right decisions, stopping projects which aren't making a difference, and will always check to make sure that we're not creating other problems.

Making savings has to be part of the plan, and one way to do this is to make better use of technology. If we can improve our services so that people are happier to have them delivered online, this will save us time and money - like developing online services to reduce the demand on our customer contact centre.

We're already good at bringing in more funding from elsewhere where this can be directly linked to delivering our vision, including Big Lottery funding for programmes such as Better Start and Head Start, Heritage Lottery Funding for the initial development of the museum, and the Growth Deal for our housing and economic plans.

Spending Power Reduction - 2011/12 to 2015/16



Note: Regional and National values are based on the average of reductions for each council

How we'll do it

Fairness and equality

Our value of fairness links to our legal duties on equalities. We assess any new plans and strategies to make sure they're tailored to the needs of groups with protected characteristics. Going beyond this, in the course of our work we also consider how to contribute to eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation; how to advance equality of opportunity; and how we can help different groups of people get along together.

Our equality objectives aim to get more people to tell us they **experience fair treatment** by Council services; to make our **workforce representative of our communities**, with **more people from diverse backgrounds involved in decision-making** at every level; that equality and diversity is embedded in staff culture; and that we **celebrate growing diversity** and **increase respect and understanding for all**.

What happens next

We've given ourselves five years to make Blackpool the UK's number one family resort. We think this is ambitious, but achievable. It won't mean we've solved all our problems, but it will mean we've given ourselves an extra boost towards doing so. Together, using the flair and talent of our people and our businesses, we can prove to everyone that Blackpool really *is* back.



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Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Mark Towers, Director of Regulatory and Governance Services
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)
Date of Meeting:	2nd November 2015

REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF POLICY- GAMBLING ACT 2005

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the Licensing Committee's recommendation regarding the review of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy under the Gambling Act 2005.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note that no representations have been received during the period of consultation.

2.2 To approve the content of the proposed policy and recommend it for approval to the Council.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The Council is required to have a Statement of Licensing Policy. This policy must be reviewed every three years

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council?

No, once approved the revised Statement of Gambling Policy will form part of the Council's policy framework

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

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are:

Expand and promote our tourism, arts, heritage and cultural offer
Create safer communities and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Gambling Act 2005 requires the Council as Licensing Authority to prepare and publish every three years a Statement of Policy which outlines the principles it will following in exercising its functions under the Act. The current policy came into effect on 31 January 2013 and is therefore due for review. The revised policy must be published on the Council's website four weeks before it comes into force no later than 3rd January 2016.

5.2 At its meeting on 15th September 2015, the Licensing Committee approved a period of consultation on the statement of policy to take effect on 31st January 2016. Comments on the draft were invited until 23rd October 2015. No comments have been received.

5.3 The Executive will recall that a full review of the policy statement had been delayed pending receipt of updated guidance from the Gambling Commission (this has meant that the policy attached at Appendix 3a is very similar to the current policy agreed in 2013, as a policy needs to be in place to meet the statutory requirements). This guidance has now been received therefore a full review of the policy will take place. A fully revised draft will be brought to the Licensing Committee towards the end of 2015 with a view to conducting a 12 week public consultation.

5.4 The fully revised policy will include the development of a local area profile. The benefits of incorporating such a profile into the revised statement of policy are:

- It enables licensing authorities to better serve their local community, by better reflecting the community and the risks within it
- Greater clarity for operators as to the relevant factors in licensing authority decision making, will lead to improved premises licence applications, with the operator already incorporating controls and measures to mitigate risk in their application

- It enables licensing authorities to make robust but fair decisions, based on a clear, published set of factors and risks, which are therefore less susceptible to challenge
- It encourages a proactive approach to risk that is likely to result in reduced compliance and enforcement action.

5.5 The Licensing Committee will consider the revised statement of licensing policy at its meeting on the 27th October 2015 and its recommendation will be reported to this Executive meeting.

5.6 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.7 **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 3a: Draft Policy for consultation

6.0 **Legal considerations:**

6.1 The Gambling Act 2005 requires the Council as licensing authority to prepare and publish a statement of licensing policy every three years. The Act also requires the Council to have regard to the Gambling Commission's Guidance when preparing its statement of policy.

7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 There are no Human Resources considerations.

8.0 **Equalities considerations:**

8.1 There are no equalities considerations.

9.0 **Financial considerations:**

9.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations contained in this report. The costs of consultation will be met from the existing Licensing budget.

10.0 **Risk management considerations:**

10.1 To delay the review process without approving a policy to have effect from 31st January 2016 would leave the Council at risk of not having a valid policy framework in the event of an application being made under the Gambling Act 2005.

11.0 **Ethical considerations:**

11.1 There are no ethical considerations.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Consultation has been undertaken as required by the Gambling Act 2005

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? Yes

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 20/2015

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: 23rd October 2015 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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STATEMENT OF POLICY AND PRINCIPLES UNDER THE GAMBLING ACT 2005

2016 - 2019

Blackpool Council



Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

Contents

General	4
Fundamental Principles	4
Licensing Authority Functions	4
Responsible Authorities/Interested parties	5
Children and Vulnerable People	5
Exchange of Information	6
Enforcement and Inspection	6
Premises Licences	8
Conditions	9
Casinos	10
Bingo Premises	10
Betting Premises	11
Adult Gaming Centre	11
Licensed Family Entertainment Centre	11
Tracks	12
Travelling Fairs	12
Provisional Statements	13
Reviews	13
Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre Gaming Machine Permit	14

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit	14
Prize Gaming Permit	15
Club Gaming/Club Machine Permit	15
Temporary Use Notices	16
Occasional Use Notices	16
Delegation	17
Human Rights Act	17
Miscellaneous	17
Scheme of Delegation	18
Appendix 1	20
Appendix 2	21

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

General

This Statement of Licensing Policy covers the administrative area of Blackpool (see Appendix 1 for map) and sets out how Blackpool Council intends to exercise its functions under the Gambling Act 2005 and the principles that it intends to apply. This policy takes effect on 31st January 2016 and will remain in force for three years. The policy will be subject to periodic reviews and further consultation.

In preparing this policy, the licensing authority has consulted with the following:

- The Chief Officer of Police for the Licensing Authority's area;
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interest of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the authority's area; and
- One or more persons who appear to the licensing authority to represent the interest of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the licensing authority's functions under the Gambling Act 2005.

A full list of persons consulted can be found at Appendix 2.

Fundamental Principles

The licensing authority will promote the three licensing objectives set out in the Gambling Act 2005.

- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime;
- Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way;
- Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

Licensing Authority Functions

Licensing authorities are required under the Act to:

- Be responsible for the licensing of premises where gambling activities are taking place by issuing premises licences;
- Issue provisional statements;
- Regulate members' clubs and miners' welfare institutes who wish to undertake certain gaming activities via issuing club gaming permits and club machine permits;
- Issue club machine permits to commercial clubs;
- Grant permits for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines at unlicensed family entertainment centres;
- Receive notifications from alcohol licensed premises for the use of up to two gaming machines;
- Issue licensed premises gaming machine permits for premises licensed to supply alcohol for consumption on the premises where more than two machines are required;
- Register small society lotteries below prescribed thresholds;
- Issue permits for prize gaming;
- Receive temporary use notices; and
- Receive occasional use notices

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

Responsible Authorities

Responsible authorities use their particular area of expertise to help promote the licensing objectives. They are able to make representations about applications and apply for review of a licence. Responsible authorities will also offer advice and guidance to applicants.

A full list of responsible authorities can be found in our supplementary publication “premises application guide”. This is available on the Council’s website www.blackpool.gov.uk.

The licensing authority is required to state the principles it will apply in exercising its powers under Section 157(h) to designate in writing, a body which is competent to advise the authority about the protection of children from harm. The principles are:

- The need for the body to be responsible for an area covering the whole of the licensing authority’s area; and
- The need for the body to be answerable to democratically elected persons, rather than any particular vested interest group.

In accordance with the regulations the Council designates the Local Safeguarding Children Board for this purpose.

Interested Parties

The Gambling Act defines an interested party as a person who:

- Lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities;
- Has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities; or
- Represents persons who satisfy paragraphs (a) or (b)

The licensing authority, in determining whether a person is an interested party, will consider each case on its merits. The authority will not apply a rigid rule to its decision making. In reaching its decision, the licensing authority will consider factors such as the likelihood of the person/business being affected by the licensable activities at the premises as well as geographical proximity. Larger premises may affect people over a broader geographical area than smaller premises offering the same facilities.

“Business interests” will be given its widest possible meaning and may include partnerships, charities, faith groups and medical practices.

Interested parties may also include trade associations, trade unions, residents’ associations and tenants’ associations where they have a member who can be classed as an interested party. Democratically elected councillors and MPs may also be interested parties.

Children and Vulnerable People

The licensing authority will place a high priority on social responsibility. In exercising its statutory powers, the licensing authority will have due regard, where relevant to its statutory functions, to the need to:

- Prevent gambling related problems in individuals and groups at risk of gambling addiction;
- Promote informed and balanced attitudes, behaviours and policies towards gambling and gamblers by both individuals and by communities; and
- Protect vulnerable groups from gambling related harm.

The licensing authority will work with operators and other public agencies to encourage a commitment to social responsibility including responsible design, delivery, promotion and use of

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

product. The end goal will be to reduce the incidence of high-risk and problem gambling.

The licensing authority will consider, in relation to any particular premises whether any special considerations apply to the protection of vulnerable persons. Such considerations need to be balanced by the authority's objective to aim to permit the use of premises for gambling. The Gambling Commission are obliged under section 176 of the Act to issue a Code of Practice on access to casino premises by children and young persons. Adherence to the code will be a condition on the premises licence.

Casino operators in particular would be expected to show that all staff coming into contact with the public have received suitable training to identify and deal with those people who could be classed as vulnerable.

The licensing authority will require the holder of a casino premises licence to take steps to ensure that no child or young person enters premises or part of premises where an offence under section 47 of the Gambling Act would be committed.

Track operators will not necessarily have an operating licence issued by the Gambling Commission. The licensing authority may wish to impose conditions to ensure that the environment in which betting takes place is suitable.

Exchange of Information

The licensing authority will act in accordance with the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 in its exchange of information which includes the provision that the Data Protection Act 1998 shall not be contravened. The licensing authority will have regard to any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission as well as any relevant regulations issued by the Secretary of State. In the event of protocols being established as regards

information exchange with other bodies, they will be made available on the Council website.

Enforcement and Inspections

Gambling in the town will be regulated by the Gambling Commission and through its powers as licensing authority by the Council. The licensing authority is committed to facilitating the provision of a wide range of high quality gaming venues operated in a socially responsible manner.

Where it is considered that operational standards in existing venues are lacking, the premises will be encouraged to raise their standards. If standards are not raised to appropriate levels, the authority will consider what action to take which may involve using its powers, including revoking a licence where appropriate to do so.

The main enforcement and compliance role for the licensing authority will be in relation to the premises licences and other permissions that it issues. The Gambling Commission will be the enforcement body for operating and personal licences. Concerns about the manufacture, supply or repair of gaming machines will be notified to the Gambling Commission.

Premises will be subject to appropriate risk-based enforcement on a multi-agency basis. The authority's power to review premises not complying with conditions, or where complaints have been received will be used whenever necessary.

In carrying out its enforcement and prosecution powers, the licensing authority will seek an appropriate response in accordance with the following criteria:

- Proportionate – regulators should only intervene when necessary. Remedies should be appropriate to the risk posed, and costs identified and minimised;

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

- Accountable – regulators must be able to justify decision, and be subject to public scrutiny;
- Consistent – rules and standards must be joined up and implemented fairly;
- Transparent – regulators should be open, and keep regulations simple and user friendly; and
- Target – regulation should be focused on the problem, and minimise side effects.

The licensing authority will endeavour to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes as far as possible.

The authority recognises that certain bookmakers have a number of premises within its area. In order to ensure that any compliance issues are recognised and resolved at the earliest stage, operators are requested to give the authority a single named point of contact, who should be a senior individual, and whom the authority will contact first should compliance queries or issues arise.

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

PREMISES LICENCES

Introduction

The Licensing Authority's primary obligation is to permit the use of premises in so far as it thinks that is:

- In accordance with the relevant codes of practice issued by the Gambling Commission;
- In accordance with the guidance issued by the Gambling Commission;
- Reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
- In accordance with this Statement of Licensing Policy

Unmet demand is not a criterion for a licensing authority in considering an application for a premises licence. Each application will be considered on its merits.

The licensing authority will, as far as possible, avoid imposing conditions on premises licence which duplicate the requirements of other regulatory regimes.

When considering applications for premises licences, the licensing authority will take a number of factors into consideration. These include:

Location

The licensing authority will consider the proximity of the proposed premises to schools, vulnerable adult centres, or residential areas where there is likely to be a high concentration of families. It is obviously open to the applicant to show that premises of the type applied for have historically been situated in these areas without problems occurring. The licensing authority will need to be satisfied that there is sufficient evidence that the particular location of the premises would be harmful to the

licensing objectives. Such evidence may be used to inform the decision the authority makes about whether to grant the licence, grant the licence with conditions or to refuse the application.

Design

For example where access by children is prohibited to all or part of the premises, the design should be capable of demonstrating how access by children will be prevented.

Social Responsibility

The protection of children and young persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling is of significant concern. The licensing authority would expect to see the list of measures that would be taken to protect children as well as the assistance that would be made available to those with gambling problems.

Licensing Objectives

The licensing authority is determined that the residents of, and visitors to Blackpool should be provided with high quality venues for betting and gaming, whilst reducing the risk of crime and disorder, and protecting children and the vulnerable. The licensing authority will expect detailed plans from operators to show how the objectives will be met.

“Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder, or being used to support crime.”

The Gambling Commission will be taking a lead role in preventing gambling from being a source of crime. Guidance from the Gambling Commission does however envisage that licensing authorities should pay attention to the proposed location of gambling premises in terms of this licensing objective. Where an

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

area has high levels of organised crime, this authority will consider whether gambling premises are suitable to be located there and whether conditions may be suitable such as the provision of door supervisors.

“Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way”

The Gambling Commission has stated that it would not generally expect licensing authorities to become concerned with ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way, as personal and operating licences will address this.

“Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling”

This means preventing children from taking part in gambling (as well as restricting advertising so that gambling products are not aimed at, or are, particularly attractive to children). The licensing authority will consider whether specific measures are required at particular premises. Measures may include supervision of entrances or segregation of areas.

Conditions

Conditions will only be attached to licences if they are necessary and proportionate.

- Relevant to the need to make the proposed building suitable as a gambling facility,
- Directly related to the premises and the type of licence applied for,
- Fairly and reasonably related to the scale and type of premises, and
- Reasonable in all other respects.

Decisions on individual conditions will be made on a case-by-case basis. There is an

expectation that the applicant will offer their own suggestions as to the way in which the licensing objectives can effectively be met. Conditions imposed should not duplicate matters already subject of regulation by the Gambling Commission.

This licensing authority will also consider specific measures which may be required for buildings which are subject to multiple premises licences. Such measures may include the supervision of entrances; segregation of gambling from non-gambling areas frequented by children; and the supervision of gaming machines in non-adult specific premises in order to pursue the licensing objectives.

The authority will wish to ensure that where category C machines are on offer in premises to which children are admitted:

- All such machines are located in an area of the premises which is separated from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated entrance;
- Only adults are admitted to the area where these machines are located;
- Access to the area where the machines are located is supervised;
- The area where these machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by staff or the licence holder; and
- At the entrance to and inside such areas there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18.

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

Door Supervisors

In some cases there may be a need for door supervisors in terms of protection of children or preventing the premises becoming a source of crime. It cannot, however, be a condition that door supervisors at casinos or bingo premises must be licensed by the Security Industry Authority. Where a requirement for door supervisors is identified in casinos or bingo halls, the licensing authority will determine specific requirements for door supervisors working at these venues on a case-by-case basis.

For premises other than casinos or bingo premises, door supervisors may be required to be registered with the SIA. It will not automatically be assumed that they need to be.

There is no evidence that the operation of betting offices has required door supervisors for the protection of the public. The authority will make a door supervision requirement only if there is clear evidence from the history of trading at the premises that the premises cannot be adequately supervised from the counter and that door supervision is both necessary and proportionate.

Multiple Licences

The Licensing Authority in considering applications for multiple licences for a building and those relating to a discrete part of a building used for other (non-gambling) purposes, will take into account that the third licensing objective seeks to protect children from being harmed by gambling. In practice that means not only preventing them from taking part in gambling, but also that they are not permitted to be in close proximity to gambling. Therefore premises should be configured so that children are not invited to

participate in, have accidental access to, or closely observe gambling; and

Entrances and exits from parts of a building covered by one or more licences should be separate and identifiable so that the separation of different premises is not compromised and that people do not 'drift' into a gambling area.

Casinos

Blackpool has a number of casinos which were licensed under the Gaming Act 1968, which have been subsequently converted into Gambling Act 2005 Converted Casino Premises Licences. Casino games offer the chance for multiple participants to take part in a game competing against the house or back at different odds to their fellow players. Casinos can also provide equal chance gaming and gaming machines.

The Gambling Commission has provided guidance for local Authorities and Licence Conditions and Code of Practice which are applied to Operator's Licences. The licensing authority will take this into consideration when determining applications in respect of converted casino licences.

Bingo Premises

It is important that if children are allowed into premises licensed for bingo they do not participate in gambling, other than on category D machines. Where category C or above machines are available on the premises to which children are admitted the licensing authority will ensure that:

- All such machines are located in an area of the premises separate from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated entrance;

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

- Only adults are admitted to the area where the machines are located.
- Access to the area where the machines are located is supervised
- The area where the machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by staff of the operator or the licence holder; and
- At the entrance to, and inside any such area there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18.

Betting Premises

Betting machines

The licensing authority will take into account the size of the premises, the number of counter positions available for person to person transactions and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines by vulnerable people.

While the authority has discretion as to the number/nature and circumstances of use of betting machines, there is no evidence that such matters give rise to regulatory concerns. This authority will only consider limiting the number of machines where there is clear evidence that such machines have been or are likely to be used in breach of the licensing objectives. Where there is such evidence, this authority may consider when reviewing the licence, the ability of staff to monitor the use of such machines from the counter.

Adult Gaming Centre

This licensing authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the

applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to, for example, ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the premises.

This licensing authority will expect applicants to offer their own measures to meet the licensing objectives however appropriate measures / licence conditions may cover issues such as:

- Proof of age schemes
- CCTV
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas
- Physical separation of areas

Licensed Family Entertainment Centre

This licensing authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority, for example, that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machine areas.

This licensing authority will expect applicants to offer their own measures to meet the licensing objectives however appropriate measures / licence conditions may cover issues such as:

- CCTV
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas
- Physical separation of areas

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

- Location of entry
- Notices / signage
- Specific opening hours
- Self-barring schemes
- Provision of information leaflets / help-line numbers for organisations such as GamCare.
- Measures / training for staff on how to deal with suspected truant school children on the premises.

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

This licensing authority will, as per the Gambling Commission's guidance, refer to the Commission's website to see any conditions that apply to operating licences covering the way in which the area containing the category C machines should be delineated. This licensing authority will also make itself aware of any mandatory or default conditions on these premises licences, when they have been published.

Tracks

Tracks are sites (including racecourses and dog tracks) where races or other sporting events take place.

All tracks will require a primary "general betting premises licence" that the track operator will hold. Track operators do not require an operating licence from the Gambling Commission although they may apply for one. This is because the various other gambling

operators offering betting at the track will each hold an operating licence.

Tracks may be subject to one or more premises licences, provided each licence relates to a specific area of track. This may be preferable for any self-contained premises providing off-course betting facilities. The licensing authority will assess each individual case on its merits before deciding if this is necessary.

Children and young persons will be permitted to enter track areas where facilities for betting are provided although they are still prohibited from entering areas where gaming machines and betting machines (other than Category D machines) are provided.

Travelling Fairs

It will fall to this licensing authority to decide whether, where category D machines and / or equal chance prize gaming without a permit is to be made available for use at travelling fairs, the statutory requirement that the facilities for gambling amount to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair is met.

The licensing authority will also consider whether the applicant falls within the statutory definition of a travelling fair.

It has been noted that the 27-day statutory maximum for the land being used as a fair, s per calendar year, and that it applies to the piece of land on which the fairs are held, regardless of whether it is the same or different travelling fairs occupying the land. This licensing authority will work with its neighbouring authorities to ensure that land crossing our boundaries is monitored so that the statutory limits are not exceeded.

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

Provisional Statements

A provisional statement application is a process which allows a developer to discover whether a building which he expects to be constructed, altered, to acquire a right to occupy would be granted a premises licence. A provisional statement is not a licence, but it does give some form of guarantee that a licence would be granted.

In terms of representations about premises licence applications, following the grant of a provisional statement, no further representations from relevant authorities or interested parties can be taken into account unless they concern matters which could not have been addressed at the provisional statement stage, or they reflect a change in the applicant's circumstances. In addition, the authority may refuse the premises licence (or grant it on terms different to those attached to the provisional statement) only by reference to matters:

(a) Which could not have been raised by objectors at the provisional licence stage; or

(b) Which in the authority's opinion reflect a change in the operator's circumstances.

When determining an application for a provisional statement the licensing authority will not have regard to issues relating to planning consent or building regulations, for example the likelihood that planning consent will be granted.

Reviews

Interested parties or responsible authorities can make requests for a review of a premises licence; however, it is for the licensing authority to decide whether the review is to be carried out. This will be on the basis of:

1. Whether the request for the review is relevant to the matters listed below: -

- In accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission;
- In accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission;
- Reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
- In accordance with the authority's statement of licensing policy.

2. Consideration as to whether the request is frivolous, vexatious

3. Whether the review will certainly not cause this authority to wish to alter/revoke/suspend the licence, or

4. Whether it is substantially the same as the previous representations or requests for review.

The licensing authority can also initiate a review of a licence on the basis of any reason, which it thinks is appropriate.

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES ON PERMITS

Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre Gaming Machine Permit

Where a premises does not hold a premises licence but wishes to provide gaming machines, it may apply to the licensing authority for this permit. It should be noted that the applicant must show that the premises will be wholly or mainly used for making gaming machines available for use.

This licensing authority will expect the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect children from harm. Harm in this context is not limited to harm from gambling but includes wider child protection considerations. The efficiency of such policies and procedures will each be considered on their merits, however, they may include appropriate measures / training for staff as regards suspected truant school children on the premises, measures / training covering how staff would deal with unsupervised very young children being on the premises, or children causing perceived problems on/around the premises.

The licensing authority will also expect as per the Gambling Commission guidance, that applicants demonstrate:

- A full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the gambling that is permissible in unlicensed FECs;
- That the applicant has no relevant convictions (those that are set out in Schedule 7 of the Act); and
- That staff are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes.

Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit

There is provision in the Act for premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises to automatically have 2 gaming machines of categories C or D. The premises merely need to notify the licensing authority. This automatic authorisation can be removed by the licensing authority if:

- Provision of the machines is not reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; Gaming has taken place on the premises that breaches a condition of section 282;
- The premises are mainly used for gaming; or
- An offence under the Gambling Act has been committed on the premises.

If a premises wishes to have more than 2 machines, then it needs to apply for a permit and the licensing authority must consider that application based upon the licensing objectives, any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission issued under Section 25 of the Gambling Act 2005, and “such matters as they think relevant.” Such matters will be decided on a case-by-case basis but generally there will be regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling. The applicant will be expected to show that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18-year-olds do not have access to adult only gaming machines. Measures may include the adult machines being placed in sight of the bar,

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

or in the sight of staff that will monitor the use of the machines. The applicant may also wish to consider the provision of information leaflets/help-line numbers for organisations such as Gamcare.

Where the applicant for additional machines can demonstrate compliance with the Gambling Commission Code of Practice on gaming machines, granting of the application would be the normal course as long as the number of machines requested can be shown to be reasonable in relation to the size of the premises.

Under the Gaming Act 1968, the granting of an application for four gaming machines (two in relation to guest houses) is delegated to Officers. In an attempt to reduce administration and bureaucracy, this practice will continue.

It should be noted that the licensing authority could decide to grant the application with a smaller number of machines and/or a different category of machines than that applied for. Conditions (other than these) cannot be attached.

It should also be noted that the holder of a permit must comply with any Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission about the location and operation of the machine.

Prize Gaming Permit

The Licensing Authority is concerned that premises with the benefit of a prize gaming permit will particularly appeal to children and young persons. When considering an

application, the Licensing Authority will give significant weight to child protection issues, and will need to be satisfied that the granting of a permit will not place children and young persons at risk as a consequence.

- The applicant should set out the types of gaming that he or she is intending to offer and that the applicant should be able to demonstrate:
- That they understand the limits to stakes and prizes that are set out in Regulations;
- And that the gaming offered is within the law.

In making its decision on an application for this permit the licensing authority does not need to have regard to the licensing objectives but must have regard to any Gambling Commission guidance.

Club Gaming and Club Machine Permits

Members Clubs and Miners' welfare institutes (but not Commercial Clubs) may apply for a Club Gaming Permit or a Clubs Gaming machines permit. The Club Gaming Permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (3 machines of categories B, C or D), equal chance gaming and games of chance as set out in forthcoming regulations. A Club Gaming machine permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (3 machines of categories B, C or D)

Gambling Commission Guidance states: "Members clubs must have at least 25

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

members and be established and conducted "wholly or mainly" for purposes other than gaming, unless the gaming is permitted by separate regulations. It is anticipated that this will cover bridge and whist clubs, which will replicate the position under the Gaming Act 1968. A members' club must be permanent in nature, not established to make commercial profit, and controlled by its members equally. Examples include working men's clubs, branches of Royal British Legion and clubs with political affiliations."

The Commission Guidance also notes "licensing authorities may only refuse an application on the grounds that:

- The applicant does not fulfill the requirements for a members' or commercial club or miners' welfare institute and therefore is not entitled to receive the type of permit for which it has applied;
- The applicant's premises are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons;
- An offence under the Act or a breach of a permit has been committed by the applicant while providing gaming facilities;
- A permit held by the applicant has been cancelled in the previous ten years; or
- The Commission or the police have lodged an objection.

There is also a 'fast-track' procedure available under the Act for premises, which hold a Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003 (Schedule 12 paragraph 10). As the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities states: "Under the fast-track procedure there is no opportunity for objections to be made by the Commission or the police, and the ground upon which an authority can refuse a permit are reduced."

and "The grounds on which an application under the process may be refused are:

- That the club is established primarily for gaming, other than gaming prescribed under schedule 12;
- That in addition to the prescribed gaming, the applicant provides facilities for other gaming; or
- That a club gaming permit or club machine permit issued to the applicant in the last ten years has been cancelled."

Temporary Use Notices

There are a number of statutory limits as regards temporary use notices. Gambling Commission Guidance notes "The meaning of "premises" in part 8 of the Act is discussed in Part 7 of this guidance. As with "premises", the definition of "a set of premises" will be a question of fact in the particular circumstances of each notice that is given. In the Act "premises" is defined as including "any place". In considering whether a place falls within the definition of "a set of premises", licensing authorities will need to look at, amongst other things, the ownership/occupation and control of the premises. This is a new permission and licensing authorities should be ready to object to notices where it appears that their effect would be to permit regular gambling in a place that could be described as one set of premises."

Occasional Use Notices

The licensing authority has very little discretion as regards these notices aside from ensuring that the statutory limit of 8 days in a calendar year is not exceeded. This licensing authority

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

will though consider the definition of a 'track' and whether the applicant is permitted to avail him/herself of the notice.

To ensure that this policy is implemented, we will set out and monitor the following key indicators of the effects of the implementation of the policies:

- Prevalence of problem gambling in Blackpool and gambling behaviours;
- The percentage of residents who are satisfied with the licensing service and believe that gambling is effectively regulated;
- Crime levels and disorder associated with gambling, particularly acquisitive crime;
- Revenues accruing to the Council from casino operators and how this is used to benefit the local community;
- Any harm or exploitation arising to children or vulnerable adults clearly linked to gambling.

Delegation

It is normal practice in routine, uncontested decisions for the Council to authorise a senior officer to deal with the matter on their behalf, in this way, the Council can discharge its functions in an efficient manner and avoid delay to business development and entrepreneurial activity. The administrative systems, the licence service and procedures will be subject to programmed review and powers will, wherever possible be delegated to officers and licensing panels.

The table on the following page sets out the delegated functions.

Human Rights Act

In formulating this policy we have taken into account the Human Rights Act and in particular:

- Article 1 – the right to peaceful enjoyment of possessions;
- Article 6 – the right to a fair hearing;
- Article 8 - the right to respect for private and family life
- Article 10 – the right to freedom of expression.

Miscellaneous

The licensing authority shall as far as possible carry out its functions so as to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes.

Nothing in this statement shall override the right of any person to make an application under the Gambling Act 2005 or to have that application considered on its merits.

Nothing in this statement shall undermine the right of any person to make representations on an application or seek review of a licence where provided for under the Gambling Act 2005.

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

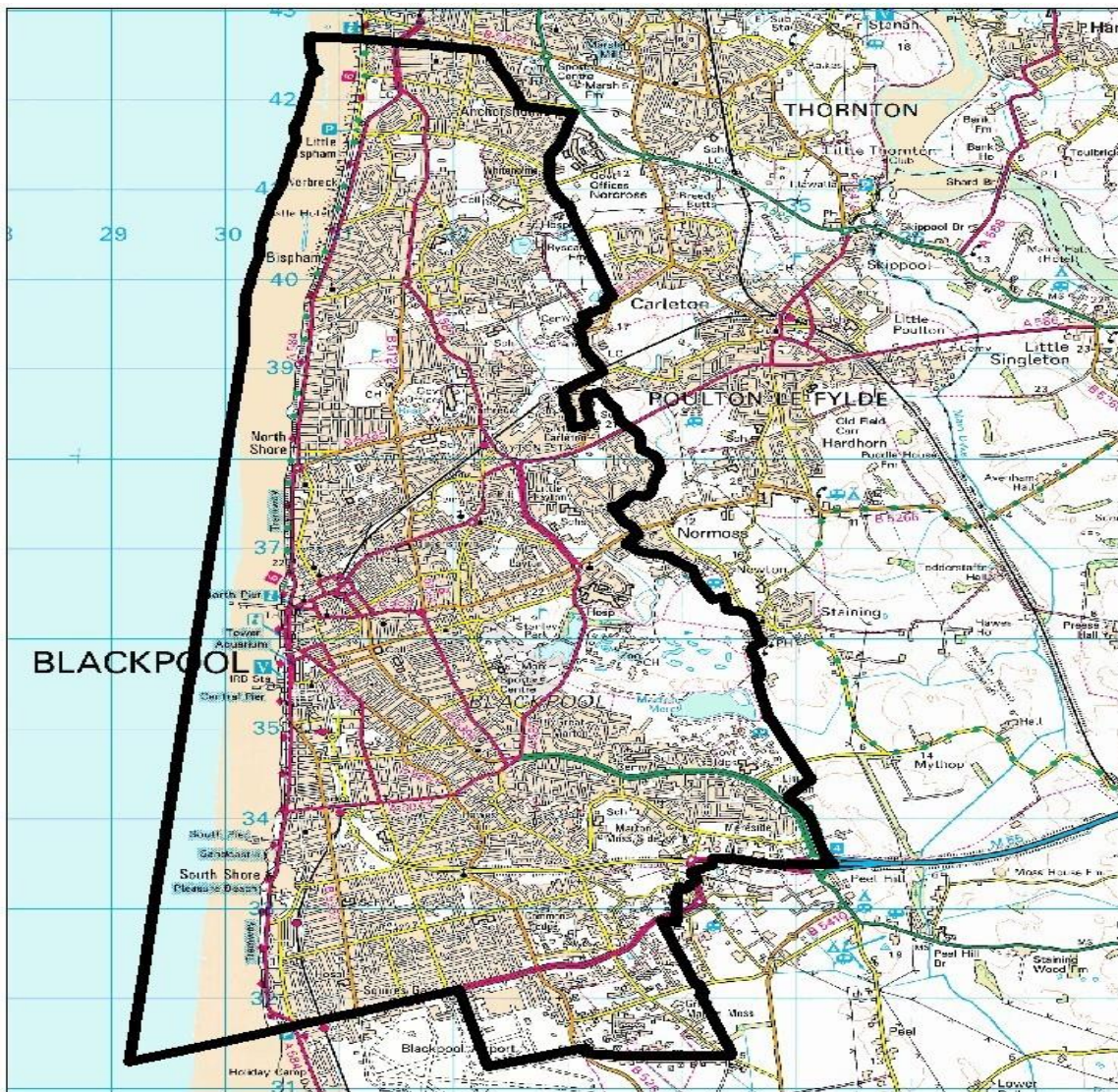
Matter to be dealt with	Full Council	Licensing Panel	Officer Delegation
Three year licensing policy	X		
Policy not to permit casinos	X		
Application for a premises licence		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations have been received/representations withdrawn
Application for variation to a licence		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations have been received/representations withdrawn
Application for transfer of licence		Where representations have been received from the Commission	Where no representations have been received from the Commission.
Application for a provisional statement		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations have been received/representations withdrawn
Review of premises licence		X	
Application for club gaming/club machine permit		Where objections have been made and not withdrawn	Where no objections have been made/objections have been withdrawn
Cancellation of club gaming/club machine permit		X	
Applications for other permits			X

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

Cancellation of licensed premises gaming machine permit			X
Consideration of a temporary use notice			X
Decision to give a counter notice to a temporary use notice		X	

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

Appendix 1



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Organisational Change Unit
Tourism & Regeneration Department
P O Box 77, Corporation Street,
Blackpool, FY1 1AD
corporatepolicy@blackpool.gov.uk



Title: Map with Blackpool Borough Boundary
Scale: 1:50000
Date: 20/06/2006 Printed by: RW

Statement of Policy and Principles under the Gambling Act 2005

Appendix 2

List of Persons Consulted

Lancashire Constabulary

Coral Racing Limited

Done Brothers

British Beer & Pub Association

Bingo Association

The COA(UK)

National Casino Industry Forum

BACTA

Rank Group

Noble Organisation

British Home & Holiday Parks Association

Association of British Bookmakers

Blackpool Pleasure Beach

Poppleston Allen

Warwicks Amusements

William Hill

Silcock Leisure Group

Ladbrokes

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Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Date of Meeting:	2nd November 2015

STREET LIGHTING AND TRAFFIC SIGNAL PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE REFINANCING 2015

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the refinancing of the Blackpool Street Lighting and Traffic Signals Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To approve the refinancing of the Blackpool Street Lighting and Traffic Signals Private Finance Initiative contract. A refinancing gain of £2.88m is estimated at financial close which is anticipated to take place in November/December 2015.
- 2.2 To agree that the refinancing gain is taken as a reduction in the monthly Unitary Charge (UC) payment to Community Lighting Partnership (CLP). The reduction is in the region of £170,000 for each remaining year of the contract.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 In March 2015, Equitix Investment Management Limited (Equitix), a 50% investment partner in Community Lighting Partnership, approached Blackpool Council to gain its support for the refinancing of the Blackpool Street Lighting and Traffic Signals Private Finance Initiative project. At this point in time a Council share of the Refinancing Gain of £2.5m was estimated.

The scheme was originally procured during the period of economic instability caused by the credit crunch, with the preferred senior debt funder withdrawing shortly before financial close. Debt margins are now significantly lower than their credit-crunch highs and whilst current funders Barclays and National Australia Bank (NAB) are no longer operating in this market Nord LB (Nord) and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) have been identified as replacement funders. The long term cost of funds within the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) can therefore be reduced with a consequential improvement in shareholder returns.

In exchange for granting consent to the refinancing, the Council will receive £2.88m as its share of the Refinancing Gain, whilst also being required to underwrite increased levels of compensation to the Special Purpose Vehicle under certain events of default.

Equitix has also approached five other Councils on the same basis and is seeking to achieve optimum terms through refinancing the portfolio of six Private Finance Initiative /PPP transactions on similar timescales.

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:

Do nothing – the contract would continue to be delivered under the current financial arrangements with the existing funders Barclays and National Australia Bank (NAB). This would prevent the Council from accessing the more favourable financial terms available on the market presently and not realise the savings detailed earlier in the report but would mean no increase in the compensation payable by the Council in the event of Default, Voluntary Termination or Force Majeure.

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 In July 2009 Blackpool Council awarded preferred bidder status for the delivery of the Street Lighting and Traffic Signals Private Finance Initiative contract to Community Lighting Partnership, a 50:50 consortium of Telereal Trillium and Pell Frischmann.

5.2 The project reached financial close in December 2009 during a period of economic instability caused by the credit crunch. A term loan facility was secured with Barclays and NAB, featuring an interest margin of 2.30% stepping to 2.80% - typical for Private Finance Initiative projects during this period of time.

5.3 Equitix purchased their 50% share from Telereal Trillium in 2010 shortly after contract start with full consent from the Council.

5.4 The £153m contract was procured under competitive dialogue and was supported by a £33.9m Private Finance Initiative grant from the Department for Transport (DfT) to fund the capital works and maintenance programme over a 25year period. The business case for the Project included a number of high level and detailed objectives but is in essence focused on:

- The replacement of failing lighting and traffic signal infrastructure to bring lighting and signal levels to appropriate British and European standards;
- Investment in new lighting in back alleys and associated areas with high crime statistics;
- Improving safety of the existing highways infrastructure and reducing road traffic accidents across the borough; and
- The modernisation and future proofing of the lighting and traffic signals infrastructure, resulting in reduced maintenance and energy consumption.

5.5 The 25year contract term is based upon an initial 5year investment programme Core Investment Period to replace the street lighting and traffic signals infrastructure along with a comprehensive maintenance regime over the full term of the contract. The Core Investment Period was completed in full earlier in 2015, and in essence the contract is now focused upon a highways contract with specified performance standards to manage the planned and reactive maintenance.

5.6 The refinancing exercise will not impact upon the operational requirements of the contract. In this respect the refinancing of the project is essentially an isolated process to enable the Council and the service provider to take advantage of the improved lending rates available in the marketplace.

5.7 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.7 **List of Appendices:**

None

6.0 **Legal considerations:**

6.1 The Council has appointed external Legal Advisers to support the refinancing process. There would be a requirement to amend a range of legal documents appertaining to the contract which would be completed as part of the financial close process. The Council's internal Legal Services team would instruct the advisors accordingly.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 Not applicable

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 Not applicable

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 The refinancing gain of £2.88m is derived by comparison of the distributions projected to take place after the refinancing, less those forecast to occur prior to implementing the refinancing. The difference is discounted at 12.75%, (a rate set in the original contract) resulting in the Refinancing Gain figure. This is shared between the Public and Private sector on the following basis :-

- 50% of first £1m generated to the Public sector;
- 60% of any balance between £1m and £3m; and
- 70% thereafter

The gain can be taken as a one-off upfront payment, or alternatively over time through a reduction in the annual Unitary Charge. The annual Unitary Charge reduction would be in the region of £0.17m per year.

The Director of Resources has elected to take the Gain as a reduction in the Unitary Charge, spreading the benefit in line with the period of the remaining contract.

9.2 In reaching its decision to seek to refinance the Council has assessed the potential financial exposure we face from termination liability scenarios, specifically Voluntary Termination (the Council terminating the Contract), Authority Default (the Council defaulting on payment) or Force Majeure (Act of God). Under these scenarios the Council is required to pay compensation to the Contractor.

The level of compensation increases at the point of refinancing under both Voluntary Termination/Authority Default and Force Majeure scenarios by £2.38m and £1.84m respectively as a result of the higher debt levels from the proposed refinancing. In addition, the increases in potential compensation payments change over the life of the project with the additional exposure increasing significantly under the Force Majeure scenario to circa £6.0m near the end of the contract. Given the fact that approximately 19 years of the Project remain, the profile of increased compensation payment over the term has also been considered.

Figure 1 below outlines the estimated compensation due over time both before and after refinancing occurs.

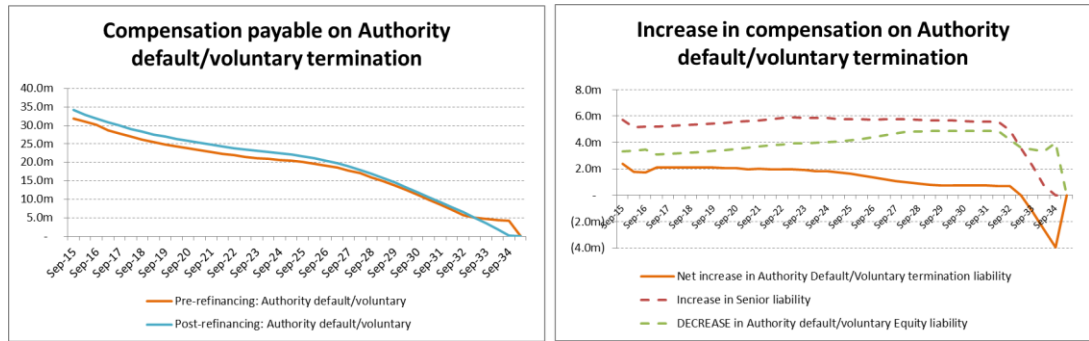


Figure 1: Voluntary termination/Authority default liability over time

Whilst the Refinancing Gain payment is lower than the increase in compensation payments that become liable, the value for money (VfM) of the proposal can only be judged by consideration of the probability of such compensation actually being required. The likelihood of the Council voluntarily terminating the Project given the statutory nature of the service, the performance of the contractor or defaulting on payment to the contractor is considered to be very low. Force Majeure, by its very definition, is considered to be extremely unlikely.

On this basis it appears prudent for the Council to proceed with the refinancing proposal given the very low likelihood of the termination liabilities occurring.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Abort Costs

In the event the refinancing transaction fails to reach financial close then abort costs will become due. In such a circumstance the Council would only be liable for costs incurred in respect of its own advisers (financial and legal) limited by agreed fee caps totalling £160,000. The risk of abort is considered to be very low however given the size of the financing benefit to be shared by the public and private sector, as well as the current liquidity in the funding market.

To the extent one of Nord LB or SMBC withdrew from the refinancing process negotiations would commence with the remaining funder to explore the possibility of increasing participation to 100% of the debt requirement. A number of other financing options also exist, as identified through the funding competition - whilst terms would not prove as attractive the overall transaction should still remain viable.

10.2 Increase in underlying financing costs and margins

It is accepted that the underlying cost of funds remains a Council risk to the point of financial close, and the Refinancing Gain will therefore vary dependent on final pricing. Unlike a primary Private Finance Initiative transaction however, the majority of risk with regard to the underlying swap rate is already hedged through the existing interest rate swap. In the event swap rates increase from the 1.98% assumption included in the latest financial model the ongoing cost of funds will increase, thereby depressing the amount of additional debt that can be raised. The cost of breaking the existing interest rate swap will however decrease, offsetting much of the impact of the higher underlying rate. This is demonstrated by the following sensitivity – a 10 basis point increase in the swap rate reduces the Refinancing Gain by just £100,000

10.3 Potential for Reduction in Blackpool Refinance Gain

Department of Transport's Promissory Note for Blackpool relating to the initial Private Finance Initiative grant of £33.9m contains no provision for any future share of the refinance gain to pass back to Department for Transport.

10.4 Robustness of Community Lighting Partnership

Risks relating to the original construction programme have now passed, and an operational track record for the asset (albeit relatively short) now exists. Importantly the senior lenders have performed significant due diligence on the assets in order to provide them with the confidence to lend, including both qualitative analysis from a technical adviser along with quantitative assessment of numerous sensitivities through the Financial Model.

This should provide the Council with confidence on the overall robustness of the Special Purpose Vehicle once the new financing structure has been implemented.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None known

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Department for Transport is the sponsoring government department for the project. The Council has engaged fully with Department for Transport regarding the refinancing process and is awaiting confirmation and ministerial approval to proceed with the project refinancing. A comprehensive value for money exercise formed part of the external approval process. HM Treasury has also confirmed their support as part of the group refinancing package with a number of Other Local Authorities as mentioned earlier.

13.0 Background papers:

None

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? Yes

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 18/2015

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: 23rd October 2015 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:	2nd November 2015

TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF-YEARLY PROGRESS REPORT TO THE 30TH SEPTEMBER 2015

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Treasury Management Half-Yearly Progress Report for the year ended 30th September 2015 and its Annexes 1 to 7.

2.0 Recommendation:

2.1 To note the report concerning Treasury Management activities for the six months to September 2015.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation:

3.1 At its meeting on the 28th February 2014 the Council agreed to adopt the CIPFA Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes (2011 Edition). A feature of the Code is that periodic reports on Treasury Management activities are submitted to the Executive and the attached report relates to Treasury Management activities for the six months to 30th September 2015.

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 The attached report relates to treasury management activities for the six months to 30th September 2015 and its content is reflective of the scale of the Council’s current Capital Programme. This means the requirements of the CIPFA’s Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes (2011 Edition) for periodic reports on treasury management to be received by the Executive.

5.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.3 List of Appendices:

Appendix 5a: Report on Treasury Management

Annex 1 – Bank of England Official Base Rate October 2007 to September 2015

Annex 2 – Borrowing Rates September 2006 to September 2015

Annex 3 – External Debt Fallout Chart as at 30th September 2015

Annex 4 – Summary Statistics for April to September 2015

Annex 5 – Interest Earned on Temporary Investments 2015/16

Annex 6 – Prudential Indicators 2015/16

Annex 7 – Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary, Prudentially, funded schemes 2015/16

6.0 Legal considerations:

None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

None

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 Please see the Report and its Annexes 1 to 7

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Interest rate movements and planned debt fallouts and amounts and the nature of borrowing to fund capital expenditure.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 With the Council's Treasury Management Panel

13.0 Background papers:

None

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:

Date approved:

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

BLACKPOOL COUNCIL
REPORT
of the
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
to the
EXECUTIVE
on
2nd NOVEMBER 2015

TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF-YEARLY PROGRESS REPORT
TO 30th SEPTEMBER 2015

1. INTRODUCTION

The Council has adopted CIPFA's Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes (2011 Edition). A feature of the Code is that periodic reports on treasury management activities are prepared. This report relates to treasury management activities for the six months to 30th September 2015 and its content is reflective of the scale of the Council's current capital programme.

2. BORROWING TRANSACTIONS

2.1 Overview

The Bank of England Official Bank Rate (ie. the 'base rate' short-term interest rate to which all interest rates are related) stood at 0.5% on 1st April 2015 (0.5% on 1st April 2014). Since the beginning of the 2015/16 financial year, the rate has stayed constant at 0.5%. As of 30th September 2015 the rate remains at 0.5%.

Annex 1 shows movements in the base rate from October 2007 to September 2015 in order to display the recent trend.

Annex 2 shows movements in the borrowing rates available since September 2006 for Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) long-term (20-25 year rates), Public Works Loan Board one year and variable one month rates.

The consequences of the slow rate of economic recovery and the Government's actions to bring down the current high level of borrowing have continued to depress the financial markets during the last 12 months. As a result the cost of short-term borrowing continues at historically low levels. The market expectation is that the bank base rate will remain low for the next 12 months and then climb gradually to more normal levels.

2.2 Loans Raised

The long term borrowing requirements for the 2015/2016 Capital Programme have been deferred until such time that interest rates are judged to be favourable to the Council. This action reduces the Council's exposure to counterparty risk whilst enabling savings to be made in long-term borrowing costs. The Treasury Management Panel's view is that there will be no need to take any new long-term borrowing in the next 6 months.

Temporary borrowing has been required to deal with the normal peaks and troughs of the cash flow, including creditor payments, grant receipts, etc. It has also been used to finance any shortfalls in cash flow caused by capital expenditure. The temporary financing of capital expenditure is prudent while short-term interest rates remain low and has the advantage of minimising temporary investments and the associated counterparty risk.

2.3 Loans Repaid

In addition to the regular repayment of £197,00 in respect of the Business Loans Fund and the temporary borrowing referred to in 2.2 above. Within the Public Works Loan Board loans portfolio £5,328k was repaid at maturity on 30th September 2015.

2.4 Summary

The Council's borrowing activities for the first half-year of the financial year are summarised below:

Source of funding:	Borrowings 1 st April '15 £000s	Loans raised £000s	Loans repaid £000s	Borrowings 30 th Sep '15 £000s
PWLB	55,639	-	(5,526)	50,113
Market Loans	39,250	-	-	39,250
Sub-total	94,889	-	(5,526)	89,363
Temporary Loans	46,500	62,550	(68,050)	41,000
LGR debt with LCC	20,419	-	(408)	20,011
Total borrowings <i>(excluding PFI Schemes and finance leases)</i>	161,808	62,550	(73,984)	150,374

Annex 3 to this report shows the maturity profile for the £89.4m of long-term external loans (ie. the Public Works Loan Board and market debt only from the above table) outstanding at the end of September 2015. The maturity profile is in line with the Council's approved strategy.

3. TRANSACTIONS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2015/16

3.1 Level of Investments

Annex 4 to this report sets out an analysis of the Council's receipts and payments during the first half of the financial year. The Council's temporary investments stood at £9.9m on 30th September 2015. This compares with temporary investments valued at £1.6m on 30th September 2014. Temporary surplus funds are invested in accordance with the Treasury Management Strategy's requirements regarding security, liquidity and yield.

3.2 Investment Earnings

The Council takes advantage of peaks and troughs in receipts and payments by investing surplus funds over appropriate timescales within the context of the Council's overall cash flows. The actual investment interest earned to 30th September was £11,000 excluding interest received on the Local Authority Mortgage Schemes. Annex 5 shows a monthly analysis of interest receipts compared to budget.

3.3 Approved Investment Institutions

In order to manage prudently any surplus funds as set out within the Treasury Management Strategy the Council restricts its temporary investments to an authorised list of institutions. According to the creditworthiness of each institution, an appropriate investment ceiling has been set with each as well as a maximum investment period. The credit ratings are monitored on a regular basis and checks are made via the internet and other media sources for signs of banks and building societies in difficulty. Council officers continue to use their contacts in the money market and speak regularly with other members of the Manchester Treasury Group to obtain market intelligence.

The Treasury Management Panel includes the Director of Resources and Chief Accountant and meets regularly throughout the year to review the list of approved investment institutions.

For banks the approved list is based on credit ratings issued by Fitch (single A categories or above, or the equivalent from other ratings agencies). The list also includes the more stable building societies, banded according to total asset size.

The proportion of temporary investments placed in the period 1st April 2015 to 30th September 2015 across the various categories of approved institutions is set out in the table below:

Type of institution invested with:	Amount £000s	% of total
UK banks & UK subsidiaries of overseas banks	94,670	100.0%
Building societies	-	0.0%
Debt Management Office - deposit facility	-	0.0%
Total temporary investments placed	94,670	100.0%

These values show the total of all new investments made during the six months. Due to the recycling nature of investing and lending, these values are not the absolute value of the portfolio of temporary investments as at 30th September 2015, which was £9.9m.

Annex 4 to this Report shows how the investing and maturing of temporary investments fits in with the rest of the Council's bank transactions.

3.4 Group Companies and Partners

During the first six months of the year we have provided advice and assistance to some of our group companies and partners. In particular the Treasury Management team has offered advice to the New Housing Company about how best to manage peaks and troughs of working capital and IS talking to Blackpool Transport about pooling long-term borrowing requirement.

4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT BUDGET MONITORING 2015/16

The month 6 financial performance monitoring report, shows a favourable forecast outturn for Treasury Management in 2015/2016 of £1,231k. The main components of this (favourable) position are as follows:

	£'000s
Reduced interest charge on Local Government Reorganisation Debt	(270)
Lower financing costs on long term debt	(878)
Temporary interest on short term loans	(83)
Net (favourable)/adverse outturn forecast	(1,231)

5. PRUDENTIAL CODE FOR CAPITAL FINANCE

- 5.1 Where capital expenditure has been incurred which is financed by debt assumed under the *Prudential Code for capital finance in local authorities*, budget has been vired from the service area incurring the spend. This budget is used to pay for the additional capital financing costs which are incurred within Treasury Management as a consequence of the capital spend. In the case of Leisure Assets an actual charge for financing costs has been made to the scheme. The cost to the Council of employing its capital in these schemes arises from both the interest cost of the investment and from the subsequent need to repay the principal.

Cost savings or revenue increases within the services as a result of the capital investment will have been previously identified within a business case in order to demonstrate that these schemes are self-funding or better.

5.2 Prudential Indicators

At its meeting of 27th February 2015 the Council adopted the framework set out within *CIPFA's Prudential Code for capital finance in Local Authorities (2011 edition)*.

The Code requires that monitoring of our performance against the performance indicators (the Prudential Indicators) is reported to the appropriate decision-making body.

Annex 6 to this report shows the Prudential Indicators from 1st April 2015 to 30th September 2015, separately identifying the affordability indicators, the indicators of prudence and the treasury management indicators.

The format of these indicators is set out in the CIPFA Code of Practice.

Performance in the first half of 2015/2016 is in line with expectations.

5.3 **Capital Schemes Funded by Prudential Borrowing**

Annex 7 to this report shows the headroom to the authorised (borrowing) limit and operational boundary, and identifies the expenditure on schemes which are prudentially funded by year.

6. **RECOMMENDATION**

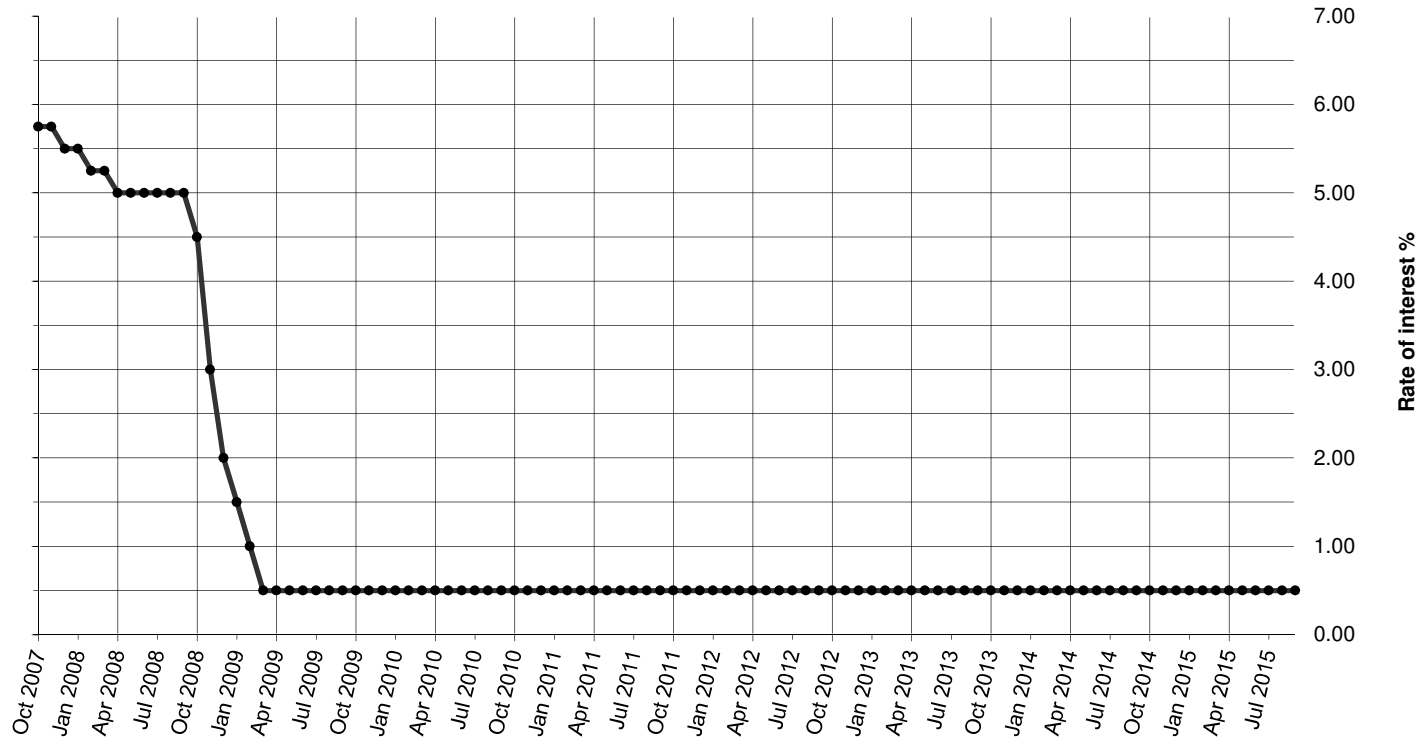
To note the report concerning treasury management activities for the first half of the 2015/2016 financial year.

Steve Thompson

Director of Resources

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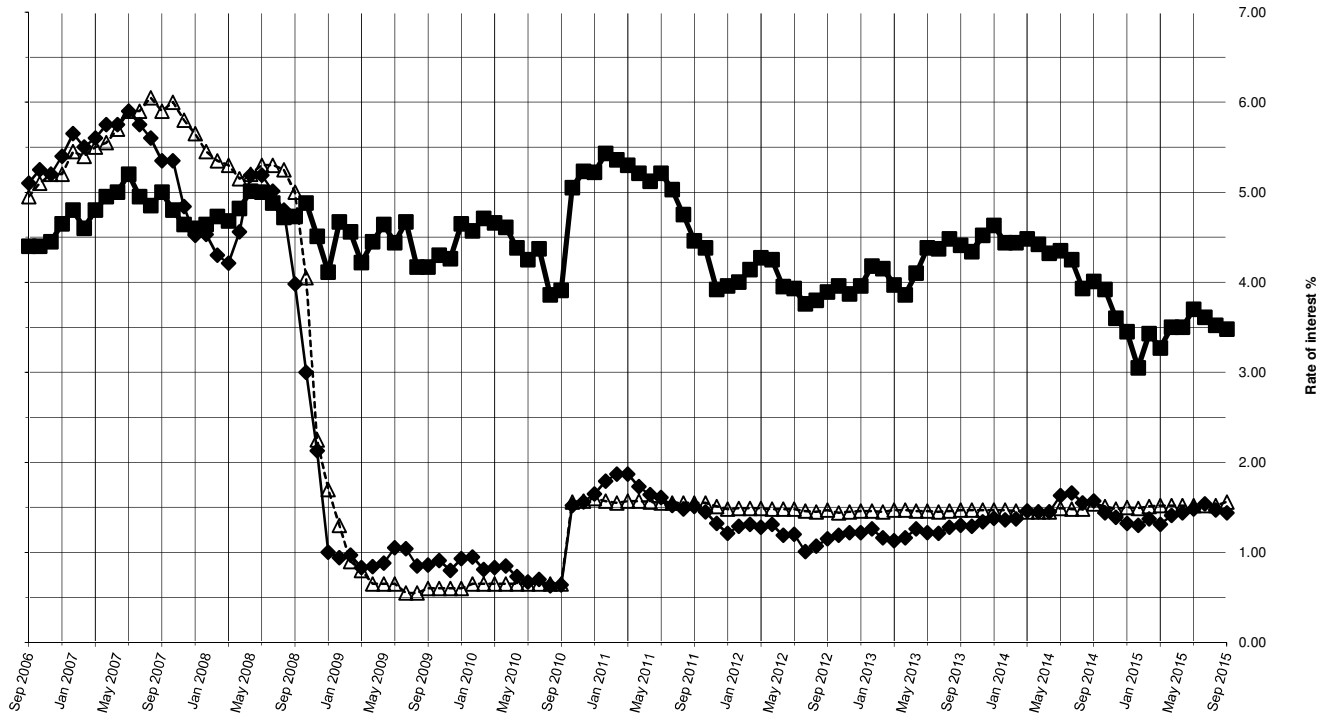
Bank of England Official Base / Repo Rates 2007 - 2015



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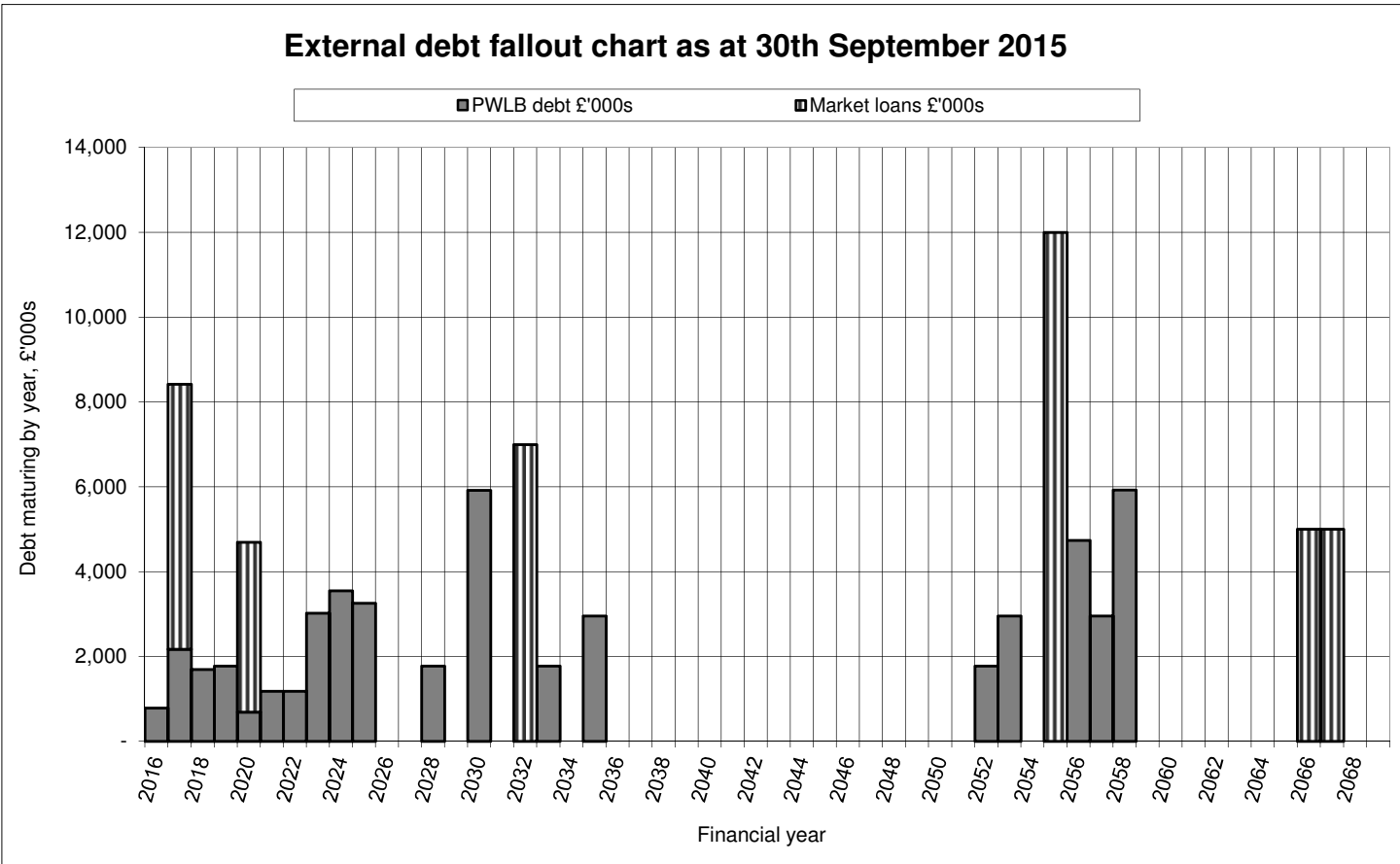
Borrowing rates available 2006 - 2015

◆ PWLB 1 Year Borrowing Rate ■ PWLB Long Term (20-25 years) Borrowing Rate -▲- Short Term (1 mnth) Variable Borrowing Rate



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External debt fallout chart as at 30th September 2015



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Annex 4

Summary Statistics for April to September 2015.

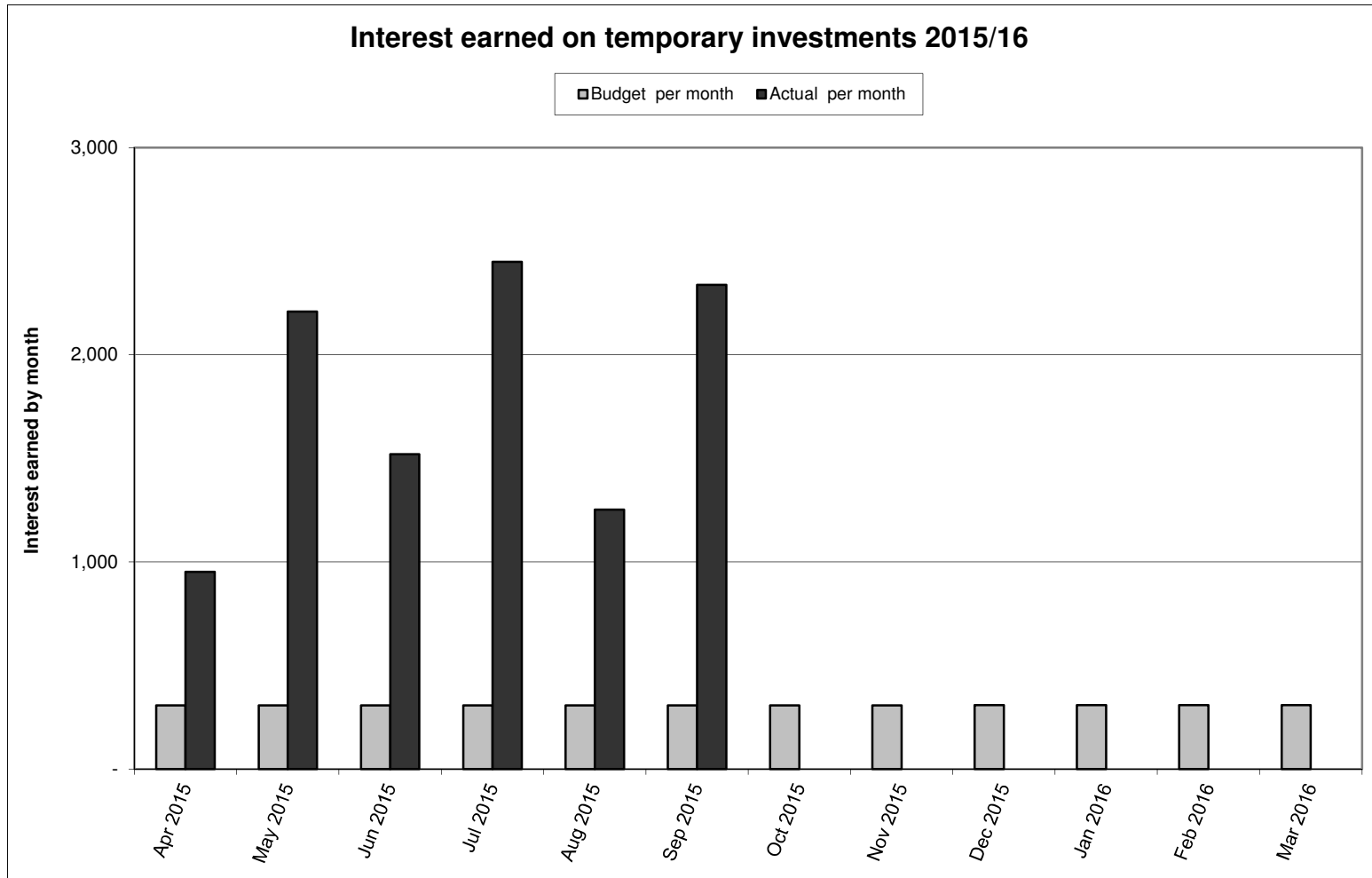
OVERALL DEBT FINANCING POSITION			
B/Fwd £'000		Change YTD £'000	C/Fwd £'000
-	Investments	-	-
3,405	Bank Deposits	6,535	9,940
3,405	Total Investments	6,535	9,940
46,500	Short term loans	(5,500)	41,000
115,308	Long term loans (*)	(5,934)	109,374
161,808	Total Loans	(11,434)	150,374
158,403	Total Loans less total investments		140,434

(*) These include Local Government Reorganisation debt held on our behalf by LCC.

TRANSACTIONS IN THE SIX MONTHS		£'000
RECEIPTS		YTD
Loans borrowed	(**)	67,550
Investments matured	(**)	88,135
Housing Benefit		42,213
Housing Subsidy		-
Council tax and NNDR		47,932
VAT		8,914
RSG		30,384
Other Grants		54,793
Other Income		51,344
TOTAL		391,265
PAYMENTS		YTD
Police & Fire		4,260
General Creditors		141,712
Salaries & wages		36,831
Loan repayments	(**)	78,984
Investments made	(**)	94,670
Housing Benefits		36,625
TOTAL		393,082
		£'000
Opening bank balances		1,901
Receipts as analysed above		391,265
Payments as analysed above		393,082
Closing bank balances: 30.9.15		84

(**) These values show the totals of all movements on temporary investments and loans during the six months. Due to the recycling nature of investing and lending, these values are NOT the absolute value of the portfolio of temporary balances as at 30th September 2015.

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Blackpool Council

Prudential Code for Capital Finance

Prudential Indicators 2015/16

Council T/M Report (09.02.2015) Annex C refs.	Prudential Indicator	15/16 Full year planned PI	15/16 First half year actual PI
<i>Prudential Indicators: the actual position 2015/16</i>			
2.4	Actual Capital Expenditure, non-HRA. 15/16	To be reported after the 31.3.15 year end.	<i>This Prudential Indicator is fully disclosed within the capital reporting.</i>
2.4	Actual Capital Expenditure, HRA. 15/16	To be reported after the 31.3.15 year end.	<i>This Prudential Indicator is fully disclosed within the capital reporting.</i>
5.2	Actual Capital Financing Requirement as at 31/03/16	£285.5M. (including PFI schemes)	<i>This Indicator is for the full year only and will be reported after the 31.3.16 year end.</i>
5.2	Actual External net borrowing as at 31/03/16	£283.9M (including PFI schemes)	<i>This Indicator is for the year end only and will be reported after the 31.3.16 year end.</i>
<i>Prudential Indicators for Affordability</i>			
	The ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream, non-HRA. 15/16	11.0%	9.5%. Based on forecasted borrowing costs and revenue streams.
	The ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream, HRA. 15/16	3.0%	3.0%. Based on forecasted borrowing costs and revenue streams.
Capital	Estimates of the incremental impact of capital investment decisions on the Council Tax, non-HRA. 15/16	This Prudential Indicator is disclosed within the capital reporting.	<i>This Prudential Indicator is disclosed within the capital reporting.</i>
Capital	Estimates of the incremental impact of capital investment decisions on housing rents, HRA. 15/16	This Prudential Indicator is disclosed within the capital reporting.	<i>This Prudential Indicator is disclosed within the capital reporting.</i>

page 88

Annex 6

References	Prudential Indicator	15/16 Full year planned PI	15/16 First half year actual PI																														
Prudential Indicators for Prudence																																	
Capital	Capital Expenditure (including capital commitments), non-HRA. 15/16	This Prudential Indicator is disclosed within the capital reporting.	This Prudential Indicator is disclosed within the capital reporting.																														
Capital	Capital Expenditure (including capital commitments), HRA. 15/16	This Prudential Indicator is disclosed within the capital reporting.	This Prudential Indicator is disclosed within the capital reporting.																														
5.7	Authorised Limit. 15/16	(*) Borrowing no higher than £231.0M (*) Long Term Liabilities no higher than £73.0M	Current y/e forecast is £157.7M Current y/e forecast is £61.6M																														
5.7	Operational Boundary. 15/16	(*) Borrowing no higher than £222.0M (*) Long Term Liabilities no higher than £73.0M	Current y/e forecast is £154.9M Current y/e forecast is £61.6M																														
3.4	Net borrowing and the Capital Financing Requirement.	Borrowing < estimated CFR except in the short term.	This Indicator is being complied with.																														
3.3	Estimates of the Capital Financing Requirement, non-HRA. 31.3.16	£274.1M. Per Budget workings. Including PFI schemes.	£272.2M.																														
3.3	Estimates of the Capital Financing Requirement, HRA. 31.3.16	£11.4M.	£11.4M.																														
Prudential Indicators for Treasury Management																																	
8.3	Adoption of the CIPFA Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes on Treasury Management - 2011 Edition.	Adoption.	Adopted.																														
8.8 (Annex B)	Gross Debt Compared to Capital Financing Requirement:	Gross Debt: £283.9M, CFR: £285.5M	Current y/e forecast is: Gross Debt £223.3, CFR £280.0M																														
8.8 (Annex B)	Variable interest rate exposure. Upper limit. 15/16	£114M	£102.25M																														
8.8 (Annex B)	Fixed interest rate exposure. 14/15	£285M	£49.5M																														
8.8 (Annex B)	Prudential limits for the maturity structure of fixed interest rate borrowing.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Lower limit</th> <th>Upper limit</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>< 12 months</td> <td>Nil%</td> <td>18%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12 to within 24 mths</td> <td>Nil%</td> <td>18%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24 mths, within 5 yrs</td> <td>Nil%</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 to within 10 years</td> <td>2.0%</td> <td>60%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 to within 30 years</td> <td>2.0%</td> <td>70%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30 years and above</td> <td>15.0%</td> <td>90%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Lower limit	Upper limit	< 12 months	Nil%	18%	12 to within 24 mths	Nil%	18%	24 mths, within 5 yrs	Nil%	30%	5 to within 10 years	2.0%	60%	10 to within 30 years	2.0%	70%	30 years and above	15.0%	90%	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="6">This indicator is being complied with.</td> <td>0.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41.2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Actual	This indicator is being complied with.	0.9%	9.4%	9.1%	13.7%	21.8%	41.2%
	Lower limit	Upper limit																															
< 12 months	Nil%	18%																															
12 to within 24 mths	Nil%	18%																															
24 mths, within 5 yrs	Nil%	30%																															
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	9.1%																																
	13.7%																																
	21.8%																																
	41.2%																																
8.7 (Annex B)	Prudential limits for principal sums invested for periods longer than 364 days.	Not permitted; see Treasury Management Investment Strategy.	This Indicator is being complied with.																														

Notes:

* The figure for Borrowing includes the Capital Teams figures for PFI schemes.

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Blackpool Council

Authorised Limit & Operational Boundary Control, Prudentially funded schemes, 2015/16

	LCC/ex-LCC debt	External Debt		Total External Debt
		Borrowing	Liability against finance leases & PFI schemes	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Total Debt @ 1st April 2015	20,419	141,389	61,600	223,408
New long-term borrowing/finance leases taken out YTD 15/16	-	-	-	-
New short-term borrowing taken out YTD 15/16		62,550		62,550
less: Borrowing repaid YTD 15/16	(408)	(73,984)	-	(74,392)
Long term (debt) outstanding as at 30th September 2015	20,011	129,955	61,600	211,566
New short-term borrowing expected before year end	-	33,408	-	33,408
less: Borrowing expected to be repaid before year end	(409)	(31,789)	-	(32,198)
Therefore (debt) forecast @ 31st March 2016	19,602	131,574	61,600	212,776
Authorised limit, 15/16		231,000	73,085	304,085
Therefore, headroom to Authorised limit 15/16		99,426	11,485	91,309
Operational boundary, 15/16		221,500	73,085	294,585
Therefore, headroom to Operational boundary 15/16		89,926	11,485	81,809

Annual Capital Expenditure funded by prudential borrowing

	Year	Total Value of Prudential Schemes	Source of funding (Prudential borrowing or finance leasing)
		£'000	
Prudential Schemes	2004/05	5,933	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2005/06	6,272	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2006/07	717	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2007/08	1,334	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2008/09	703	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2009/10	16,726	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2010/11	3,080	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2011/12	39,723	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2012/13	11,884	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2013/14	41,323	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2014/15	6,112	Borrowing
Prudential Schemes	2015/16 (forecasted)	2,000	Borrowing
Cumulative prudentially funded expenditure		135,807	

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Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Date of Meeting:	2nd November 2015

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 5 2015/2016

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The level of spending against the Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for the first 5 months to 31st August 2015.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the report

2.2 To 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, Property Services, Concessionary Fares, Parking Services, Community and Environmental Services and Places.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure financial performance against the Council's Revenue and Capital Budget is kept under review by members.

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

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

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council 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:

Report

Appendix 1

Appendix 2

Appendix 3a

Appendix 3b

Appendix 3c

Appendix 3d

Appendix 3e

Appendix 3f

Appendix 3g

Appendix 3h

Appendix 3i

Appendix 3j

Appendix 3k

Appendix 3l

Appendix 4

Appendix 5

Appendix 6

All circulated to members under separate cover

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

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

8.0 Equalities considerations:

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

9.0 Financial considerations:

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

10.0 Risk management considerations:

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

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

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

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