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Blackpool Council

6 October 2015

To: Councillors Mrs Callow JP, D Coleman, G Coleman, Galley, Hunter, Matthews, Roberts, Rowson and L Williams

The above members are requested to attend the:

TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 15 October 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 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2015 (Pages 1 - 8)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 10 September 2015 as a true and correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING (Pages 9 - 12)

To consider any applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

4 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS (Pages 13 - 20)

To consider the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions within the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council, taken since the last meeting of the Committee.

5 FORWARD PLAN (Pages 21 - 26)

To consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, November 2015 – February 2016, relating to the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council.

6 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2015/2016 (Pages 27 - 78)

To consider the level of spending against the Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for the first four months to 31st July 2015.

7 PARKING SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT (Pages 79 - 90)

To provide information on the performance data of Council owned car parks, both with regards to patronage and income and to provide details of other parking related matters.

8 TRANSIENCE PROGRAMME (Pages 91 - 96)

To consider an update on the progress of the Transience programme and future direction of planned work.

9 ANNUAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT 2014/2015 (Pages 97 - 120)

To consider the Annual Health and Safety Report.

10 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN (Pages 121 - 130)

The Committee to consider the Workplan and to monitor the implementation of Committee recommendations, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review topics.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date and time of the next meeting as Thursday, 19 November 2015, commencing at 6pm.

Venue information:

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

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Chris Kelly, Senior Democratic Governance Adviser, Tel: 01253 477164, e-mail chris.kelly@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.

MINUTES OF TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2015

Present:

Councillor Hunter (in the Chair)

Councillors

Mrs Callow JP
G Coleman

Galley
Roberts

Rowson
L Williams

Matthews
I Coleman

In Attendance:

Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council

Councillor Mrs Christine Wright, Cabinet Member for Housing, Procurement and Income Generation

Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Municipal Assets

Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Business and Economic Development

Steve Thompson, Director of Resources

Alan Cavill, Director of Place

John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services

John Donnellon, Chief Executive Blackpool Coastal Housing

Andrew Foot, Head of Housing

Paolo Pertica, Head of Visitors Services

John Paul Lovie, Commercial Waste Manager

Nicky Dennison, Senior Public Health Practitioner

Ruth Henshaw, Engagement and Intelligence Officer

Chris Kelly, Senior Democratic Governance Adviser (Scrutiny)

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Callow declared a personal interest with regard to item 10, 'Waste Services and Street Cleansing Performance Report', the nature of the interest being that the Re-use shop made an annual contribution to the Mayor's charity.

Councillor Hunter declared a personal interest with regard to item 4, 'Executive and Cabinet Member Decisions', the nature of the interest being that he had recently been appointed as a Board Member of Blackpool Housing Company.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 9 JULY 2015

Councillor G Coleman noted that in item 1 of the minutes, it was stated that the nature of his interest was that he was a Hackney Carriage Licence holder. He noted that this should have stated 'Private Hire' rather than 'Hackney Carriage'.

Subject to the above amendment, the Committee agreed that the minutes of the Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 9 July 2015, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING

MINUTES OF TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2015

The Committee noted that there were no applications to speak by members of the public on this occasion.

4 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

The Committee considered the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions within the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council, taken since the last meeting of the Committee.

With regards to decision number PH39/2015, 'Acquisition of Property – 22 Tyldesley Road', Members questioned the type and size of the property acquired for £245,000. Councillor Mrs Wright, Cabinet Member for Housing, Procurement and Income Generation, advised that the property had been a small hotel/ bed and breakfast and its purchase had been to enable the continuation of the Rigby Road development.

The Committee questioned the budget allocation of the £2,000,000 contribution towards the museum project in regards to executive decision number EX/30/2015. Mr Thompson, Director of Resources, explained that the funding had been identified over 12 months ago from the Council's earmarked reserves and that the project was also being undertaken with Heritage Lottery Funding.

In relation to executive decision EX/32/2015, 'Funding for a wholly owned Housing Regeneration Company', Members raised questions regarding the transfer of resources from the Council and the rate at which the Council would lend to the company. Mr Thompson advised that the transfer of resources to the company would be a mix of loan and equity but that a final decision had yet to be made regarding this. He also explained to the Committee that any loan to the Company must be at a commercial loan rate to avoid State Aid challenge.

The Committee, in relation to decision number PH43/2015 'Sundry Debt Write Offs', asked whether Members could be provided with the total amount for the 2015/2016 financial year. Mr Thompson advised that this information would be provided for Committee Members.

Further questions were raised by the Committee in relation to executive decision number EX/34/2015 'Acquisition of land for Central Station Site Development'. Mr Cavill, Director Place advised that the acquisition was just for the Bonny Street Police station and did not include the law courts. It was noted that a new location was required for the law courts before the site could be redeveloped and Mr Cavill advised that as part of the Growth Deal, the Council was working with the Government in order to acquire the law courts and was working with the Ministry of Justice to find a suitable alternative location for them.

The Committee agreed to note the Executive and Cabinet Member Decisions.

5 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the items contained within the Forward Plan, October 2015 –

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THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2015**

January 2016, relating to the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council.

The Committee agreed to note the Forward Plan items.

6 ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANTS OVER 25K MONITORING REPORT

The Committee considered the report detailing the appointment of consultants exceeding £25,000 for the period 1st May 2014 to 31st July 2014.

The Committee noted that there had been three appointments in the above period and that those appointments had been for specific non-recurrent projects. Members raised questions relating to the appointment of Aecom to produce a comprehensive long term Parking Strategy as part of the Strategic Parking Review. Mr Thompson reported that a specialist was required that had not been available within Blackpool. It was noted that approximately 1,000 Council parking spaces had been lost over the last eight years, but that income targets had largely remained static, which had resulted in those income targets becoming increasingly challenging. The Strategic Parking review would therefore aim to increase income generation and ensure adequate capacity for the present and into the future. Members were also advised that the consultant would consider technical recommendations regarding signage for the car parks and various payment methods that would improve the experience of car park patrons. Councillor Mrs Wright explained that there was an expectation that the return from the Strategic Parking review would be greater than the cost of the consultant, although it was not possible to quantify the level of return at this stage.

The Chairman reminded Members that the Committee was due to consider a report on car parking at its next meeting and it was requested that the report incorporated information and further details on the issues raised by Members.

Members discussed the method by which they would receive monitoring information regarding consultants over £25k in the future and requested that monitoring reports continue to be presented at Committee meetings on a regular basis.

The Committee agreed to note the report and requested that monitoring reports continued to be presented at Committee meetings.

Background papers: None

7 DECENT HOMES

Mr Donnellon, Chief Executive, Blackpool Coastal Housing presented a report containing details of the Decent Homes Investment made in the Council owned housing stock, following the award of grant that came with the transfer of management to the arm's length management company, Blackpool Coastal Housing.

Committee Members noted that as part of the move to an arm's length management arrangement for the Council's housing stock, Blackpool was awarded £66m to invest in its housing stock to bring it back to an agreed standard. This money was to be made

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available over a number of years with the programme concluding in April 2015. It was considered that the investment had provided Blackpool's social housing stock with a significantly improved lifespan and had reduced the investment burden on the Council in the medium to long term.

Upon questioning from Members, Councillor Mrs Wright informed the Committee that the main areas of concern for the future would be in maintaining the housing stock to the Decent Homes Standard solely from the Council's own revenue streams. The Council's ability to maintain this standard would be under greater pressure as a result of the recent budget announcement to cut social rents by one per cent per year for the next four years.

The Committee agreed to note the content of the report.

Background papers: None.

8 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PERFORMANCE

The Committee considered a report detailing the performance in the Community Safety Partnership's priorities in quarter one of 2015/2016.

Members noted that the priorities were Assaults, Sexual Offences, Domestic Abuse, Antisocial Behaviour (including Deliberate Fires), Drugs and Alcohol. However, the Partnership had also decided to pay particular attention to Child Sexual Exploitation and Counter Terrorism as those remained the two most important emerging threats. It was requested that in future meetings, information be presented to the Committee summarising the work done by the Partnership in tackling Child Sexual Exploitation and work regarding Counter Terrorism.

Members raised a number of questions regarding Antisocial Behaviour, with particular reference to Public Space Protection Orders, which would give greater powers to the Police and the Council to deal with certain types of antisocial behaviour. Councillor Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council, explained that a draft order had recently been made open to the public for consultation, with an intention that an Executive decision would be made to finalise the order in early October.

The draft order covered the town centre and proposed stopping a number of activities within that area, including drinking, taking legal highs or selling 'lucky charms' or heather, amongst other activities. Councillor Campbell explained that the order needed to be robust for the town centre and then it could be rolled out into the town's parks. The Committee was also assured that the Council would ensure appropriate resources would be allocated in order to enforce the order once it was in place.

The Committee agreed to note the content of the report.

Background papers: None.

9 COUNCIL COMPLAINTS ANNUAL REPORT

Mrs R Henshaw, Corporate Development Officer, presented the Annual Customer

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Feedback Report 2014/2015 to the Committee.

The Committee was advised that the report provided an overview of customer feedback recorded by the Council in the period 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015, as well as providing information on the Council's performance in dealing with complaints, exploring the themes within customer feedback, and including an overview of complaints made to the Local Government Ombudsman.

Members questioned whether the report took into account feedback received via social media, noting that Blackpool Transport Services did incorporate social media comments into its complaints recording process. Mrs Henshaw advised that social media comments were not currently recorded, but that she would consider the processes required in order to do so in future.

Mrs Henshaw also noted that the report also identified a number of actions for improvement that had arisen from the review of customer feedback, but due to limited capacity within the Corporate Development team and the Customer Relations team, not all of the identified actions could realistically be implemented. Mrs Henshaw welcomed Members' comments as to which actions should be prioritised over the past year and the Committee recommended that:

- Further work be undertaken with departments to encourage all services to follow the Council's complaints procedure and improve their compliant handling, particularly across those services which have changed due to restructures or where officers designated to deal with customer feedback have left the authority.
- Further work needed to be done to encourage services to capture and act upon learning from complaints where appropriate so that services could be improved as a result.

The Committee agreed to note the report and recommended that the above actions be prioritised following the review of customer feedback.

Background papers: None

10 WASTE SERVICES AND STREET CLEANSING PERFORMANCE REPORT

Mr Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services, provided the Committee with a Waste Services and Street Cleansing Performance report, which included an outline of the various elements of the services and highlight any current or anticipated issues.

The Committee was informed that waste collection and street cleansing proved a particular challenge in Blackpool, often due to the wind and seagulls. However, he reported that the services had made a number of achievements that had been recognised locally and nationally. Mr Blackledge summarised the successes of the Rover mobile recycling unit service that had recently won a National Award for Excellence in Waste Management and Recycling, as well as providing details of how the Household Waste Recycling Centre and Bulky Waste service had performed.

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The Committee discussed the cost implications of the Council terminating its contract with Global Renewables Limited and its transfer of responsibilities for operating waste recycling facilities to an operating company owned by Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council. Members noted that, whilst some savings had initially been realised in the financial re-modelling of its waste recycling contract, it had resulted in the loss of the Government's waste-credits grant (Private Finance Initiative credits), which had been worth £850k per year. In response, Mr Blackledge advised that the contract with Global Renewables Limited needed to be terminated as the company had not been adequately delivering on the contract. The Council had not anticipated losing the Private Finance Initiative credits and Mr Blackledge reported that Blackpool Council and Lancashire County Council were taking the issue to judicial review. Upon further questioning regarding the issue, Mr Blackledge explained that he did not know when the hearing would take place, but that it would be beneficial for the Council for it to be resolved as soon as possible.

The Committee also noted that the report stated all shops had sufficient litter bin provision and questioned whether the Council held discussions with shopkeepers and businesses regarding litter being dropped outside of shops, in particular receipts from customers' purchases. Councillor Campbell reported to the Committee that the Council was working with Keep Britain Tidy regarding this issue and this should include holding conversations with shopkeepers to improve the situation.

Members also raised a number of questions regarding the treatment of weeds. It was acknowledged that poor weather had hindered the Council's ability to undertake spray treatment on weeds. However, it was considered that in certain areas the growth of weeds had been particularly problematic. Mr Blackledge assured Committee Members that those areas that were particularly problematic would be cleared of weeds as soon as possible, even if it was not feasible to spray in those areas due to the weather conditions. He advised that a review in light of the resources available would be undertaken to consider how the Council dealt with areas of heavy weed growth in periods of adverse weather in future.

The Committee also raised questions regarding Seagull-Proof Sacks. Responding to questions Mr Lovie, Commercial Waste Manager, advised that approximately 10 per cent of properties in Blackpool received black bag collections and the Council was piloting using Seagull-Proof sacks in 42 areas of the town. He reported that feedback so far had been positive and the pilot seemed to be helping to alleviate the problems caused by seagulls in those areas it was being tested. It was explained to Committee Members that, whilst the Seagull-Proof sacks did cost more money than regular rubbish sacks, the Council considered them value for money as it was far costlier in terms of resources, to clean up after rubbish had been spilled onto the street.

The Committee agreed to not the content of the report.

Background papers: None.

11 SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

Mr Kelly presented the Tourism, Resources and Economy Scrutiny Committee Workplan

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for the remainder of the Municipal Year. It was noted that this was a flexible, working document. Members could submit items for consideration by the Committee at any time through the Chairman.

In order to make a request for a scrutiny review on a particular subject, Members were informed that the Scrutiny Selection Checklist must be completed and submitted to a Committee meeting for consideration.

Members also considered the scoping document for the scrutiny review of landaus on the promenade. Mr Kelly advised that the review would cover all Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriages.

The Committee agreed to approve the workplan and the scrutiny review scoping document.

Background papers: None.

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed to note the date of the next meeting as Thursday, 15 October 2015, at 6.00 p.m.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 7.16 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
Chris Kelly, Senior Democratic Governance Adviser
Tel: 01253 477164
E-mail: chris.kelly@blackpool.gov.uk

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Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	15 October 2015

PUBLIC SPEAKING

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider any applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider and respond to representations made to the Committee by members of the public.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To encourage public involvement in the scrutiny process.

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? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 At the meeting of full Council on 29 June 2011, a formal scheme was agreed in relation to public speaking at Council meetings. Listed below are the criteria in relation to meetings of the Scrutiny Committee.

5.2 **General**

- 5.2.1 Subject as follows, members of the public may make representations at ordinary meetings of the Council, the Planning Committee and Scrutiny Committees.

With regard to Council, Scrutiny Committee meetings not more than five people may speak at any one meeting and no persons may speak for longer than five minutes. These meetings can also consider petitions submitted in accordance with the Council's approved scheme, but will not receive representations, petitions or questions during the period between the calling of and the holding of any election or referendum.

5.3 **Request to Participate at a Scrutiny Committee Meeting**

- 5.3.1 A person wishing to make representations or otherwise wish to speak at the Scrutiny Committee must submit such a request in writing to the Head of Democratic Services, for consideration.

The deadline for applications will be 5pm on the day prior to the dispatch of the agenda for the meeting at which their representations, requests or questions will be received. (The Chairman in exceptional circumstances may allow a speaker to speak on a specific agenda item for a Scrutiny Committee, no later than noon, one working day prior to the meeting).

Those submitting representations, requests or questions will be given a response at the meeting from the Chairman of the Committee, or other person acting as Chairman for the meeting.

5.4 **Reason for Refusing a Request to Participate at a Scrutiny Committee Meeting**

- 5.4.1
- 1) if it is illegal, defamatory, scurrilous, frivolous or offensive;
 - 2) if it is factually inaccurate;
 - 3) if the issues to be raised would be considered 'exempt' information under the Council's Access to Information Procedure rules;
 - 4) if it refers to legal proceedings in which the Council is involved or is in contemplation;
 - 5) if it relates directly to the provision of a service to an individual where the use of the Council's complaints procedure would be relevant; and
 - 6) if the deputation has a financial or commercial interest in the issue.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

None.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 To ensure that the opportunity to speak at Scrutiny Committee meetings is open to all members of the public.

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 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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Report to:	TOURISM, RESOURCES AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	15 October 2015

EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions within the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council, taken since the last meeting of the Committee.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the Leader of the Council or the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to the decisions taken.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure that the opportunity is given for all Executive and Cabinet Member decisions to be scrutinised and held to account.

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? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Attached at the appendix to this report is a summary of the decisions taken, which have been circulated to Members previously.

5.2 This report is presented to ensure Members are provided with a timely update on the decisions taken by the Executive and Cabinet Members. It provides a process where the Committee can raise questions and a response be provided.

5.3 Members are encouraged to seek updates on decisions and will have the opportunity to raise any issues.

5.4 Witnesses/representatives

5.4.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the decisions taken in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor Blackburn
- Councillor Campbell
- Councillor Jackson

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Summary of Executive and Cabinet Member decisions taken.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

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 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p><u>CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES</u> The Executive resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To recommend Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) To extend until 30th November the appointment of Delyth Curtis as statutory Director of Children’s Services (as defined in Section 18 of the Children Act 2004) and Karen Smith as statutory Director of Adult Services (as defined in Section 6(1) of the Local Authorities Social Services Act 1970), for the reasons set out in paragraph 5.2. b) To appoint Joceline Greenaway (the Head of Bereavement and Registration Services) as Proper Officer for Registration Services (as defined under the Registration Service Act 1953). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> c) To approve the revised definition for a key decision, as set out in paragraph 5.6. d) To amend the Council’s Financial Procedure Rules as set out in paragraph 5.8. 2. To agree the Executive decision making criteria as set out in Appendix 2a, to the Executive report. 	<p>To seek the necessary approvals to update the Council’s constitution due to recent changes in statutory and proper officer positions. It also seeks to clarify and update the key decision definition and the Council’s Financial Procedure Rules.</p>	<p>EX/36/2015</p>	<p>14/9/15</p>	<p>Cllr Blackburn</p>
<p><u>FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 3 2015/2016</u> The Executive agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the report. 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. 	<p>To consider the level of spending against the Council’s Revenue and Capital budgets for the first three months to 30th June 2015.</p>	<p>EX/37/2015</p>	<p>14/9/15</p>	<p>Cllr Blackburn</p>

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<p><u>PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER- TOWN CENTRE AND PROMENADE</u></p> <p>The Executive agreed to approve the Public Space Protection as outlined in the appendices to the Executive report, in terms of the 'Restricted Area' (the Town Centre and the Promenade).</p>	<p>To agree to implement a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) covering the Town Centre and Promenade. This new Order prohibits certain behaviours and creates criminal offences for persons who choose not to comply with the Order.</p>	<p>EX/38/2015</p>	<p>5/10/15</p>	<p>Cllr Campbell</p>
<p><u>COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2015-2019</u></p> <p>The Executive agreed to adopt the Collections Framework 2015-2019 policy documents.</p>	<p>To adopt the Collections Management Framework. This is the essential method for improving the management of Blackpool's nationally important collections in order to provide consistent public access, high quality preservation and facilitate external funding to maintain and develop them.</p>	<p>EX/39/15</p>	<p>5/10/15</p>	<p>Cllr Campbell</p>
<p><u>FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2015/2016</u></p> <p>The Executive agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the report 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. 	<p>To consider the level of spending against the Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for the first three months to 30th June 2015.</p>	<p>EX/40/15</p>	<p>5/10/15</p>	<p>Cllr Blackburn</p>

<p><u>BLACKPOOL COUNCIL'S MANAGED FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT</u></p> <p>The Cabinet Member agreed to progress with the implementation and award of the framework which is now in final draft for tendering.</p>	<p>To consider of the proposal to deliver and manage a framework type agreement which provides the opportunity for Councils to enter into for the supply of highways and asset management related activities including using a highway asset management computer system, undertaking highway surveys, ancillary asset management development including development of funding options based on the surveys.</p>	<p>PH55/15</p>	<p>5/10/15</p>	<p>Cllr Jackson</p>
<p><u>LITTER CAMPAIGN IN CONJUNCTION WITH KEEP BRITAIN TIDY</u></p> <p>The Deputy Leader of the Council agreed to work in conjunction with Keep Britain Tidy in producing a five year strategy and plan for a 'litter free Blackpool' and to become Britain's cleanest seaside resort by 2020.</p>	<p>To consider a major litter campaign in conjunction with Keep Britain Tidy (KBT), developing a five-year strategy and plan for a 'litter free Blackpool', aspiring to become Britain's cleanest seaside resort by 2020.</p>	<p>PH56/15</p>	<p>5/10/15</p>	<p>Cllr Campbell</p>

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Agenda Item 5

EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS

(NOVEMBER 2015 to FEBRUARY 2016)

* Denotes New Item

Page N ^o	Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
1	November 2015	To approve the Built Heritage Strategy	23/2014	Executive	Cllr Campbell
2	November 2015	Council Plan 2015-2020	10/2015	Council	Cllr Blackburn
4	November 2015	Blackpool Council People Strategy	13/2015	Executive	Cllr Blackburn
5	November 2015	The half-yearly progress report on the Council's Treasury Management activities for the first six months to September 2015.	14/2015	Executive	Cllr Blackburn
6	December 2015	Council's Corporate Commissioning and Procurement Strategy 2016-2019.	15/2015	Executive	Cllr Wright
7	November 2015	Public Space Protection Orders for Parks	16/2015	Executive	Cllr Campbell
8	November 2015	Bridges Improvement Project	17/2015	Executive	Cllr Jackson
9	November 2015	Private Finance Initiative for Street Lighting and Traffic Signals- refinancing arrangements	18/2015	Executive	Cllr Blackburn
10	January 2016	Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2016/2017	19/2015	Council	Cllr Blackburn
11	November 2015	Revised Statement of Policy under the Gambling Act 2005	20/2015	Council	Cllr Campbell
12	December 2015	Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy	21/2015	Executive	Cllr Campbell
*13	November 2015	The introduction of a new selective and additional licensing scheme for the Central area of Blackpool.	22/2015	Executive	Cllr Campbell

Page N°	Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
*15	January 2016	The adoption of the Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy	24/2015	Council	Cllr Campbell
*16	January 2016	Social housing lettings - New Partnership Agreement with housing associations and neighbouring authorities to continue to deliver the My Home Choice Fylde Coast system, and updated policies for letting social housing	25/2015	Executive	Cllr Campbell
*17	February 2015	Review of Business Rates and Council Tax discounts and premiums	26/2015	Executive	Cllr Blackburn
*18	February 2015	To consider and recommend approval of the Council's Capital Programme 2016/17 – 2018/19.	27/2015	Council	Cllr Blackburn
*19	February 2015	To consider and recommend approval of the Council's Revenue Budget for the financial year 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.	28/2015	Council	Cllr Blackburn
*20	February 2015	To consider and recommend approval of the level of Council Tax for the financial year 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.	29/2015	Council	Cllr Blackburn
*21	February 2015	To consider the level of rents and service charges to be made in connection with Housing Revenue Account dwellings during 2016/17.	30/2015	Council	Cllr Campbell
*22	February 2015	To consider and approve adoption of the Council's Treasury Management and Investment Strategies for the financial year 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.	31/2015	Council	Cllr Blackburn

Report to:	TOURISM, RESOURCES AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	15 October 2015

FORWARD PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, November 2015 – February 2016, relating to the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the Leader of the Council and / or the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to items contained within the Forward Plan within the portfolios of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council.

2.2 Members will have the opportunity to consider whether any of the items should be subjected to pre-decision scrutiny. In so doing, account should be taken of any requests or observations made by the relevant Cabinet Member.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To enable the opportunity for pre-decision scrutiny of the Forward Plan items.

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? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Forward Plan is prepared by the Leader of the Council to cover a period of four months and has effect from the first working day of any month. It is updated on a monthly basis and subsequent plans cover a period beginning with the first working day of the second month covered in the preceding plan.

5.2 The Forward Plan contains matters which the Leader has reason to believe will be subject of a key decision to be taken either by the Executive, a Committee of the Executive, individual Cabinet Members, or Officers.

5.3 Attached at Appendix 5 (a) is a list of items contained in the current Forward Plan. Further details appertaining to each item is contained in the Forward Plan, which has been forwarded to all members separately.

5.6 Witnesses/representatives

5.6.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the Forward Plan items in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor Blackburn
- Councillor Wright
- Councillor G. Campbell
- Councillor F. Jackson

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 5 (a) – Summary of items contained within Forward Plan
November 2015 – February 2016.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

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 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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Report to:	TOURISM, RESOURCES AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Date of Meeting	15th October 2015

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2015/2016

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the level of spending against the Council's Revenue and Capital budgets for the first four months to 31st July 2015.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider the report, the recommendations made by the Executive at its meeting on the 5th October 2014 and to identify any further issues for scrutiny as appropriate.

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:

Not applicable.

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 This report is the standard monthly financial performance monitoring report, which sets out the summary revenue budget position for the Council and its individual directorates for month 4, the period April 2015 – July 2015, together with an outlook for the remainder of the year. The report is complemented with an assessment of progress to date against the Council's latest capital programme.

5.2 The report was considered by the Executive at its meeting of 5th October 2015. Committee Members are advised that the Executive recommended:

1. To note the report
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.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Report

Appendix 1- Revenue Summary

Appendix 2- Schedule of Service forecast overspendings

Appendix 3a- Chief Executive

Appendix 3b- Deputy Chief Executive

Appendix 3c- Governance and Regulatory Services

Appendix 3d- Ward Budgets

Appendix 3e- Resources

Appendix 3f- Places

Appendix 3g- Strategic Leisure Assets

Appendix 3h- Community and Environmental Services

Appendix 3i- Adult Services

Appendix 3j- Children's Services

Appendix 3k- Public Health

Appendix 3l- Budgets Outside the Cash Limit

Appendix 4- Capital Monitoring

Appendix 5- Cash Summary

Appendix 6- Balance Sheet

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

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

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 See reports and appendices to this report.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Impact of financial performance on Council balances.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

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BLACKPOOL COUNCIL
REPORT
of the
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
to the
EXECUTIVE
5TH OCTOBER 2015

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2015/2016

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report is the standard monthly financial performance monitoring report, which sets out the summary revenue budget position for the Council and its individual directorates for the first 4 months of 2015/2016, i.e. the period to 31st July 2015, together with an outlook for the remainder of the year. The report is complemented with an assessment of performance to date of balances and reserves, income collection, the Council's latest Capital Programme plus statements relating to Cash Flow Summary and Balance Sheet Summary.

2. Report Format

- 2.1 Separate reports have been prepared for each of the Council's core areas of responsibility:

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

These incorporate summary financial statements which continue to be prepared on a full accruals basis and focus on the forecast revenue outturns for 2015/16. There is an accompanying narrative to explain any areas of significant variance from budget and to highlight any areas of potential pressure along with action plans agreed with service managers to address them.

2.2 The combined effect of the directorates' financial performances is aggregated in a summary financial statement at Appendix 1 which mirrors the Council's Revenue Budget Book. This summary allows proactive month-on-month monitoring of the Council's forecast working balances to be undertaken to ensure appropriate and prudent levels are maintained. Appendix 2 highlights on a 12-month rolling basis those services which trip the designated overspending reporting threshold.

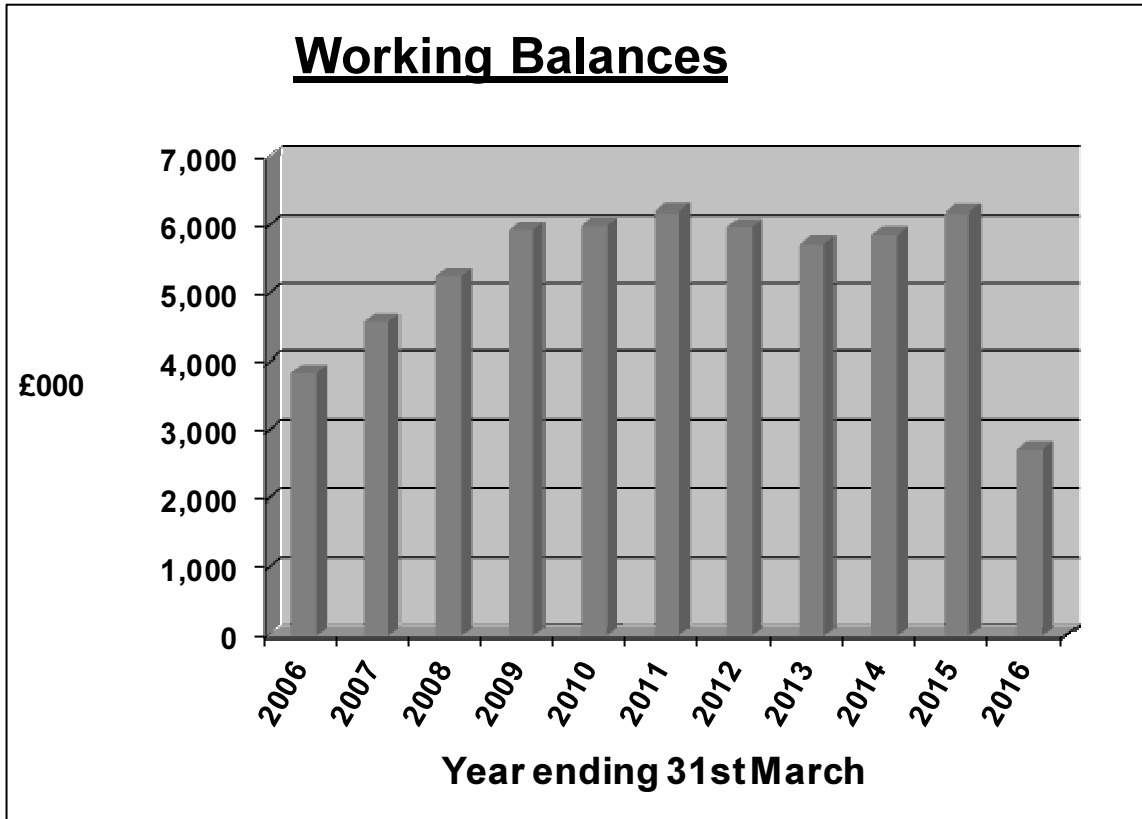
3. Directorates' Budget Performance

3.1 The impacts of directorates' revenue budget performance and progress in achieving planned savings fall upon the Council's working balances. The main areas accounting for the month 4 forecast overspend of £3,472,000 for 2015/2016 are summarised below:-

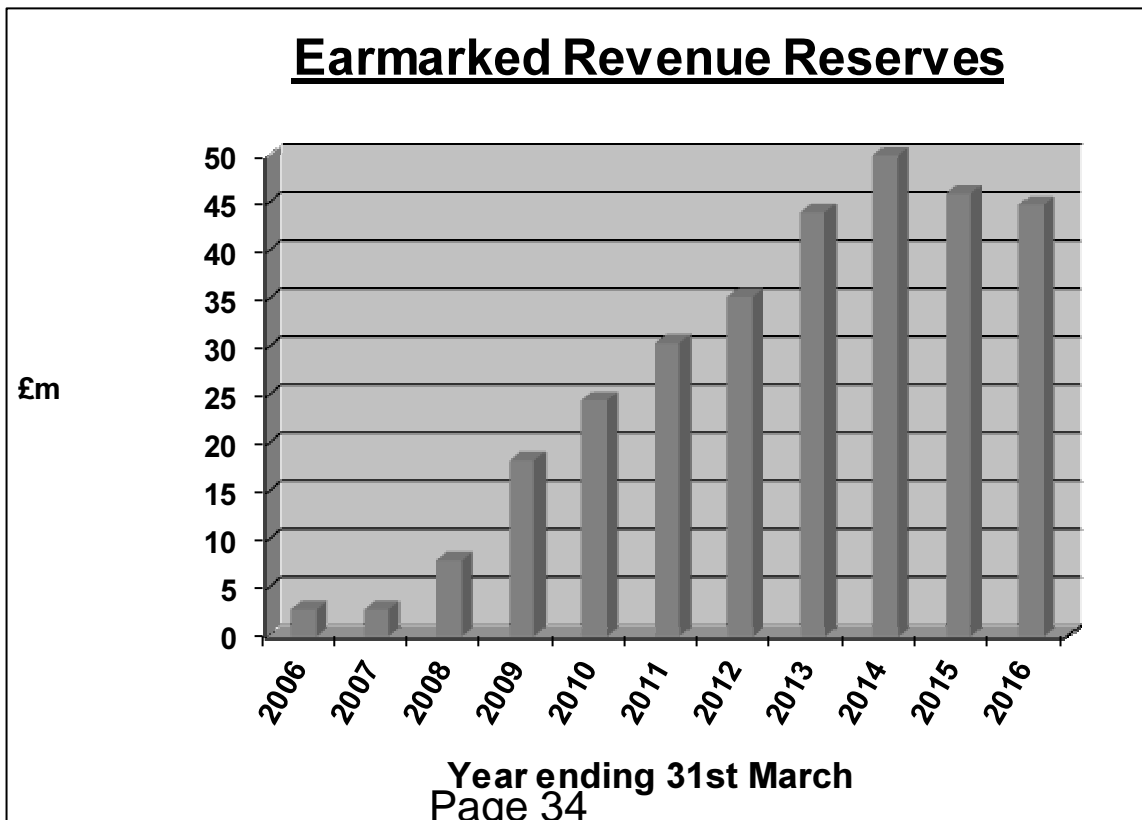
Directorate	Service	Forecast Variance £000
Children's Services	An overspend of £1,853k is forecast. There is an imbalance between the reduced Education Services Grant and the commitments against it showing a £1,085k pressure which is due to both historical and in-year academy conversions. Children's Social Care is forecast to overspend by £569k, particularly because of the high cost of Looked After Children (LAC). Whilst numbers have stabilised at around 460 for over 12 months, the overspend is due to placement mix. There are overspends in Local Services Support Grant of £104k and Children's Safeguarding of £99k.	1,853
Adult Services	Adult Commissioning Placements and Care and Support are forecasting an overspend of £1,010k. This in-year shortfall is as a result of the delay to the review programme for commissioning. Adult Safeguarding is forecasting an overspend of £115k as a result of additional legal and staffing costs not covered by New Burdens Funding.	1,095
Resources	Property Services is forecasting a £749k overspend based on the current pace of property rationalisation and pressure from rental income within the Central Business District. Other pressures within the directorate are mainly due to staffing costs, but, these have been mitigated by savings in Procurement and Projects.	795
Community and Environmental Services	Waste Management has a pressure of £69k due to a decrease in income from recycling waste arising from a downturn in the recycle market. The £856k PFI Grant is no longer available and is subject to Judicial Review with the risk being covered against the specific Waste PFI reserve. A Travel and Road Safety pressure of £155k is awaiting management action. There is a pressure of £42k on Leisure due to the closure of Woodlands Pool and transport costs for school swimming.	279
Places	The Directorate's pressure of £79k comprises £30k due to the prudential borrowing costs of Tyldesley/Rigby Road	79

	housing development and the inability so far in offsetting savings/income from this project. Print Services is forecasting an overspend of £49k due to an income target that needs to be reviewed as part of a wider review of the service.	
Governance and Regulatory Services	An underspend of £23k is forecast. This is mainly due to an underspend of £25k in the Democratic Governance service arising from staff savings and reduced expenditure on special events and area forums.	(23)
Deputy Chief Executive's Directorate	The Human Resources, Communication and Engagement divisions are forecasting an underspend of £27k due to staff vacancies.	(27)
Budgets Outside the Cash Limit	Concessionary Fares are forecasting a pressure of £676k due to increased bus patronage. Parking Services is £496k down on its income target. Treasury Management has a £1,231k favourable position due to the ongoing temporary windfall from short-term interest rates payable to finance recent capital expenditure and lower interest charges on the Local Government Reorganisation debt. The New Homes Bonus underspend of £142k is due to the Council's pro-rata share of the unused national funding from the 2014/15 New Homes Bonus, based on the Start-Up Funding Allocation. The cost to the Council of supporting the Subsidiary Companies is forecasting an underspend of £75k due to the reducing balance payback of prudentially borrowed schemes.	(279)
Strategic Leisure Assets, Contingencies / Reserves	An underspend of £300k is forecast. Following a review of Contingencies a £300k saving has arisen. Strategic Leisure Assets is forecasting a £928k position which is in line with the Strategic Leisure Assets Medium Term Financial Strategy. In accordance with the original decision for this programme by the Executive on 7th February 2011, the projected overspend on Strategic Leisure Assets will be carried forward and transferred to Earmarked Reserves.	(300)
Total		3,472

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



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



4. Directorate Budget Savings Performance

- 4.1 As at 31st July 2015 68% of the 2015/16 savings target has already been delivered. The full-year forecast predicts that 86% (86% last month) will be achieved by the year-end, which takes into account anticipated pressures and savings.

5. Collection Rates

5.1 Council Tax

At the end of month 4 the collection rate for Council Tax was 36.4%. This compares to 36.4% at the same point in 2014/2015.

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

5.2 Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)

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

At the end of month 4 the collection rate for those who have to pay Council Tax Reduction Scheme, either for the first time or in addition to a proportion of their Council Tax, is 25.2%. This compares to 25.0% at the same point in 2014/2015.

However, the likely impact for 2015/2016 is that the underlying rate of collection of Council Tax Reduction Scheme will be lower than 2014/2015 due to accumulated arrears and limits on the amount that can be recovered from Attachment of Benefits.

5.3 Business Rates

Prior to 1st April 2013 Business Rate income was collected by billing authorities on behalf of central government and then redistributed among all local authorities and police authorities as part of Formula Grant. From 1st April 2013 the income relating to Blackpool is shared between central government (50%), the Council (49%) and the Fire Authority (1%). Consequential adjustments were made to the Formula Grant equivalent.

At the end of month 4 the collection rate for Business Rates was 35.7%. This compares to 33.5% at the same point in 2014/2015.

From April 2014 Business Rate payers have been entitled to elect to pay by 12 monthly instalments instead of over 10 months. This has allowed businesses more time to pay.

The provisional Business Rate cumulative deficit as at 31st March 2015 is £11.3m. The Council's share of this is £5.54m (49%) and provision has been made for this.

6. Capital Monitoring Performance

- 6.1 All active capital schemes have been included within Appendix 4. The purpose is to present the overall position of capital spend. The schemes are shown individually where total scheme budget is greater than £500,000 and grouped as “other schemes” otherwise. As in previous financial years the emphasis regarding capital monitoring will be on scheme variance rather than in-year progress since many schemes cross financial years such as the major housing developments. Therefore, some degree of flexibility for the management of slippage is necessary in order to balance the overall capital programme each year to the funding allocations available.
- 6.2 As at month 4 an overall nil variance on capital schemes is anticipated.

7. Summary Cash Flow Statement

- 7.1 As part of the reporting format for this financial year a summary cash flow statement is included at Appendix 5. This provides a comparison of the actual cash receipts and payments compared to forecast for 2015/2016.
- 7.2 During the first 4 months of the year, the Council’s net cashflow has resulted in fluctuations in short-term net investment/borrowing balances. However, overall temporary borrowing has reduced due to the accelerated receipt of grant income in the first three months. The Council uses temporary borrowing to finance prudentially funded capital expenditure. While temporary investment rates and temporary borrowing rates are low the treasury team will delay taking any new long-term borrowing to fund planned capital expenditure. The interest charged by Lancashire County Council on the Local Government Reorganisation Debt is lower than anticipated. As a result, the delay in taking new long-term borrowing and the lower interest charge from Lancashire County Council mean that a favourable credit variance is once again forecast for 2015/2016.

8. Summary Balance Sheet

- 8.1 In order to provide a complete picture of the Council’s financial performance, Appendix 6 provides a snapshot of the General Fund balance sheet as at the end of month 4. The key areas of focus are any significant movements in debtors, cash and cash equivalents, bank overdraft and creditors, as these impact upon the Council’s performance in the critical areas of debt recovery, treasury management and Public Sector Payment Policy.
- 8.2 Over the 4-month period there has been an increase in Property, Plant and Equipment of £4.9m and an increase in cash and cash equivalents of £4.1m, which in the main reflects the timing of the receipt of capital grants and the phasing of the capital programme.

9. Conclusion and Recommendations

- 9.1 Although a slight worsening of the position compared to month 3 by £6,000, the Council is still predicting a significant deterioration in its financial standing in comparison with Budget. Working balances are estimated to fall by £3,472k against the budgeted position over the year. This fall is in the context of the unaudited working balances at the start of the year of £6,188k, an erosion of 56.1%.

9.2 If this forecast position became the actual outturn, then in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules within its Constitution, the forecast revenue outturn 2015/2016 within this report contravenes one of the two specific conditions that excess spending does not:

1. exceed 1% (i.e. £4.4m) of the authority's total gross revenue expenditure;
or
2. have the effect of reducing the authority's Working Balances below 50% of their normal target level (i.e. £3.0m).

However, in the context of £45m of Earmarked Revenue Reserves and with 8 months of the financial year remaining there should still be sufficient time to redress the position, though this will inevitably require a bringing forward of budget savings plans from next year.

9.3 As a supportive measure to give services every chance to deliver a breakeven budget, the Executive agreed at its meeting on 22nd June 2015 to carry forward only the 2014/2015 underspend of £237,000 on Ward budgets to 2015/16 and that all other 2014/2015 under and overspendings were to be written off.

9.4 In response to the financial position the Director of Resources is holding regular meetings with individual Directors to discuss the robustness and integrity of current year budget forecasts and the plans in place to deliver an in-year breakeven position.

9.5 The Executive is asked:

- i) to note the report; and
- ii) 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.

Steve Thompson
Director of Resources

10th September 2015

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Blackpool Council

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

BLACKPOOL COUNCIL							
FORECAST GENERAL FUND POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2016							
SUMMARY							
APP.	GENERAL FUND NET REQUIREMENTS	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
		ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	2015/16		FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
			EXPENDITURE APR - JULY £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000			
3(a)	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	526	100	426	526	-	-
3(b)	DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DIRECTORATE	26	962	(963)	(1)	(27)	-
3(c)	GOVERNANCE & REGULATORY SERVICES	1,568	257	1,288	1,545	(23)	-
3(c/d)	WARD BUDGETS	507	95	412	507	-	(237)
3(e)	RESOURCES	1,886	873	1,808	2,681	795	-
3(f)	PLACES	6,968	(2,404)	9,451	7,047	79	-
3(g)	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	1,289	(1,251)	3,468	2,217	928	-
3(h)	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	44,496	(714)	45,489	44,775	279	-
3(i)	ADULT SERVICES	44,927	7,913	38,109	46,022	1,095	-
3(j)	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	36,003	3,885	33,971	37,856	1,853	-
3(k)	PUBLIC HEALTH	-	(764)	764	-	-	-
3(l)	BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT	17,107	4,673	12,155	16,828	(279)	-
	CAPITAL CHARGES	(26,019)	(8,673)	(17,346)	(26,019)	-	-
	NET COST OF SERVICES:	129,284	4,952	129,032	133,984	4,700	(237)
	CONTRIBUTIONS:						
	- TO / (FROM) RESERVES	(3,000)	-	(3,928)	(3,928)	(928)	
	- 2014/15 SERVICE UNDERSPENDS	(237)	-	(237)	(237)	-	
	- REVENUE CONSEQUENCES OF CAPITAL	150	-	150	150	-	
	CONTINGENCIES	1,811	-	1,511	1,511	(300)	
	NW REGIONAL FLOOD DEFENCE LEVY	65	-	65	65	-	
	CONTRIBUTIONS, etc.	(1,211)	-	(2,439)	(2,439)	(1,228)	
	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE TO BE MET FROM PUBLIC FUNDS	128,073	4,952	126,593	131,545	3,472	
	ADDED TO/(TAKEN FROM) BALANCES	-	-	(3,472)	(3,472)	(3,472)	
	NET REQUIREMENT AFTER WORKING BALANCES	128,073	4,952	123,121	128,073	-	
GENERAL BALANCES AS AT 1st APRIL 2015 PER UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2014/15							6,188
In-year (reduction in) / addition to General Fund Working Balances							(3,472)
ESTIMATED UNEARMARKED WORKING BALANCES AS AT 31st MARCH 2016							2,716

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Blackpool Council

Schedule of Service forecast annual overspendings over the last 12 months

Directorate	Service	Audit Committee Report	Aug 2014 £000	Sept 2014 £000	Oct 2014 £000	Nov 2014 £000	Dec 2014 £000	Jan 2015 £000	Feb 2015 £000	Mar 2015 £000	Apr 2015 £000	May 2015 £000	June 2015 £000	July 2015 £000
CHILDREN'S SERVICES	EDUCATION SERVICES GRANT		726	726	726	726	726	726	755	755			1,085	1,085
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS		2,765	398	398	191	333	333					928	928
RESOURCES	PROPERTY SERVICES (Incl. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO)		148	215	195	195	227	223	121	121			753	749
ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT	ADULT COMMISSIONING PLACEMENTS		1,085	1,072	1,071	999	754	914	1,032	1,032			767	629
CHILDREN'S SERVICES	CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE	18/04/13	1,220	1,199	1,172	1,249	1,308	1,376	1,855	1,855			517	569
ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT	CARE & SUPPORT												388	381
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	TRAVEL AND ROAD SAFETY		317	270	270	270	270	270	294	294			144	155
ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT	ADULT SAFEGUARDING		94	96	93	78	82						-	115
CHILDREN'S SERVICES	LOCAL SERVICES SUPPORT GRANT		82	82	82	82	82	82					104	104
CHILDREN'S SERVICES	CHILDRENS SAFEGUARDING		91		78	118	119	145					103	99
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	HIGHWAYS					437	407	388	373	373			-	-
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	BUILDING SERVICES		242	270	240	220	220		96	96			-	-
GOVERNANCE & REGULATORY SERVICES	REGISTRATION AND BEREAVEMENT SERVICES		125	125	125	125		104					-	-
PLACES	VISITOR SERVICES		115	96									-	-
RESOURCES	CUSTOMER FIRST		83	80	78	75							-	-
RESOURCES	CORPORATE LEGAL SERVICES		81	89	81								-	-
	Sub Total		7,174	4,718	4,609	4,765	4,528	4,561	4,526	4,526	-	-	4,789	4,814
	Transfer to Earmarked Reserves (note 3)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(928)	(928)
	Other General Fund (under) / overspends		(5,127)	(2,823)	(3,313)	(3,777)	(3,814)	(3,957)	(2,941)	(2,941)	-	-	(395)	(414)
	Total		2,047	1,895	1,296	988	714	604	1,585	1,585	-	-	3,466	3,472

Notes:

1. The Executive of 11th February 2004 approved a process whereby services which trip a ceiling for overspending against budget of £75,000 or 1.5% of net budget where the controllable budget exceeds £5m are required to be highlighted within this monthly budgetary control report. They are required to develop and submit a recovery plan over a period not exceeding 3 years which is to be approved by the respective Portfolio Holder. The services tripping this threshold are listed above together with their respective financial performance over a 12-month rolling basis for comparison of progress being made.

2. The Strategic Leisure Assets overspend reflects the in-year position.

3. In accordance with the original decision for this programme by the Executive on 7th February 2011, the projected overspend on Strategic Leisure Assets will be carried forward and transferred to Earmarked Reserves.

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Blackpool Council - Chief Executive

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2015/16					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JULY £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
NET EXPENDITURE						
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	526	100	426	526	-	-
TOTALS	526	100	426	526	-	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for the service against its respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/2016 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year.

The Directorate is forecasting a breakeven position for 2015/2016.

Budget Holder – Mr Neil Jack, Chief Executive

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Blackpool Council – Deputy Chief Executive’s Directorate

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2015/16					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JULY £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DIRECTORATE						
NET EXPENDITURE						
HUMAN RESOURCES, COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT	(98)	598	(723)	(125)	(27)	-
ICT	124	364	(240)	124	-	-
TOTALS	26	962	(963)	(1)	(27)	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for the Directorate against its currently approved revenue budget. The forecast outturn is based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/2016 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with the Head of Service.

Human Resources, Communication and Engagement

The Human Resources, Communication and Engagement divisions are forecasting an underspend of £27,000 for the year due to vacancy savings across various teams.

The service is forecast to meet its savings requirement in 2015/2016.

Information and Communication Technology

The Information and Communication Technology division is forecasting a breakeven position for the year.

The service is forecast to meet its savings requirement in 2015/2016.

Budget Holder – Mrs Carmel McKeogh, Deputy Chief Executive – Deputy Chief Executive’s Directorate

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Blackpool Council – Governance and Regulatory Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2015/16					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JULY £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
GOVERNANCE & REGULATORY SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE	2,275	584	1,666	2,250	(25)	-
LICENSING	(376)	(145)	(240)	(385)	(9)	-
REGISTRATION AND BEREAVEMENT SERVICES	(331)	(182)	(138)	(320)	11	-
GOVERNANCE & REGULATORY SERVICES	1,568	257	1,288	1,545	(23)	-
WARDS	507	95	412	507	-	(237)
TOTALS	2,075	352	1,700	2,052	(23)	(237)

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for Governance and Regulatory Services against its currently approved, revenue budget. The adjusted budget for 2015/2016 includes the 2014/2015 underspend carried forward. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/2016 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with the head of service.

Governance and Regulatory Services

- The Democratic Governance service is forecasting an underspend of £25,000 for 2015/2016 due to in-year staffing savings, and reduced expenditure on special events and area forums.
- The Licensing Service is forecasting an underspend of £9,000 for 2015/2016 due to vacancy savings and savings on Supplies and Services budgets, partly offset by a shortfall against income targets.
- A Business Rates revaluation was carried out in respect of the premises at Carleton Crematorium at the start of the year, resulting in a windfall gain to the service of £65,000. Following remedial works in 2014, the three cremators are now fully operational and it is anticipated that income targets in 2015/2016, whilst challenging, will be achieved. However, some pressures are anticipated in the Coroners and Mortuary service due to the levels of demand which, it is expected, will offset the likely underspend at the Crematorium. At this stage, therefore, the Registration and Bereavement Service is forecasting an £11,000 overspend for 2015/2016.
- Ward budgets are expected to break even in 2015/2016.

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

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Blackpool Council
Ward Budgets
2015/2016
Month 4

Wards

Ward	Councillors	Total No. of Requisitions Submitted	No. of Requisitions Approved	No. Awaiting Approval	Total No. of Requisitions Completed	Total 2015-16 Budget	Budget Committed to <i>Approved</i> Schemes	Remaining 2015-16 Budget
Anchorsholme Ward BC1001	Clr. Galley Clr. Williams	4	4	0	4	£17,216.71	£2,200.00	£15,016.71
Bispham Ward BC1002	Clr. Clapham Clr. C Maycock	0	0	0	0	£15,000.00	£0.00	£15,000.00
Bloomfield Ward BC1003	Clr. Cain Clr. Jones	8	8	0	8	£30,538.68	£18,312.80	£12,225.88
Brunswick Ward BC1004	Clr. Blackburn Clr. G Coleman	0	0	0	0	£15,982.55	£2,000.00	£13,982.55
Claremont Ward BC1005	Clr. I Taylor Clr. L Williams	5	5	0	5	£40,428.95	£22,985.00	£17,443.95
Clifton Ward BC1006	Clr. Hutton Clr. L Taylor	3	3	0	3	£16,484.39	£1,350.00	£15,134.39
Greenlands Ward BC1007	Clr. Ryan Clr. Wright	8	8	0	8	£20,148.24	£5,148.24	£15,000.00
Hawes Side Ward BC1008	Clr. D Coleman Clr. Critchley	0	0	0	0	£15,000.00	£0.00	£15,000.00
Highfield Ward BC1009	Clr. Mrs Henderson MBE Clr. Hunter	5	5	0	5	£36,939.18	£19,997.41	£16,941.77
Ingthorpe Ward BC1010	Clr. Cross Clr. Rowson	6	6	0	6	£37,266.09	£22,266.00	£15,000.09
Layton Ward BC1011	Clr. Mrs Benson Clr. M Mitchell	4	4	0	4	£18,302.70	£3,502.70	£14,800.00
Marton Ward BC1012	Clr. Singleton Clr. Elmes	4	4	0	4	£27,848.07	£7,991.78	£19,856.29
Norbreck Ward BC1013	Clr. Callow Clr. Mrs Callow	3	3	0	3	£36,346.50	£20,840.00	£15,506.50
Park Ward BC1014	Clr. Campbell Clr. Kirkland	1	1	0	1	£19,389.79	£2,750.00	£16,639.79
Squires Gate Ward BC1015	Clr. Cox Clr. Humphreys	1	1	0	1	£15,178.91	£100.00	£15,078.91
Stanley Ward BC1016	Clr. Roberts Clr. Stansfield	7	7	0	7	£30,690.00	£15,869.00	£14,821.00
Talbot Ward BC1017	Clr. I Coleman Clr. Smith	10	10	0	10	£32,592.78	£17,350.00	£15,242.78
Tyldesley Ward BC1018	Clr. Collett Clr. Matthews	3	3	0	3	£22,655.22	£6,855.22	£15,800.00
Victoria Ward BC1019	Clr. Jackson Clr. Owen	4	4	0	4	£27,301.05	£12,301.05	£15,000.00
Warbreck Ward BC1020	Clr. Brown Clr. Scott	4	4	0	4	£21,337.87	£6,226.00	£15,111.87
Waterloo Ward BC1021	Clr. O'Hara Clr. Robertson BEM	5	5	0	5	£29,293.52	£14,663.52	£14,630.00
Ward Totals		85	85	0	85	£525,941.20	£202,708.72	£323,232.48
Unallocated Budget		-	-	-	-	£26,478.60	£0.00	£26,478.60
Income Budget		-	-	-	-	-£45,000.00	£0.00	-£45,000.00
Area Ward Totals		85	85	0	85	£507,419.80	£202,708.72	£304,711.08

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Blackpool Council - Resources

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	2015/16				
		EXPENDITURE APR - JULY £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
RESOURCES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
PROCUREMENT & PROJECTS	26	65	(133)	(68)	(94)	-
REVENUES, BENEFITS & TRANSACTIONAL SERVICES	251	(2,876)	3,166	290	39	-
CORPORATE LEGAL SERVICES	(447)	86	(497)	(411)	36	-
CUSTOMER FIRST	(39)	198	(224)	(26)	13	-
ACCOUNTANCY	(77)	289	(317)	(28)	49	-
RISK SERVICES	73	41	35	76	3	-
PROPERTY SERVICES (Incl. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO)	2,099	3,070	(222)	2,848	749	-
TOTALS	1,886	873	1,808	2,681	795	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within Resources against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/2016 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Procurement and Projects

- The favourable variance of £94,000 is due to an over achievement against current and prior years Priority Led Budgeting targets in respect of staff savings and additional income.

Revenues, Benefits and Transactional Services

- The service is forecast to meet its savings requirement in 2015/2016. Additional income has been received from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) for welfare reform, Universal Credit and the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS). This income is to provide the funding to assist Councils in their statutory duty to administer and process extra Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit (HB/CTB) workload during the economic downturn, implementation of welfare reforms and implementation of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

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

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

Corporate Legal Services

- Corporate Legal Services is forecasting a £36,000 overspend for 2015/2016 as a result of staffing and printing cost pressures, additional income is being targeted which may partially offset these costs.

Customer First

- Customer First is forecasting a £13,000 pressure in 2015/2016. The majority of this pressure falls within the staffing budget due to the need to keep as many staff as possible answering the phones and the extra duties involved in staffing the reception at Bickerstaffe House.

Accountancy

- Accountancy is forecasting a £49,000 pressure mainly due to a one-off staffing cost.

Property Services (incl. Investment Portfolio)

- Property Services is forecasting an overspend of £749,000. This early projection is based on the current pace of property rationalisation. A report is due from the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) regarding future options and timescales. There is also a forecast pressure from rental income within the Central Business District.

Summary of the revenue forecast

After 4 months of the financial year, Resources is forecasting a £795,000 overspend. The Directorate continues to operate on the basis of not filling staff vacancies other than in exceptional circumstances.

Budget Holder - Mr Steve Thompson, Director of Resources.

Blackpool Council – Places

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2015/16					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR -JUL £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
PLACES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
CULTURAL SERVICES	1,778	(675)	2,453	1,778	-	-
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	627	(263)	890	627	-	-
HOUSING, PLANNING & TRANSPORT	379	(1,954)	2,363	409	30	-
VISITOR SERVICES	4,184	488	3,745	4,233	49	-
TOTALS	6,968	(2,404)	9,451	7,047	79	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within the Places directorate against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. The forecast outturn of £79,000 overspend is based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/2016 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Housing, Planning & Transport Policy

- In total this service has a £30,000 overspend relating to the prudential borrowing costs of Tyldesley/Rigby Road housing development and the service's inability so far in offsetting savings/income from this project.

Visitor Services

- This service is expecting a £49,000 overspend by the year-end due to an income target in Print Services that needs to be reviewed as part of a wider review of the service.

Budget Holder – Mr Alan Cavill, Director of Place

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Blackpool Council – Strategic Leisure Assets

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2015/16					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR -JUL £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS						
NET EXPENDITURE						
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	1,289	(1,251)	3,468	2,217	928	-
TOTALS	1,289	(1,251)	3,468	2,217	928	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for the Service against its respective, currently approved, revenue budget. The forecast outturn is based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/2016 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with the Head of Service.

Key Issues

The Leisure Asset portfolio financial position is £928,000. This is in line with the Strategic Leisure Assets Medium Term Financial Strategy as previously notified and covers planned expenditure to help recover the position.

In accordance with the original decision for this programme by the Executive on 7th February 2011, the projected overspend on Strategic Leisure Assets will be carried forward and transferred to Earmarked Reserves.

Budget Holder – Mr Alan Cavill, Director of Place

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Blackpool Council – Community and Environmental Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2015/16					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
BUILDING SERVICES	88	182	(94)	88	-	
BUILDING CLEANING	(116)	214	(330)	(116)	-	
CONVENIENCES	986	291	703	994	8	
HIGHWAYS	14,314	116	14,198	14,314	-	
TRANSPORT	700	34	675	709	9	
STREET LIGHT PFI & COASTAL PARTNERSHIP	4,251	339	3,919	4,258	7	
ENFORCEMENT AND QUALITY STANDARDS	95	(2,129)	2,223	94	(1)	
CVMU	(6)	131	(137)	(6)	-	
INTEGRATED TRANSPORT SERVICES	167	473	(306)	167	-	
TRAVEL AND ROAD SAFETY	52	88	119	207	155	
WASTE MANAGEMENT	15,313	(521)	15,903	15,382	69	
STREET CLEANSING AND LEAF	3,011	833	2,150	2,983	(28)	
PARKS	1,711	261	1,471	1,732	21	
CATERING SERVICES	331	(1,114)	1,475	361	30	
LEISURE FACILITIES & SPORT DEVELOPMENT	1,921	(140)	2,103	1,963	42	
BUSINESS SERVICES	1,678	228	1,417	1,645	(33)	
TOTALS	44,496	(714)	45,489	44,775	279	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Community and Environmental Services - Directorate Summary

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within Community and Environmental Services against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/2016 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Waste Management has a pressure of £69,000 at the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) due to a decrease in the level of income forecast from recycling waste which is due to a downturn in the recyclate markets. The £856,000 Private Finance Initiative Grant is no longer available and is subject to judicial review, with the risk being covered against the specific Waste Private Finance Initiative reserve.

Travel and Road Safety's position is £155,000, £11,000 worse than at Period 3 as additional savings are sought to offset previously agreed CSR savings. The main component of this pressure is a proposed CSR saving no longer deemed achievable. A further review of the service is being undertaken.

There is a pressure of £42,000 on Leisure due to the closure of Woodlands Pool and transport costs for school swimming.

There are various other savings and pressures across the remaining services that net off to a pressure of 13,000.

Conclusion – Community and Environmental Services financial position

Community and Environmental Services' position is £279,000 over budget due to a £69,000 pressure on Waste because of a fall in the market for recycled materials, Travel and Road Safety pressures of £155,000, a £42,000 pressure on Leisure due to transportation costs and the closure of Woodlands Pool and various minor savings and pressures across other services that net off to a net pressure of £13,000. Risk on the Waste Private Finance Initiative grant has been offset against reserves.

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

Blackpool Council - Adult Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2015/16					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT						
NET EXPENDITURE						
ADULT SOCIAL CARE	4,195	1,710	2,463	4,173	(22)	-
CARE & SUPPORT	6,689	2,249	4,821	7,070	381	-
COMMISSIONING & CONTRACTS TEAM	1,403	(3)	1,389	1,386	(17)	-
ADULT COMMISSIONING PLACEMENTS	29,446	3,761	26,314	30,075	629	-
ADULT SAFEGUARDING	211	(338)	664	326	115	-
BUSINESS SUPPORT & RESOURCES	2,983	534	2,458	2,992	9	-
TOTALS	44,927	7,913	38,109	46,022	1,095	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the latest outturn projection for each individual service within the Adult Services against their respective, currently approved revenue budget. The forecast outturn is based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/2016 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Adult Commissioning Placements (Social Care Packages) and Care and Support

- Whilst there still remains an issue with a historical Priority Led Budgeting (PLB) commissioning placements savings target, one-off funding has again been identified to offset this in this financial year. Significant progress has also been made against the challenging £4.7m 2015/2016 PLB savings target, which will see the full amount realised in 2016/2017. Inevitably, there is forecast to be a shortfall in-year as a result of the delay to the review program for commissioning. Collaborative efficiencies are being investigated as part of the Better Care Fund agenda which may also reduce this gap further.
- It should be noted that the forecast outturn within the Adults Commissioning Placements Division is based on trend analysis using invoiced amounts drawn from the financial ledger. Frameworki is currently being implemented and will incorporate financial data in phase 2 of the development which should provide improved forecasting in the future.

Adult Safeguarding

- Following Deprivation of Liberty (DoLs) case law this Division is forecasting a £115,000 overspend as a result of additional legal and staffing costs not covered by New Burdens Funding.

Summary of the Adult Services financial position

As at the end of July 2015 the Adult Services Directorate is forecasting an overall overspend of £1.095m for the financial year to March 2016.

Budget Holder – Karen Smith, Director of Adult Services

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Blackpool Council – Children’s Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2015/16					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JULY £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
CHILDREN'S SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - ISB	27,797	9,237	18,560	27,797	-	-
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - NON DELEGATED	350	91	206	297	(53)	-
LIFELONG LEARNING & SCHOOLS	21,997	7,228	15,129	22,357	360	-
EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	298	83	157	240	(58)	-
CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE	116	39	77	116	-	-
DEDICATED SCHOOL GRANT	(51,558)	(18,180)	(33,378)	(51,558)	-	-
CARRY FORWARD OF DSG	-	-	(249)	(249)	(249)	-
TOTAL DSG FUNDED SERVICES	(1,000)	(1,502)	502	(1,000)	-	-
CHILDRENS SERVICES DEPRECIATION	3,244	-	3,244	3,244	-	-
LIFELONG LEARNING & SCHOOLS	4,238	(1,840)	6,091	4,251	13	-
EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	3,980	(620)	4,583	3,963	(17)	-
CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE	26,554	7,838	19,285	27,123	569	-
CHILDRENS SAFEGUARDING	1,155	256	998	1,254	99	-
LOCAL SERVICES SUPPORT GRANT	(118)	-	(14)	(14)	104	-
EDUCATION SERVICES GRANT	(2,050)	(247)	(718)	(965)	1,085	-
TOTAL COUNCIL FUNDED SERVICES	37,003	5,387	33,469	38,856	1,853	-
TOTAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES	36,003	3,885	33,971	37,856	1,853	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the latest outturn projection for each individual service within the Children’s Services Directorate against their respective, currently approved revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/16 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

Dedicated Schools Grant Funded Services

- The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is the funding stream that supports the Schools Budget, which includes amounts that are devolved through the Individual School Budget, together with centrally-retained pupil-related services as listed in the revenue summary. Any under or overspends against services funded by the DSG will be carried forward to 2016/2017 and, in the case of overspends, become the first call on the grant in that year.

Lifelong Learning and Schools

- A Priority Led Budgeting (PLB) savings target of £400,000 was applied to the Skills, Education and Employment division in 2015/2016, to be achieved through a review of synergies between the Positive Steps and Connexions services. The review was carried out and no savings identified, however, it is anticipated that the target will be achieved through the maximisation of external income sources across the whole of Lifelong Learning and Schools.

Early Help for Children and Families

- Significant progress has been made against the challenging £1.4m 2015/2016 PLB savings target that was applied to the Early Help division. Several reviews, including an assessment of the nursery provision in the authority's children's centres, are nearing completion. One-off funding has been identified to offset shortfalls in full year effect savings in the current year, and the savings look close to being realised in full from 2016/2017.

Children's Social Care

- The Children's Social Care division is forecasting an overspend of £569,000 due to the high cost of Looked After Children (LAC). Whilst numbers have stabilised at around 460 for over 12 months, the overspend is as a result of placement mix as highlighted in the graphs on the following pages. The variation in unit costs is significant with an average residential placement equivalent in cost to nine internal fostering placements and the most expensive placement equal to eighteen. Maximising less costly placements is, therefore, a key element of the recovery plan, and to this end placements are reviewed at a fortnightly panel.

Children's Safeguarding

- Child Protection cases have recently reached very high levels, and the forecast overspend shown reflects ongoing pressures on the staffing budget.

Local Services Support Grant

- A shortfall in grant of £104,000 is forecast relating to a cut in the Department for Education Extended Rights to Free Travel element from £118k to £14k in 2015/16.

Education Services Grant

- From April 2013, the education functions provided by local authorities have been funded from the Education Services Grant (ESG). The Council receives £87 per pupil in relation to the pupils in schools maintained by the authority plus £15 for each pupil in all schools and academies in respect of responsibilities retained for every pupil within our boundary. A shortfall in grant of £1.085m is included in the forecast overspend, relating to the anticipated loss of funding due to both historical and in-year academy conversions.

Summary of the Children's Services financial position

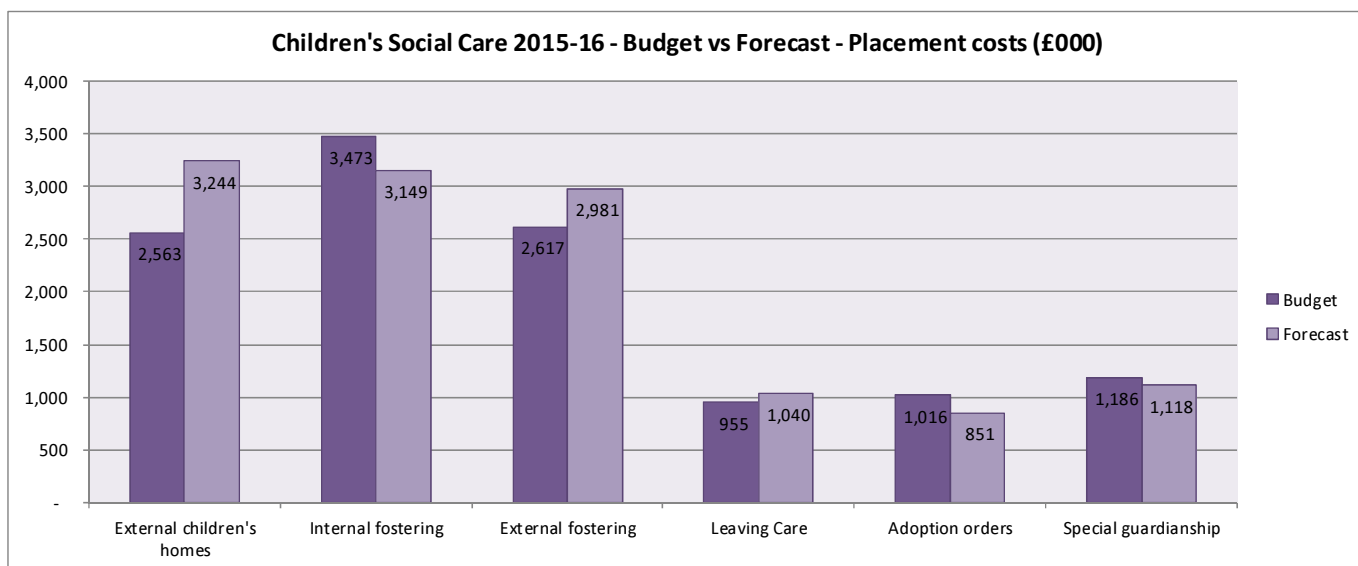
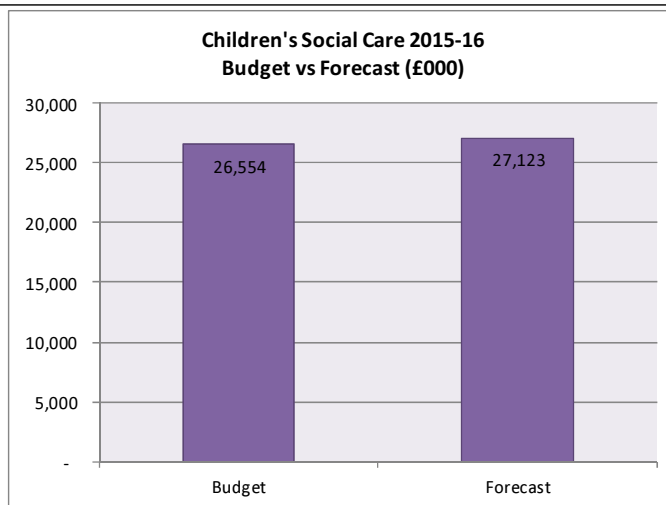
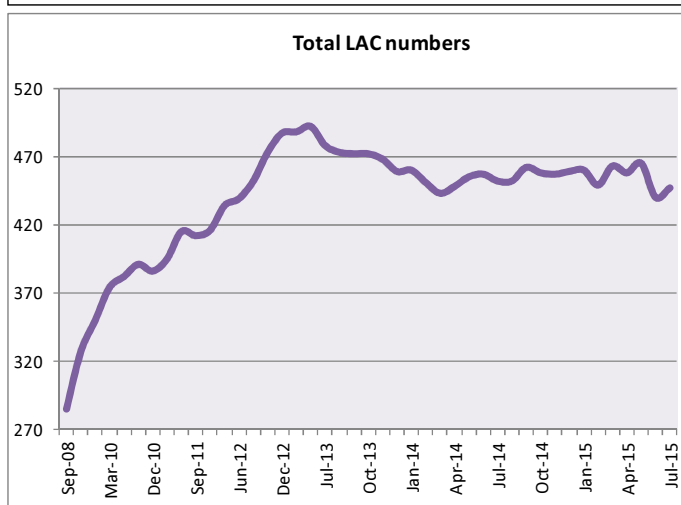
As at the end of July 2015 the Children's Services Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £1.853m for the financial year to March 2016.

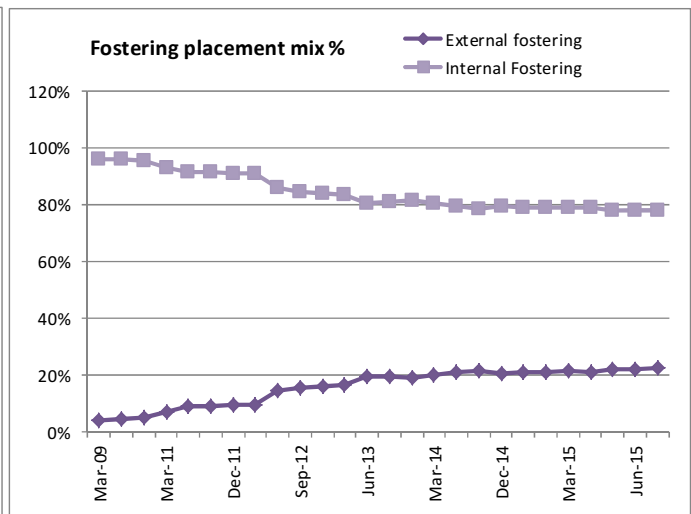
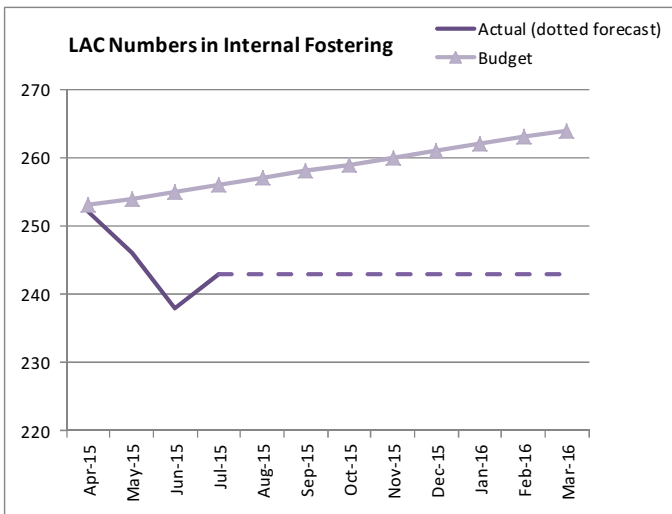
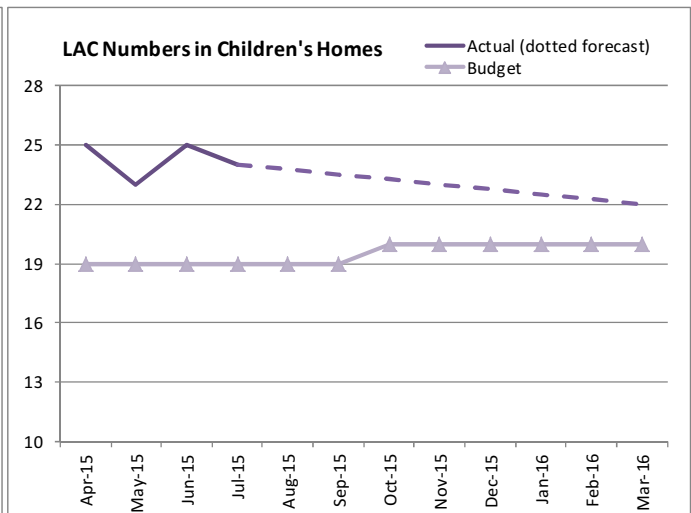
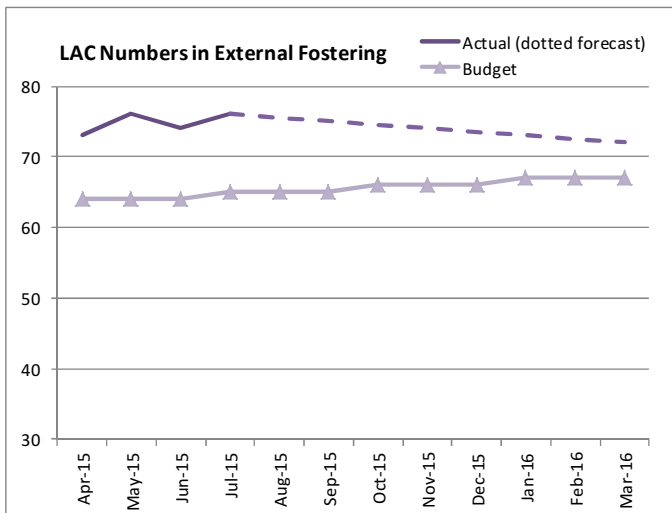
Budget Holder – Mrs Delyth Curtis, Director of People

Children's Social Care Trends

Date	External Placements						Total			Internal Fostering			Total LAC Numbers
	Fostering			Residential			FTE	£000's	£ per placement	FTE	£000's	£ per placement	No.
	FTE	£000's	£ per placement	FTE	£000's	£ per placement							
Dec-08	8.67	411	47,453	27.50	2,624	95,423	36.17	3,035	83,926	no data	no data	no data	285
Mar-09	8.77	403	45,979	28.07	2,772	98,747	36.84	3,175	86,186	208.91	2,510	12,015	323
Jun-09	12.10	466	38,549	40.85	4,290	105,007	52.96	4,757	89,820	no data	no data	no data	334
Mar-10	13.35	513	38,445	39.02	4,295	110,083	52.37	4,809	91,824	263.88	2,889	10,946	374
Jun-10	20.43	765	37,428	34.20	3,473	101,534	54.63	4,237	77,563	304.83	3,357	11,012	382
Mar-11	22.69	860	37,912	36.73	3,536	96,272	59.42	4,396	73,983	303.23	3,329	10,977	395
Jun-11	29.54	1,108	37,508	33.62	3,430	102,023	63.16	4,538	71,849	303.23	3,329	10,977	395
Sep-11	30.35	1,129	37,191	33.90	3,457	101,982	64.25	4,586	71,376	316.95	3,527	11,128	412
Dec-11	31.91	1,184	37,118	35.16	3,580	101,808	67.07	4,764	71,031	312.85	3,496	11,175	416
Mar-12	32.68	1,223	37,424	34.27	3,488	101,780	66.95	4,711	70,366	315.07	3,507	11,131	434
Jun-12	49.27	1,816	36,858	36.47	3,710	101,727	85.07	5,526	64,958	296.18	3,480	11,750	439
Sep-12	53.37	1,903	35,657	36.70	4,264	116,185	90.07	6,167	68,469	290.42	3,345	11,518	452
Dec-12	55.80	1,987	35,611	38.08	4,498	118,121	93.88	6,485	69,080	290.55	3,372	11,606	487
Mar-13	57.36	2,028	35,355	38.89	4,645	119,447	96.25	6,673	69,330	291.27	3,377	11,594	488
Jun-13	71.93	2,604	36,202	30.01	3,349	111,596	101.94	5,953	58,400	298.00	3,542	11,887	492
Sep-13	70.51	2,515	35,667	29.05	3,240	111,523	99.56	5,754	57,801	293.58	3,496	11,908	472
Dec-13	68.22	2,494	36,560	29.02	3,398	117,073	97.24	5,892	60,592	292.11	3,455	11,828	459
Mar-14	72.82	2,480	34,058	29.76	3,525	118,473	102.57	6,005	58,547	295.49	3,474	11,757	443
Jun-14	70.35	2,527	35,928	24.74	2,537	102,561	95.09	5,065	53,265	266.65	3,422	12,833	457
Sep-14	69.41	2,614	37,655	23.09	2,799	121,210	92.50	5,412	58,513	258.39	3,248	12,570	462
Dec-14	68.73	2,664	38,760	23.09	2,870	124,281	91.83	5,534	60,268	265.56	3,313	12,474	459
Mar-15	71.13	2,856	40,155	23.23	2,993	128,868	94.36	5,850	61,992	262.93	3,253	12,374	463
Apr-15	68.35	2,680	39,201	22.47	3,088	137,382	90.83	5,767	63,495	257.00	3,274	12,740	458
May-15	70.76	2,776	39,232	21.02	3,013	143,328	91.78	5,789	63,075	250.67	3,189	12,722	465
Jun-15	71.30	2,896	40,625	22.02	3,254	147,777	93.32	6,150	65,909	250.74	3,144	12,541	440
Jul-15	72.13	2,981	41,325	22.74	3,244	142,656	94.87	6,225	65,616	252.65	3,149	12,464	447

Note:
The variance between the current total number of Looked After Children (447) and the total internal fostering and external placement numbers (347) is children with care orders, adoption placements etc. They are still classed as LAC but do not incur any commissioned costs.





Blackpool Council – Public Health

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2015/16					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
PUBLIC HEALTH						
NET EXPENDITURE						
MANAGEMENT AND OVERHEADS	1,808	764	1,044	1,808	-	
NHS HEALTH CHECKS - MANDATED	460	60	400	460	-	
CHILDREN (0-19) - NCMP MANDATED	2,682	398	2,284	2,682	-	
HEALTH PROTECTION - MANDATED	42	17	25	42	-	
TOBACCO CONTROL	634	152	482	634	-	
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING	423	146	277	423	-	
SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES - MANDATED	2,885	785	2,100	2,885	-	
FALLS PREVENTION / ACCIDENTS	112	71	41	112	-	
SUBSTANCE MISUSE (DRUGS AND ALCOHOL)	4,521	1,621	2,900	4,521	-	
HEALTHY WEIGHT/WEIGHT MANAGEMENT	454	146	308	454	-	
OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	300	100	200	300	-	
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	5,176	3,949	1,227	5,176	-	
GRANT	(19,497)	(8,973)	(10,524)	(19,497)	-	
TOTALS	-	(764)	764	-	-	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the latest outturn projection for each individual scheme against their respective, currently approved budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/16 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with the services leads

Public Health Grant

The Public Health Grant is a central government grant which is ring-fenced until March 2016 after which the grant will be based on a national formula. The allocation for 2015/16 is £19,496,700.

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

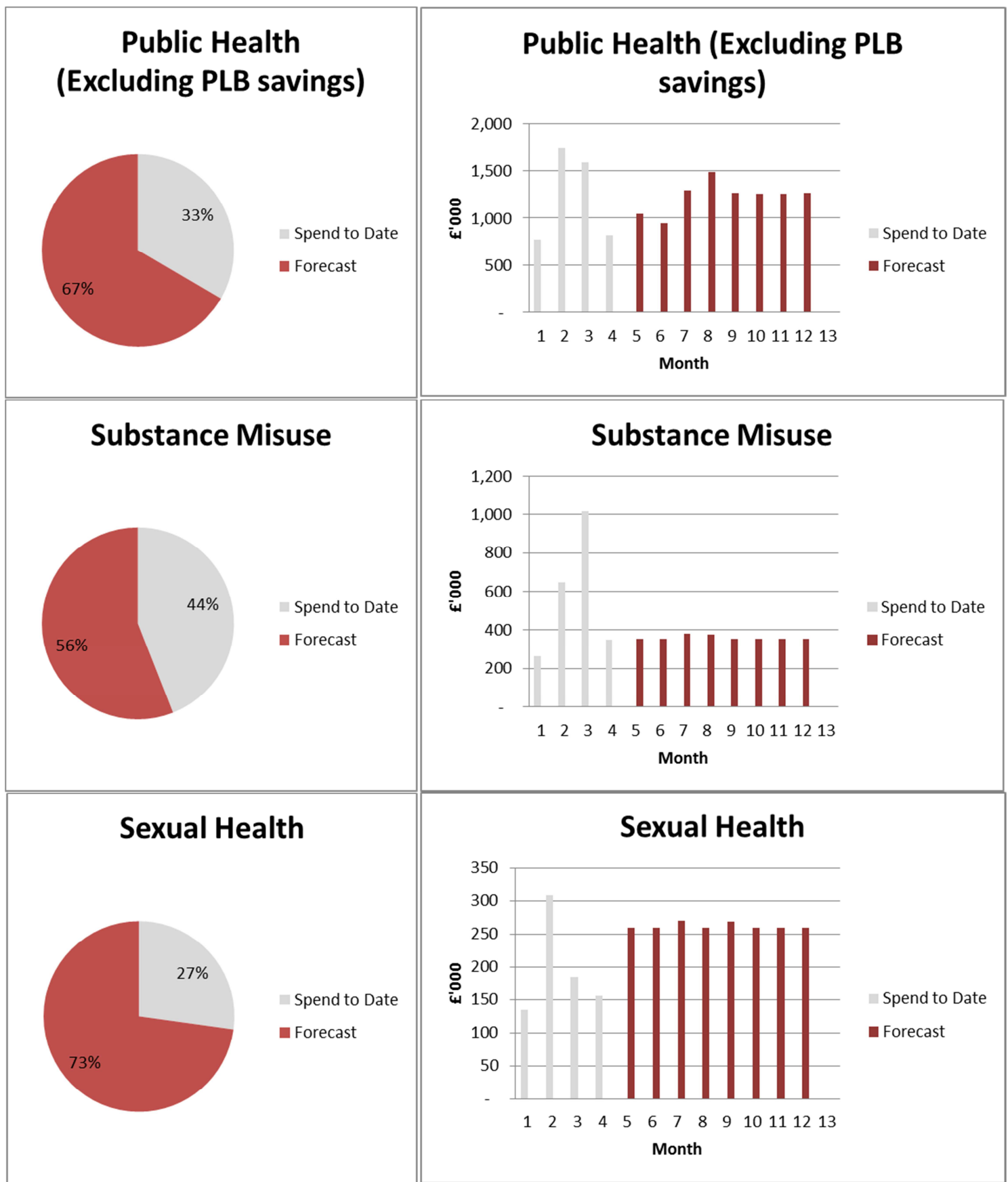
Payment by Results (PbR)/ Activity-based Commissioning

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

Summary of the Public Health Directorate financial position

As at the end of July 2015, the Public Health Directorate is forecasting an overall spend of the full grant, £19,496,700, for the financial year to March 2016.

Budget Holder – Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health



Blackpool Council – Budgets Outside the Cash Limit

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2014/15 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2015/16					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JULY £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT						
NET EXPENDITURE						
TREASURY MANAGEMENT	14,503	4,424	8,848	13,272	(1,231)	-
PARKING	(3,650)	(868)	(2,286)	(3,154)	496	-
CORPORATE SUBSCRIPTIONS	193	108	85	193	-	-
HOUSING BENEFITS	1,653	525	1,122	1,647	(6)	-
COUNCIL TAX & NNDR COST OF COLLECTION	349	106	246	352	3	-
SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES	(1,130)	(164)	(1,041)	(1,205)	(75)	-
CONCESSIONARY FARES	3,850	5	4,521	4,526	676	-
LAND CHARGES	(42)	77	(119)	(42)	-	-
PREVIOUS YEARS' PENSION LIABILITY	2,821	940	1,881	2,821	-	-
NEW HOMES BONUS	(1,440)	(480)	(1,102)	(1,582)	(142)	-
TOTALS	17,107	4,673	12,155	16,828	(279)	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the latest outturn projection for each individual service categorised as falling 'outside the cash limit' and thereby exempt from the cash limited budget regime. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2015/16 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and savings in the remainder of the financial year, which have been agreed by each designated budget manager.

Treasury Management

- This revenue account is forecast to achieve a favourable variance of £1,231k for the year. This reflects the ongoing temporary windfall from the short-term interest rates currently being paid to finance recent capital expenditure and a lower interest charge by Lancashire County Council on the Local Government Reorganisation debt.

Parking Services

- As at Week 20 (w/e 16th August) Parking income is at £2,302,000 with patronage at 635,103. Car park patronage is up by 12,045 with income up by £35,621 on 2014/2015. On-Street Pay and Display is down on patronage by 16,410, and down on income by £29,755. However, the extremely challenging income target the service has means that it is £496,000 down on its income budget year-to-date.

Subsidiary Companies

- The cost to the Council of supporting the subsidiary companies is expected to be £75,000 less than budget due to the reducing balance payback of prudentially borrowed schemes.

Concessionary Fares

- This service is forecasting a pressure of £676,000, which mainly relates to the ongoing pressure arising from increased bus patronage.

Land Charges

- This service is forecasting to break even during 2015/16.

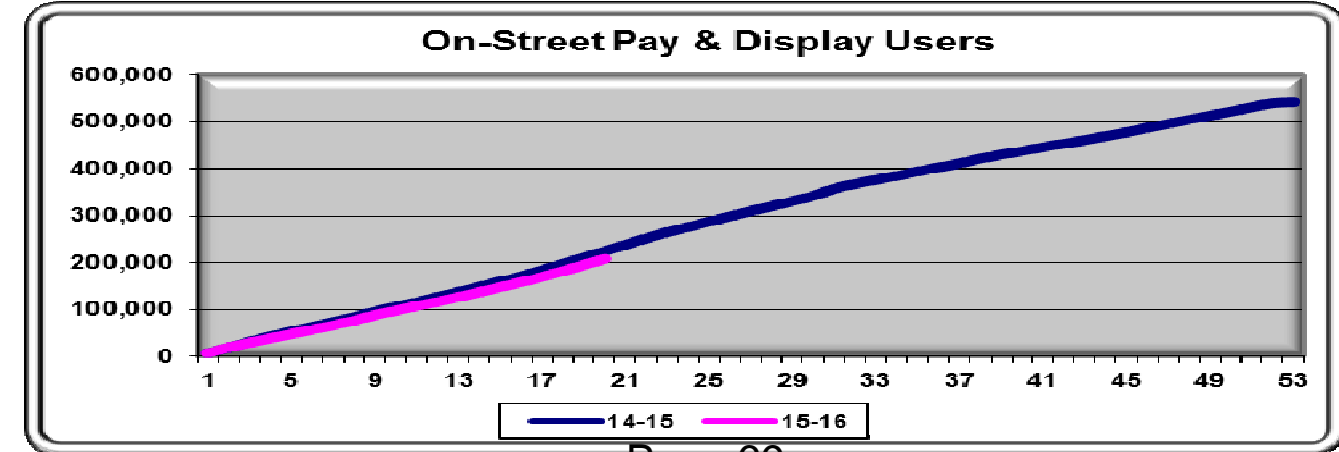
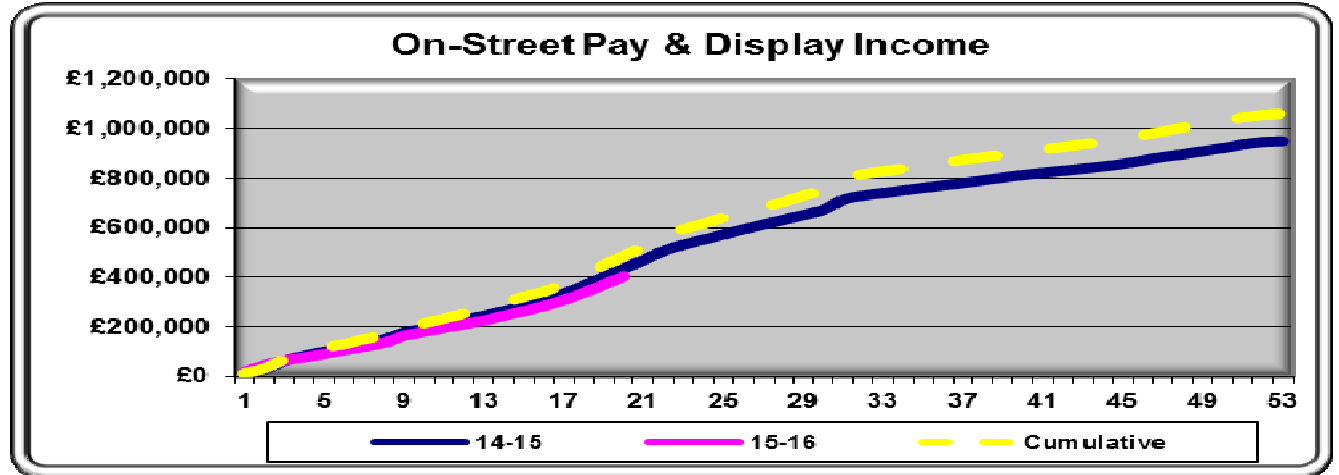
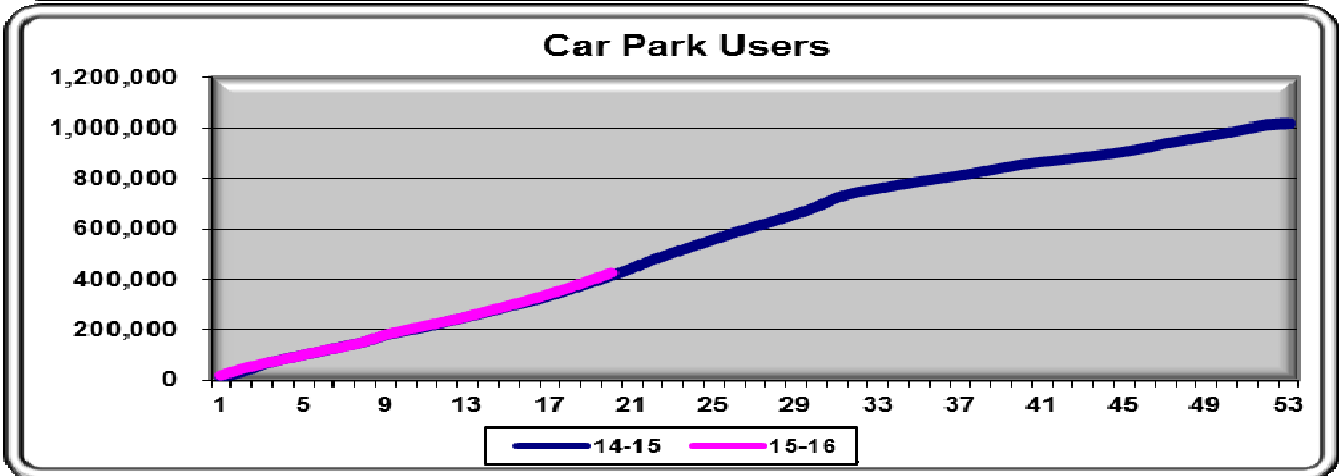
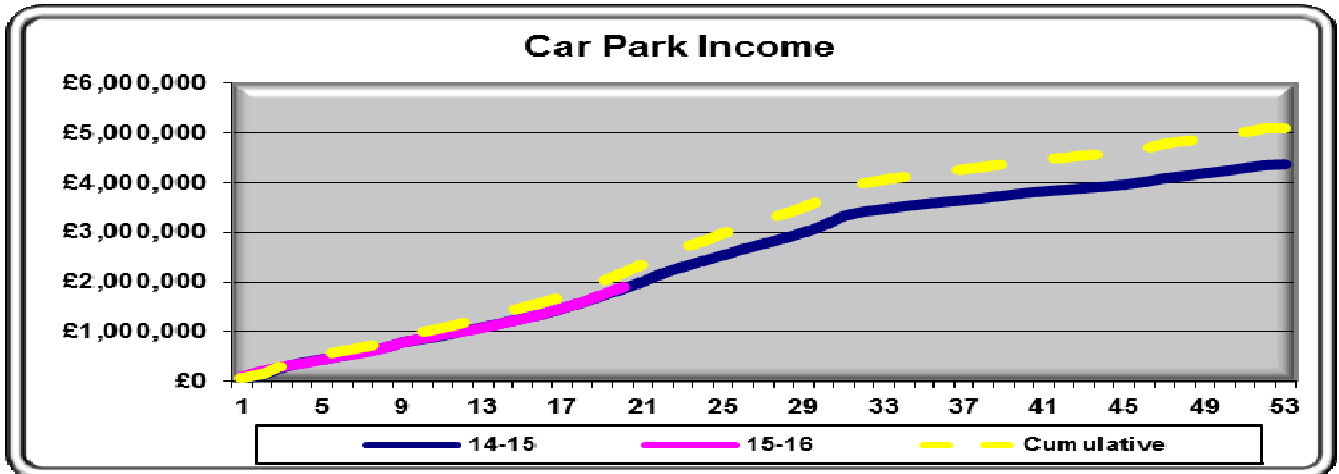
New Homes Bonus

- The underspend of £142,000 is due to the Council's pro-rata share of the unused national funding from the 2014/2015 New Homes Bonus. This is based on the Start-Up Funding Allocation.

Summary of the revenue forecasts

After 4 months of the financial year, the Budgets Outside the Cash Limit services are forecasting a £279,000 underspend.

Car Parking Trends



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**2015/16 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 4**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
	Capital Schemes		Total Scheme Budget		Spend as at 31/3/15		Budget Brought Forward 2014/15	Adjusted Capital Programme 2015/16	Total Available Budget 2015/16	Spend to Date April - July	Forecast to Year End		Forecast Variance		Notes
			£000		£000		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000		£000		
1															
2															
4	Director Responsible for Resources														
6	Property and Asset Management														
7															
8	Central Business District Phase 1		40,832		37,576		3,256	-	3,256	(398)	1,665		-		
9	Office Accommodation Strategy		1,408		1,408		-	-	-	-	-		-		
10	Central Business District Phase 2		4,500		12		(12)	4,500	4,488	2	4,486		-		
11	Syndicate		1,300		1,321		(21)	-	(21)	87	200		-		
12	Other Resources Schemes		586		60		176	350	526	52	474		-		
13															
14	Total Resources		48,626		40,377		3,399	4,850	8,249	(257)	6,825		-		
15															
16	Director Responsible for Adult Services														
17															
18	Langdale Learning Disability Centre		1,900		1,634		266	-	266	-	266		-		
19	Support to Vulnerable Adults - Grants		1,464		-		318	1,146	1,464	268	1,196		-		
20	Other Adult Services Schemes		2,545		1,462		643	440	1,083	129	954		-		
21															
22	Total Adult Services		5,909		3,096		1,227	1,586	2,813	397	2,416		-		
23															
24	Director Responsible for Deputy Chief Executive														
25															
26	ICT Refresh		800		-		(288)	800	512	32	480		-		
27															
28	Total Deputy Chief Executive		800		-		(288)	800	512	32	480		-		
29															

**2015/16 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 4**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
	Capital Schemes		Total Scheme Budget		Spend as at 31/3/15		Budget Brought Forward 2014/15	Adjusted Capital Programme 2015/16	Total Available Budget 2015/16	Spend to Date April - July	Forecast to Year End		Forecast Variance		Notes
			£000		£000		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000		£000		
1															
2															
30															
32	Director Responsible for Community and Environmental Services														
33															
35	Anchorsholme Seawall		22,363		8,467		11,696	2,200	13,896	2,699	11,197		-		
36	Coast Protection Studies		1,451		1,114		337	-	337	25	312		-		
37	Marton Mere Pumping Station & Spillway		418		-		418	-	418	432	(14)		-		
38	Marton Mere HLF		360		125		235	-	235	62	173		-		
39	Other Environmental Services		320		246		74	-	74	74	-		-		
40															
41	Transport														
42	Blackpool/Fleetwood Tramway		99,990		89,495		10,495	-	10,495	(974)	11,469		-		
43	Sintropher		1,690		2,780		(1,090)	-	(1,090)	-	-		-		
44	Tramway Emergency Works		10,589		11,040		(451)	-	(451)	(295)	-		-		
45	Bridges		7,565		-		-	2,114	2,114	33	2,081		-		
46	Bus and Tram Shelter Upgrade		1,077		320		757	-	757	-	-		-		
47	Yeadon Way		2,520		2,584		(64)	-	(64)	(295)	-		-		
48	Other Transport Schemes		553		-		553	-	553	287	266		-		
49															
50	Total Community and Environmental Services		148,896		116,171		22,960	4,314	27,274	2,048	25,484		-		
51															
52															
53	Director Responsible for Governance and Regulatory Services														
54															
55															
56	Carleton Crem Building Works		1,991		1,854		137	-	137	33	104		-		
57	Registrars Scanning		83		-		-	83	83	38	45		-		
58															
59															
60	Total Governance and Regulatory Services		2,074		1,854		137	83	220	71	149		-		

**2015/16 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 4**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
	Capital Schemes		Total Scheme Budget		Spend as at 31/3/15		Budget Brought Forward 2014/15	Adjusted Capital Programme 2015/16	Total Available Budget 2015/16	Spend to Date April - July	Forecast to Year End		Forecast Variance		Notes
			£000		£000		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000		£000		
1															
2															
61	Director Responsible for Place														
62															
63	Housing														
64															
65	Cluster of Empty Homes		1,615		1,129		486	-	486	156	330				
66	Tyldesley / Rigby Rd		12,500		8,778		3,722	-	3,722	239	3,483				
67	Work towards Decent Homes Standard		4,557		2,005		220	2,332	2,552	142	2,410				
68	Queens Park Redevelopment Ph1		13,051		11,112		-	1,939	1,939	628	1,311				
69	Queens Park Redevelopment Ph2		1,950		-		-	1,950	1,950	-	1,950				
70	Other HRA		2,318		87		-	2,231	2,231	322	1,909				
71															
72	College Relocation/Illumination Depot		12,705		13,924		(1,319)	100	(1,219)	-	-		-		
73	Blackpool Leisure Assets Purchase		61,499		60,287		(588)	1,800	1,212	202	1,010				
74	LightPool		700		-		-	700	700	80	620				
75															
76															
77	Transport														
78	Local Transport Plan 2014/15		1,984		1,252		732	-	732	194	538		-		
79	Local Transport Plan Project 30 2014/15		1,050		1,050		-	-	-	-	-		-		
80	Local Transport Plan 2015/16		1,923		-		-	1,923	1,923	430	1,493				
81	Local Transport Plan Project 30 2015/16		633		-		-	633	633	-	633				
82															
83															
84	Total Place		116,485		99,624		3,253	13,608	16,861	2,393	15,687		-		
85															

**2015/16 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 4**

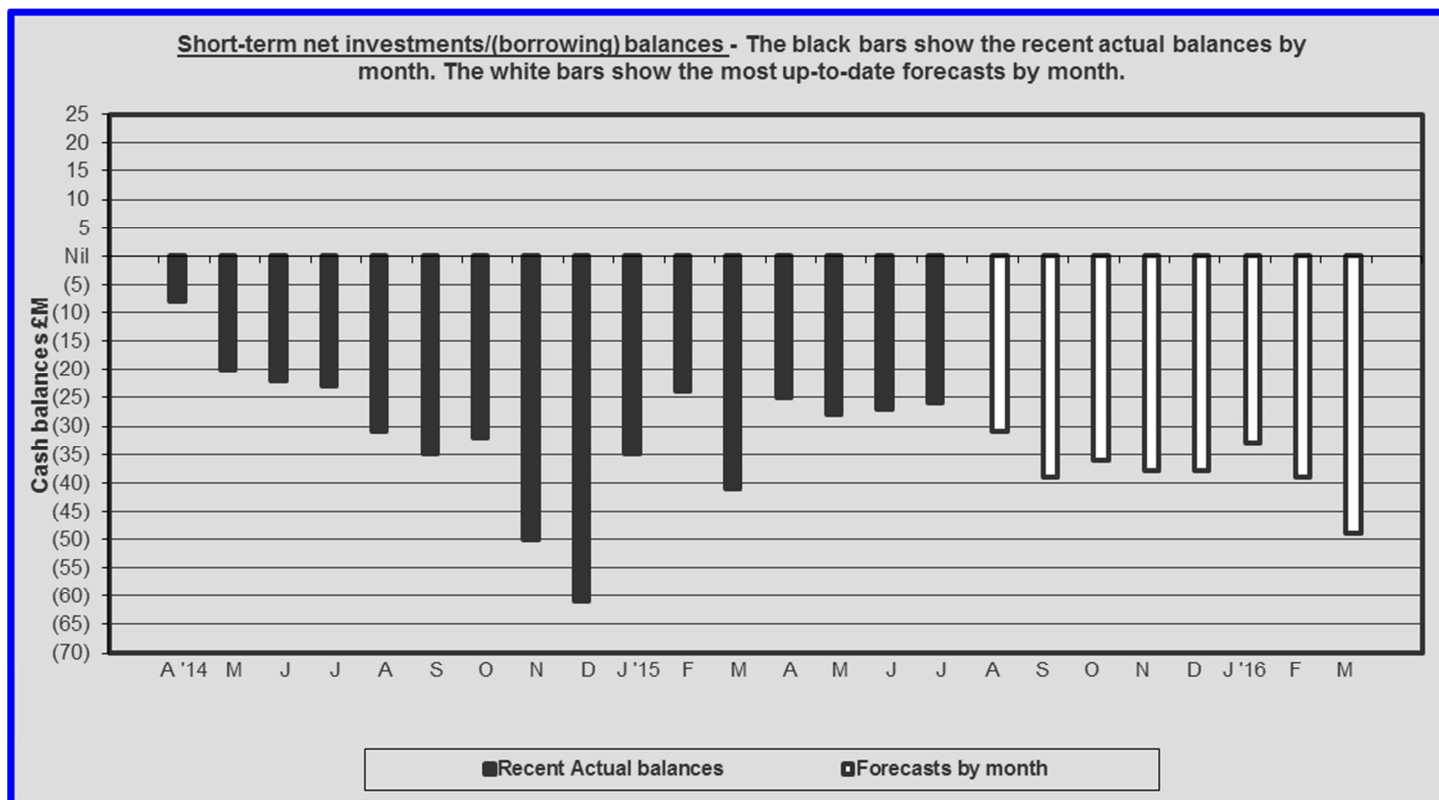
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
	Capital Schemes		Total Scheme Budget		Spend as at 31/3/15		Budget Brought Forward 2014/15	Adjusted Capital Programme 2015/16	Total Available Budget 2015/16	Spend to Date April - July	Forecast to Year End		Forecast Variance		Notes
			£000		£000		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000		£000		
1															
2															
86															
87	Director Responsible for Childrens Services														
88															
89	Devolved Capital to Schools		507		-		388	119	507	53	454		-		
90	Christ The King		5,160		4,830		(1,270)	320	(950)	127	(1,077)		-		
91	Christ the King PRU Refurbishment		210		6		204		204	51	153				
92	Westbury Feasibility Plan		101		-		-	101	101	2	99				
93	Basic Need		2,177		-		(763)	2,940	2,177	-	2,177				
94	Condition		458		-		-	458	458	-	458				
95	Other Children's Schemes		555		469		87	-	87	24	63		-		
96															
97	Total Childrens Services		9,168		5,305		(1,354)	3,938	2,584	257	2,327		-		
98															
99															
100	CAPITAL TOTAL		331,958		266,427		29,334	29,179	58,513	4,941	53,368		-		

Blackpool Council

Cash summary - budget, actual and forecast:

CASH FLOW - SUMMARY - 15/16							
FULL YEAR CASH FLOW BUDGET (*)	APR-JUL CASH FLOW BUDGET (*)	APR-JUL CASH FLOW ACTUAL	AUG - MAR CASH FLOW FORECAST	(*) THE CASH FLOW BUDGET IS CONSISTENT WITH THE REVENUE BUDGET AND THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME IN TOTAL. THE BUDGETED CASH FLOW PHASING IS BASED ON DETAILED EXPECTATIONS AND PAST EXPERIENCE	APR - JUL MORE / (LESS) CASH ACTUAL vs BUDGET	AUG - MAR MORE / (LESS) CASH FORECAST vs BUDGET	FULL YEAR MORE / (LESS) AS NOW FORECAST vs BUDGET
£M	£M	£M	£M		£M	£M	£M
				RECEIPTS			
88	29	28	58	Housing Benefit & Subsidy	(1)	(1)	(2)
102	37	33	63	Council tax and NNDR	(4)	(2)	(6)
15	5	5	11	VAT	-	1	1
36	19	21	18	RSG & BRR	2	1	3
98	37	41	62	Other Grants	4	1	5
83	28	33	57	Other Income	5	2	7
-	-	59	31	MM Transactions Received	59	31	90
-	-	49	-	Receipt of Loans	49	-	49
422	155	269	300	RECEIPTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES	114	33	147
				PAYMENTS			
9	3	3	6	Police & Fire	-	-	-
236	75	82	159	General Creditors	(7)	2	(5)
-	-	-	-	RSG & BRR	-	-	-
110	37	36	74	Salaries & wages	1	(1)	-
74	25	26	48	Housing Benefits	(1)	1	-
33	33	125	53	MM Transactions Paid Out	(92)	(53)	(145)
462	173	272	340	PAYMENTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES	(99)	(51)	(150)
(40)	(18)	(3)	(40)	NET CASH FLOW IN/(OUT)	15	(18)	(3)
A	B	C	D		= C less B	= D less (A-B)	

Cash - short-term net investments/(borrowing) balances:



Commentary on Cash Movements during the year:

The summary on the previous page provides a comparison of the actual cash receipts and payments compared to the forecasted cash receipts and payments.

During the first 4 months of the year, the Council's net cashflow has resulted in fluctuations in short-term net investment/borrowing balances. However, overall temporary borrowing has reduced due to the accelerated receipt of grant income in the first three months of the year. The Council uses temporary borrowing to finance prudentially funded capital expenditure. While temporary investment rates and temporary borrowing rates are low the treasury team will delay taking any new long-term borrowing to fund planned capital expenditure. The interest charged by Lancashire County Council on the Local Government Reorganisation Debt is lower than anticipated. As a result, the delay in taking new long-term borrowing and the lower interest charge from Lancashire County Council mean that a favourable credit variance is once again forecast for 2015/16.

The chart of actual and forecast month-end balances shows temporary investment and borrowing levels throughout the year. The forecast shows the level of borrowing that may be required to cover planned capital expenditure up to 31st March 2016.

Blackpool Council

Balance Sheet / Working capital:

BALANCE SHEET 2015/2016				
LAST Y/END		CURRENT	CHANGE	NEXT Y/END
Draft 31 Mar 15 Actual £000s		31 Jul 15 Actual £000s	Movement since 31 Mar 15 £000s	31 Mar 16 Forecast £000s
781,767	Property, Plant and Equipment	786,708	4,941	800,000
97	Intangible Assets	97	-	65
20,462	Long-term Assets	20,446	(16)	20,000
	Current Assets			
37,014	Debtors	33,650	(3,364)	45,000
550	Short Term Assets Held for Sale	550	-	550
449	Inventories and Work in Progress	579	130	250
3,574	Cash and cash equivalents	7,632	4,058	5,000
843,913	Total Assets	849,662	5,749	870,865
	Current Liabilities			
(52,815)	Borrowing Repayable within 12 months	(29,000)	23,815	(50,000)
(54,813)	Creditors	(50,350)	4,463	(60,000)
	Long-term Liabilities			
(88,023)	Borrowing Repayable in excess of 12 months	(88,023)	-	(95,000)
(11,347)	Capital Grants in Advance	(11,347)	-	(9,000)
(17,834)	Provisions	(17,176)	658	(15,000)
(335,926)	Other Long Term Liabilities	(335,926)	-	(310,000)
283,155	Total Assets less Liabilities	317,840	34,685	331,865
	Usable Reserves			
(70,702)	Usable Reserves	(65,906)	4,796	(59,335)
(212,453)	Unusable Reserves	(251,934)	(39,481)	(272,530)
(283,155)	Total Reserves	(317,840)	(34,685)	(331,865)

Commentary on the key issues:

In order to provide a complete picture of the Council's financial performance, the above table provides a snapshot of the General Fund balance sheet as at the end of month 4. The key areas of focus are any significant movements in debtors, cash and cash equivalents, bank overdraft and creditors as these impact upon the Council's performance in the critical areas of debt recovery, treasury management and Public Sector Payments Policy.

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

Over the 4-month period there has been an increase in Property, Plant and Equipment of £4.9m and an increase in cash and cash equivalents of £4.1m, which in the main reflects the timing of the receipt of capital grants and the phasing of the capital programme.

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Report to: Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny meeting	TOURISM, RESOURCES AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer: Paolo Pertica	Paolo Pertica, Head of Visitor Services
Date of Meeting	15 October 2015

Parking Services Performance Report

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To provide information on the Performance data of Council owned car parks, both with regards to patronage and income. The report includes additional information on Talbot Multi-Storey car park and the Devonshire Road site. The report provides the rationale for the Parking Services targets.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider the performance of parking services and to identify any further areas for scrutiny as appropriate.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure constructive and robust scrutiny of the report, which had been requested by the Committee.

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:

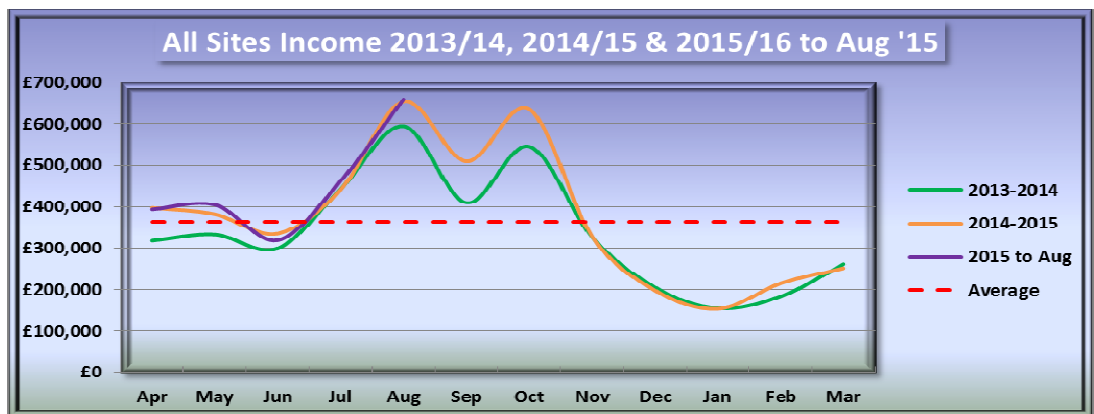
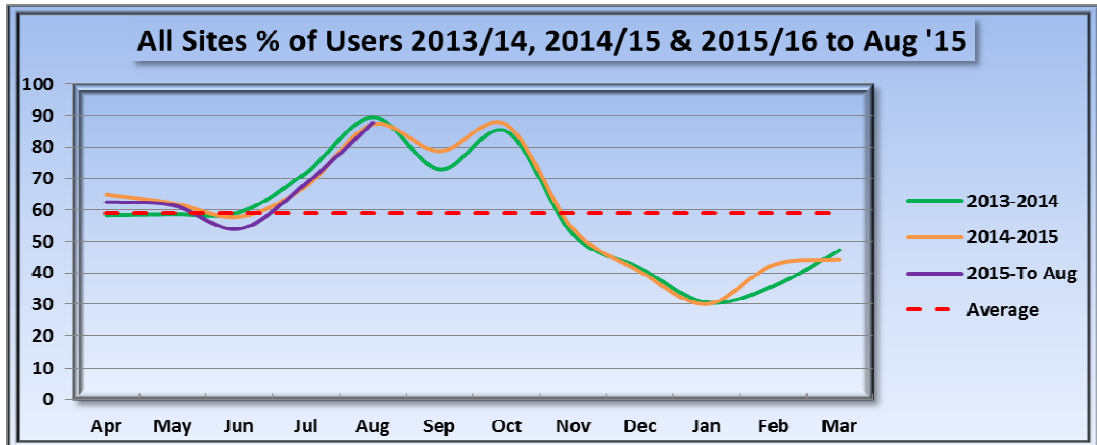
N/A

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is "Expand and promote our tourism, arts, heritage and cultural offer."

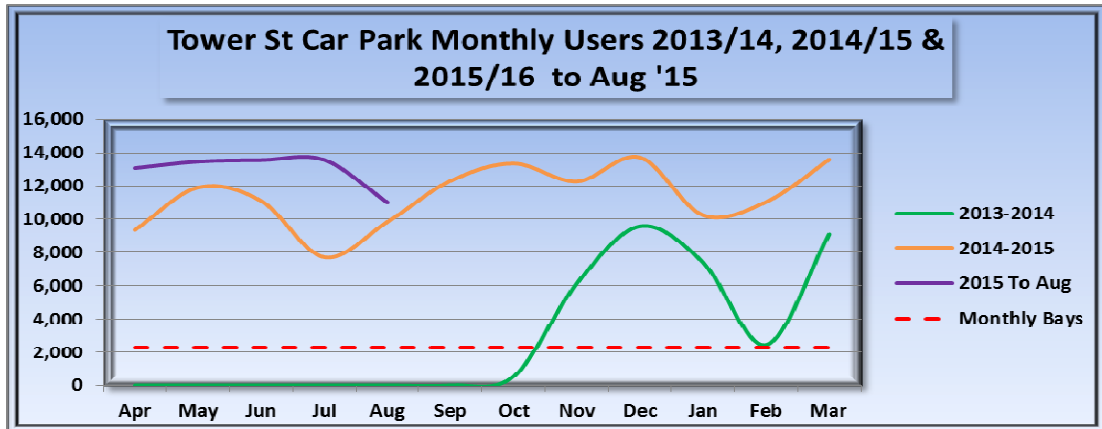
5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 There are two types of car parking: 'On Street', which relates to the parking bays along a street such as those on Topping Street and Albert Road, and 'Off Street', which relates to parking within a car park. There are approximately 870 pay and display On Street bays, mainly within the town centre and along the Promenade. There are 21 Council owned car parks and a total of 5231 parking spaces, of which 5135 are for cars, 96 for coaches and 4 for Motorhomes. There are also some areas specifically designated for use by motorcycles within West Street, East Topping Street, Lytham Road, Central, Chapel Street and Bonny Street car parks. Some of the car parks are located within the town centre and could be described as short term car parks as they are mainly used by those shopping in the town centre. These include Tower Street, West Street, Queen Street and East Topping Street car park. Some are located outside the town centre and are used by commuters during quieter periods, or by those attending large events such as the Illuminations or the Fire Works when the town is very busy. These include Gynn Square, Bank Street, Cocker Street and Cocker Square car park. An additional number of car parks are located alongside Yeadon Way and Seaside Way and are used by visitors during busy periods, those going to football matches, those based at the offices within the Blackpool Stadium and some commuters. These include South, Bloomfield Road, Lonsdale Road and Seaside Way car parks.
- 5.2 The income target for car parks was set about seven years ago before the Houndshell car park was sold. This target was also set before the Starr Gate car park was lost due to the new tram station being built and before Rigby Road, Sandway and Blundell Street (alongside Seaside Way) were lost to create space for the Foxhall Village Housing estate. Further, this was also prior to the loss of Swainson Street, Seed Street and the ground floor of Talbot Multi-Storey car park due to the development of Bickerstaffe House and Sainsburys within the Talbot Gateway. During this time only one new car park has been created, Tower Street, and the Council also receives a percentage of the income generated by a privately owned car park near the Promenade, Filey Place. During these changes the total number of bays lost is 1,791, of which 1749 were for cars and 42 were for coaches. These changes will have not only impacted on the amount of income that parking can generate, but also on the overall capacity of the town to accommodate its parking needs, particularly during very busy periods such as Easter Bank Holiday weekend and October half term.
- 5.3 The overall performance for car parks for the last two and half years (April 2013 to Sept 2016), both in relation to patronage and income, is highlighted in the following graphs:

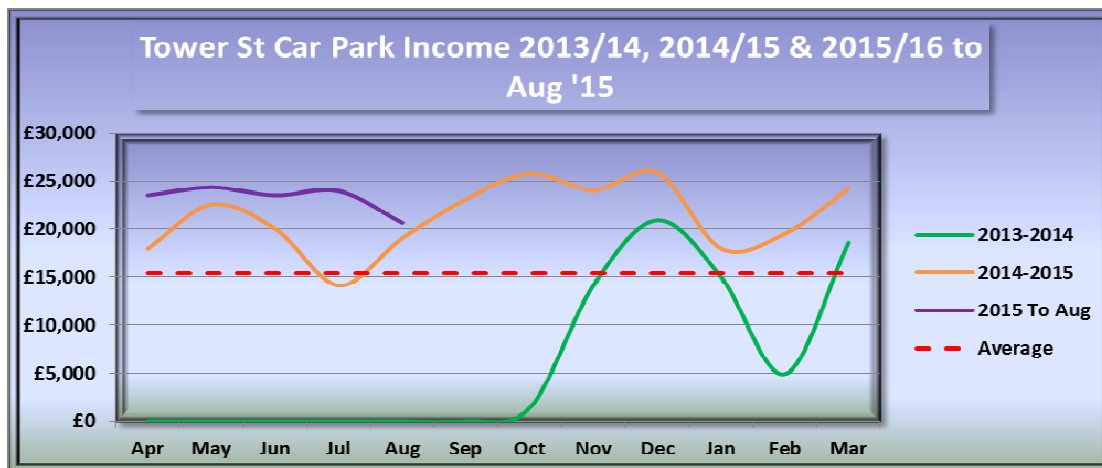


5.3.1 The above graphs demonstrate that the parking patronage in Blackpool is affected greatly by seasonality patterns, which are very similar each year. Demand for parking starts to increase during the Easter period in March/April and then continues to do so during the school holidays in July/August. It then decreases in September and increases again for the October half term period. After that, it gradually decreases reaching the lowest levels in January.

5.4 The following graphs show the patronage and income details of some of the best performing car parks:

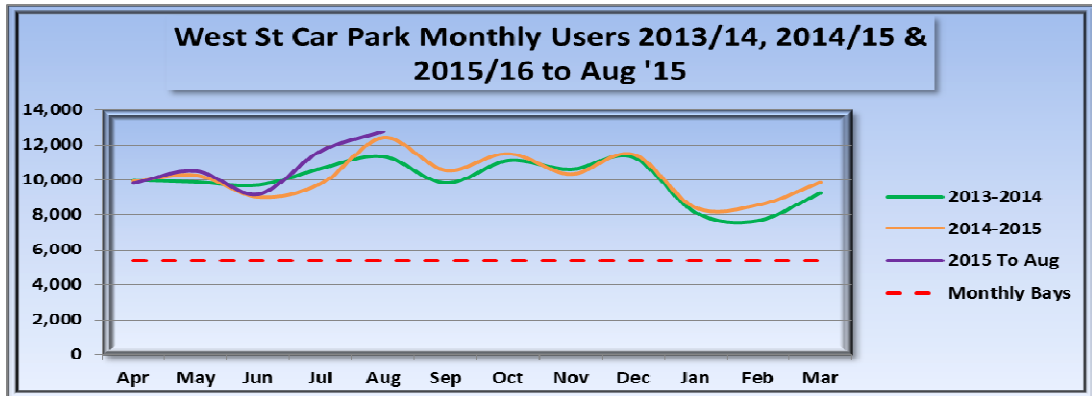


Monthly Bays 2,281

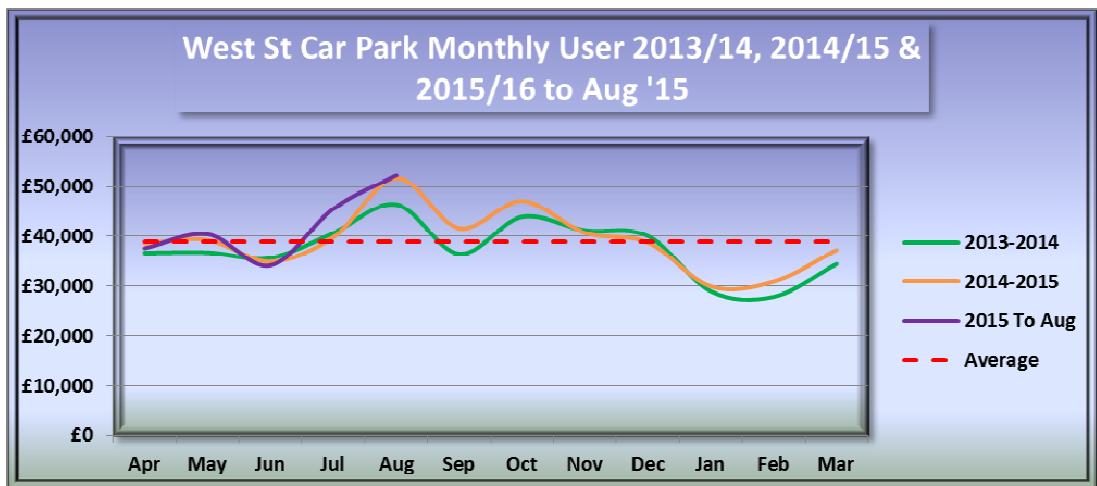


Average £15,350 per Month

5.4.1 The above graphs show that Tower Street is a very popular car park due to its location, and that it is used as a short term car park. Hence the same bay is sold numerous times each day which is shown by how much higher the patronage is each month, compared to the number of bays available on a monthly basis. Although the Tower Street occupancy patterns are similar to the ones highlighted for all car parks, in contrast Christmas is clearly a busy period for Tower Street, something which isn't seen across the other car parks. Given the location of Tower Street, this is not surprising.

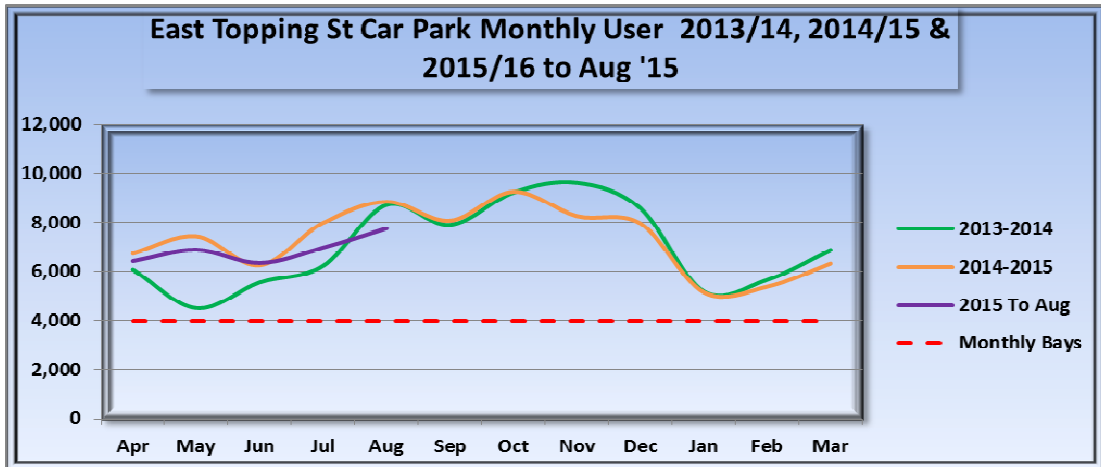


Monthly Bays 5,384

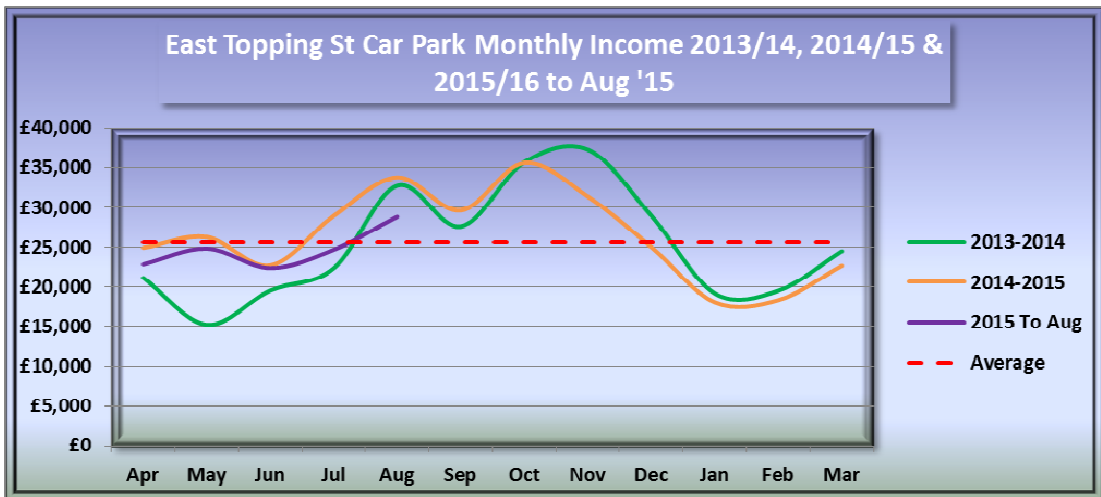


Average £38,966 per Month

5.4.2 West Street car park, similarly to Tower Street, is very popular due to its location. However, the bays are not sold as frequently as those in Tower Street which indicates that its users are a mix of short and medium stay patrons. Its occupancy patterns are very similar to those in all car parks.



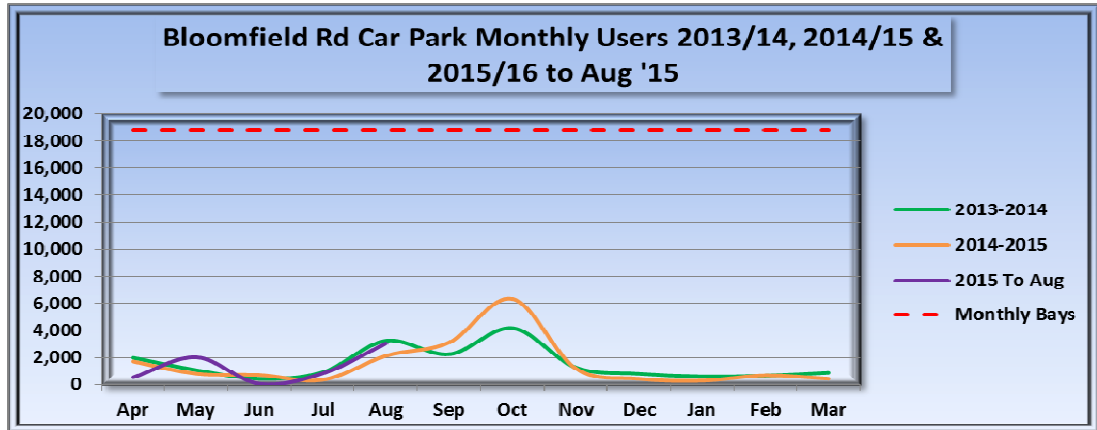
Monthly Bays 3,985



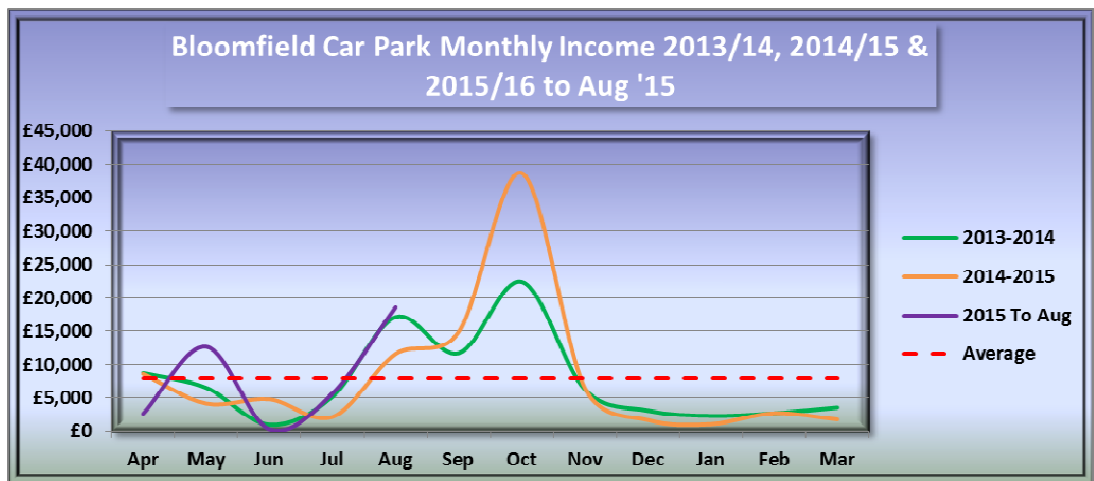
Average £25,665

5.4.3 East Topping Street car park occupational patterns are somewhere in between those of Tower Street and West Street car parks. This shows that its users are a mix of short term and medium term patrons, probably due to the fact that it is located nearby a shopping area, but also a number of offices.

5.5 The following graphs show the patronage and income details of some of the least performing car parks:

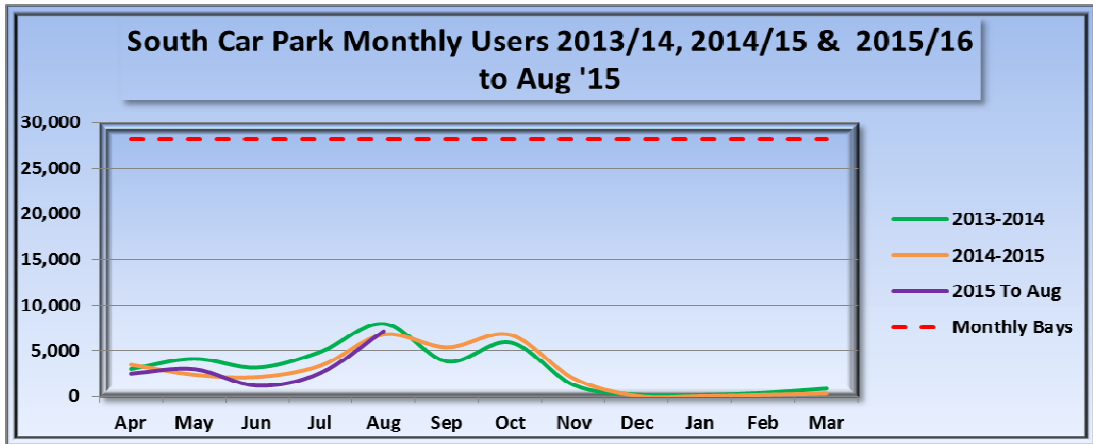


Monthly Bays 18,767

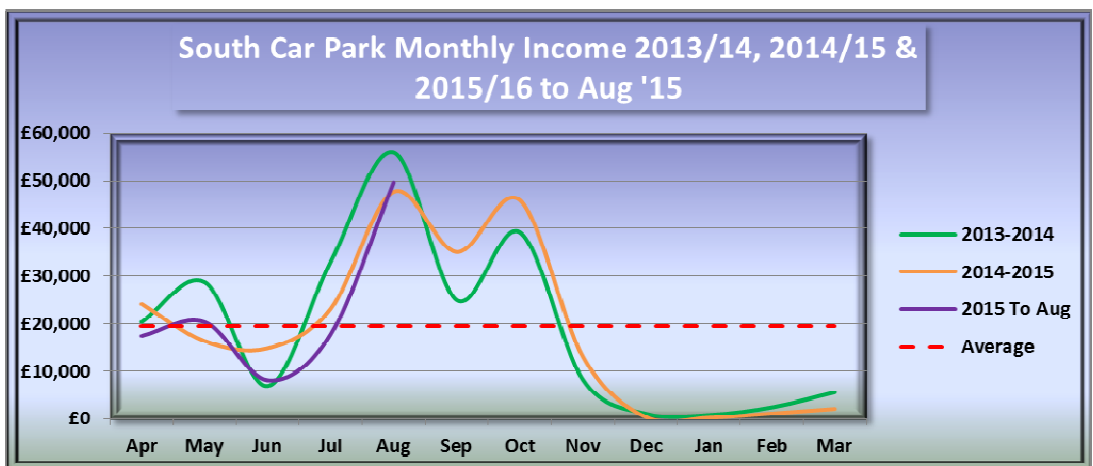


Average £7,890 per Month

5.5.1 The above graphs show that Bloomfield Road car park occupancy levels follow similar patterns to all other car parks, with occupancy levels increasing during the Easter period, although not to the same degree as the car parks in the town centre. Occupancy levels then increase again during the school holidays, but by far the busiest period is during the October half term. Although the overall occupancy level of this car park is 32% (compared to 220% for West Street car park) the use of Bloomfield Road car park and the neighbouring car parks is paramount in supporting the visitor economy during busy periods, which is also when most of the income is generated.

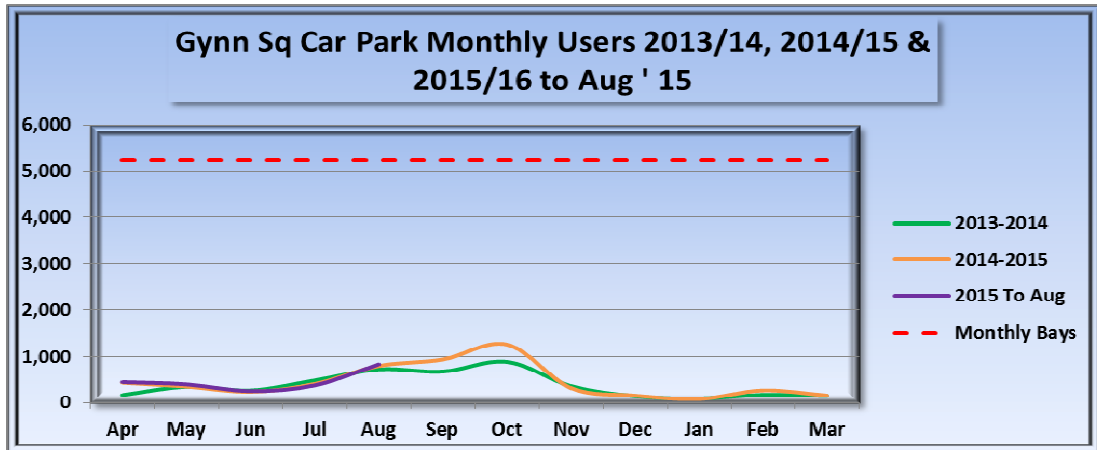


Monthly Bays 28,227

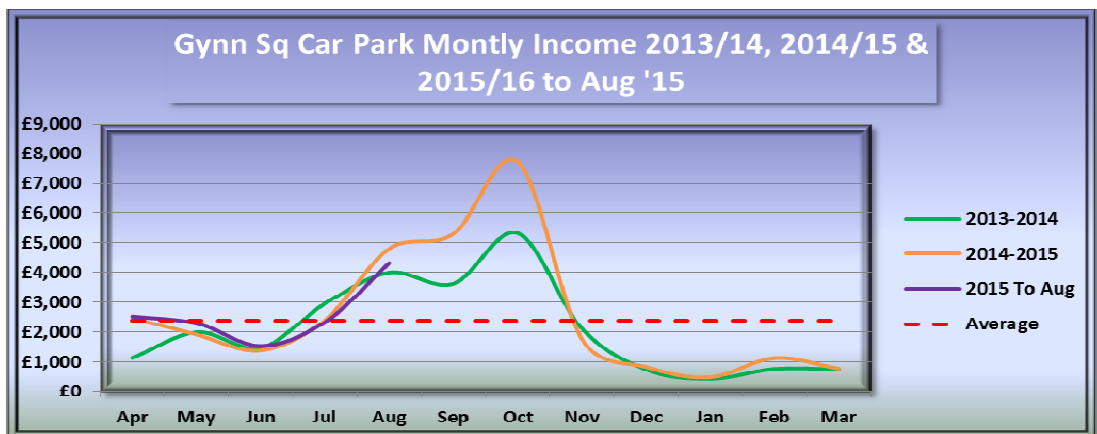


Average £19,492 per Month

5.5.2 The above graphs for South car park show very similar patterns to those for Bloomfield Road car park, with the same seasonal patterns for both occupancy and income generation.

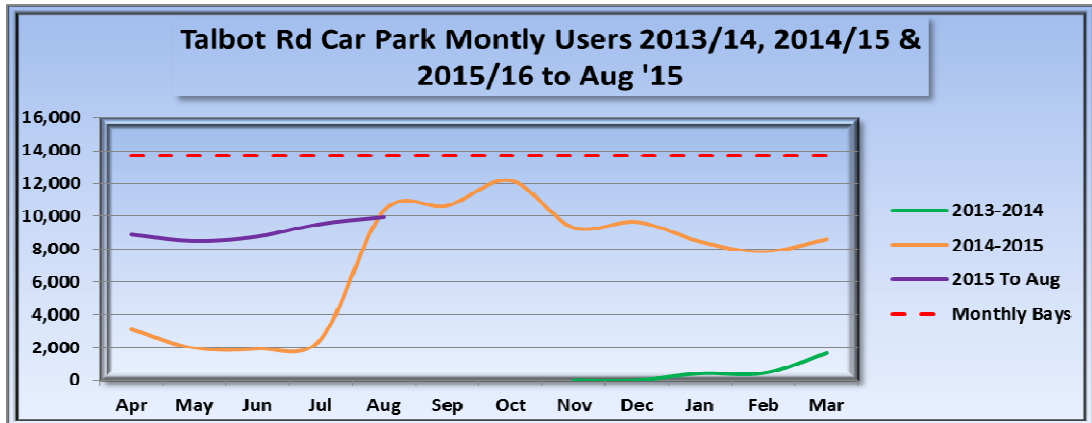


Monthly Bays 5,232



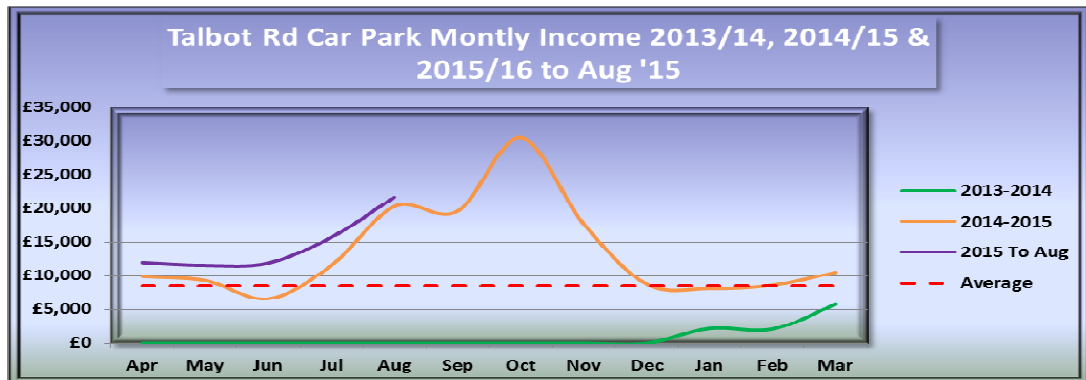
Average £2,389 per Month

5.5.3 The above graphs for Gynn Square car and coach park show the same occupancy and income patterns as Bloomfield Road and South car parks, but with an overall occupancy of only 22% making it one of the least performing car parks in Blackpool. The main reason for this is its location and its distance to Blackpool town centre and main attractions.



Monthly Bays 13,698

Please note: This car park re-opened on the 5th October 2013 and until July 2014 it was only used by members of the public. In August 2014 Council staff also started to use it when staff permits became available. For example, during 2014/15 the patronage figures are 55% staff, 13% Public



Average £8,392 per Month

- 5.6 The above graphs show that the occupancy levels of Talbot Road Multi-Storey car park have changed considerably since it was made available for the staff parking scheme introduced in August 2014. Although the use by members of the public during ordinary evenings and weekend remains low, during major events such as the Air Show and the recent firework displays the car park has proven highly popular amongst members of the public and has reached full occupancy.

- 5.7 **Former Devonshire Road Hospital Site** - When the works for the creation of the Talbot Gateway project were being planned the contractor required a significant amount of land for holding equipment and materials. The closer to the site the better. An agreement was reached for a five year lease with an NHS trust and the contractor agreed to pay £250,000 as a contribution towards the lease cost of £80,000 per year. With a planned 1,000 staff plus potentially another 250 on floor 1 moving to the new Bickerstaffe House a comprehensive plan for staff parking was needed for the area. Improvements were made to Bank St and obviously Talbot Multi Storey Car Park, but with these car parks already having some clientele it was felt that further provision would be necessary. Arrangements were made to surface and layout a car park at the Devonshire Road car park at a cost of £180,000 to be paid for from the fees charges to staff for parking. This amount has now been paid back form the staff parking scheme. Whilst there was some initial interest in using the site by staff, many have now opted for the much more expensive Talbot Multi Storey or other passes. We are now looking to relinquish the lease and pass the site back to the NHS trust concerned.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices: None

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 The car parking service has made a surplus of income over expenditure every year as far back as records go. During the last seven years though the car parking income has fallen below the target set, we do need to review this situation as it is unlikely that the income will ever again reach the target levels. The reasons for this are listed in para 5.2 above.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

Report to:	TOURISM, RESOURCES AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Andrew Foot, Head of Housing
Date of Meeting:	15th October 2015

TRANSIENCE PROGRAMME

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the update on the progress of the Transience programme and future direction of planned work.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider the update report to determine the next steps in terms of the involvement of the Scrutiny Committee.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To keep the committee updated ensuring that progress has been achieved.

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 Priorities are

- Improve health and well-being especially for the most disadvantaged
- Improve housing standards and the environment we live in by using housing investment to create stable communities
- Create safer communities and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
- Deliver quality services through a professional, well-rewarded and motivated workforce

5.0 Background Information

Background and Objectives of the Transience Programme

Blackpool has a significant transient population, with approximately 8,000 people moving into and out of the area annually, and high levels of movement between properties within the town, especially in the private rented sector.

The dominance of poor quality privately rented housing, often converted from former guest houses, has led to intense concentrations of deprivation, and an environment that fosters poor health, crime, welfare dependence and lack of opportunity. This in turn leads to local partners having to commit significant resources in responding to acute health, social care, educational and employment needs as well as dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Transience Programme provides a person-centered programme that supports and refers vulnerable tenants into services that promote healthy, sustainable lifestyles. A dedicated team within the Families in Need division of Children's Services makes contact with vulnerable tenants through Selective Licensing inspections of private rented properties. It helps develop more resilient neighbourhoods that foster personal responsibility and reduce dependence on public sector services by working on an area basis and also by investing in the expansion of community groups within target areas. The programme introduces a pro-active preventative approach to public service delivery. It is linked to wider initiatives to improve housing, support and the attractiveness of deprived areas.

The Programme started in the South Beach area of inner Blackpool from 2012/13 and was originally funded by Public Health. It was then extended into the Claremont area from summer 2014. A successful bid was made to Government for a Transformation Challenge Award of £1.54 million over three years that has become available from the current financial year.

The scope of the work is now being expanded, enabled by the new resources, and reflecting commitments made in the funding bid. This has led to a recent expansion in staff numbers to enable continuing work in South Beach and strengthen work in Claremont. Investment has recently been made in two new posts within the Housing team to build community activity and ensure effective implementation and evaluation of the programme. It is intended that further investment will be made in the programme so that it can move into new areas of central Blackpool from 2016.

The revised aims of the transience programme are to deliver:

- More stability in target areas and a reduction in moves linked to failed tenancies and chaotic lifestyles
- Decrease in incidents of anti-social behaviour and crime
- Fewer crisis presentations to local authority services
- Significant improvements in health and well-being of the population including a reduction in substance misuse and Accident and Emergency presentations
- Decrease in the number of household fires
- Improved school attendance
- Improved learning and skills with residents moving closer to the employment market

Outcomes to date

5.1 **South Beach**

The area for the original pilot scheme was the same as the South Beach selective licensing area, running west of Seaside's Way from Chapel Street in the north to the Pleasure Beach in the south. Initial inspections of all properties have been completed, with 1,690 people contacted and 950 provided with some support. The initiative has received a positive response from the community and feedback from individuals who have been supported suggests that the proactive approach to offer help and support before crisis point has made a difference. The police statistics show a downward trend in anti-social behaviour call outs linked to the private rented sector.

Work to engage the local community in shaping their own neighbourhood is still on going, currently focused on a weekly drop in event that is regularly attended by upwards of 40 individuals who can get advice, socialize, and volunteer. The recent new funding resource will enable an increased presence of the Transience team in the area to contact and support more residents, develop further ways of supporting the local community, and also evaluate in more detail what has been achieved to date.

5.2 **Claremont**

Work covering the whole of the Claremont ward started in August 2014. Most of the first sweep of inspections has been completed to date. The transience team has had contact with 1264 people and provided support to 602 of them.

Work to support the local community will now be further developed, building on an existing local drop in, and helping to co-ordinate community activities. Great Places Housing Association who own over 200 properties in the area are also committed to working with the Council in addressing issues within the community.

5.3 Areas for further development

The priorities for the next six months are:

- To further develop the strategic partnership
- To agree and implement a comprehensive evaluation plan, and update the cost-benefit analysis
- To develop a wider community group in Claremont, in partnership with Great Places Housing Group, working with interested parties and existing community groups
- To continue to support and develop the community groups in South Beach
- To revisit and review earlier contacts in South Beach
- To establish a “drop in” base within South Beach
- To plan for further work in the Central area and start to develop links with the existing community groups in those neighbourhoods
- To carry out a partnership consultation workshop to discuss progress, issues and future plans

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? Yes/No

List of Appendices:

None

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 Five new staff have recently been recruited following the successful funding bid, with further staff resources to be recruited in 2016 to enable work across a wider area.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 The budget is now entirely funded from the Transformation Challenge Award funding that has been secured for three years.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Risk to staff - Staff work within the training and procedures of Families in Need team

Risk of funding coming to an end – Funding has been received for the full three year programme. Comprehensive evaluation and cost benefit analysis should demonstrate the effectiveness of this approach.

Risk of duplication / lack of coordination with other services – The programme works closely with very many other services within the Council, together with Police and health services. It provides initial support but also relies on referrals to mainstream services.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 All actions are in line with and support the Council's core values, morals and beliefs.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 The programme is continuing to work with the Public Service Transformation Network and the Centre for Excellence in Information Sharing (CEIS). They are currently assisting us with the development of the evaluation frame work.

The evaluation will seek to understand from individuals and the wider community what benefits have been achieved and how the programme could be further improved.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

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Report to:	TOURISM, RESOURCES AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Carmel Mckeogh, Deputy Chief Executive
Date of Meeting	15 October 2015

HEALTH AND SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the Annual Health and Safety Report.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider the performance of the Council in relation to Health and Safety matters and to identify any further issues for scrutiny.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure constructive and robust scrutiny of the report.

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

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

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

Not applicable

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 This report is for the year April 2014 – March 2015. The Annual Health and Safety Report is presented approximately two months after the period for which they are written, as this allows the Health and Safety Team sufficient time to gather and critique accurate data on which to report

5.2 The report details how the Council performed in the period April 2014 – March 2015 in relation to Health and Safety matters.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

Yes/No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 9 – Health and Safety Annual Report.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 Not applicable

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 Contained within the report.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 Not applicable

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 Not applicable

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Not applicable

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 Not applicable

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Not applicable

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None



HEALTH AND SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT

April 2014 - March 2015

HEALTH AND SAFETY TEAM

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

April 2014 – March 2015

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10.0	Graphical data	Page 10

Executive Summary

Highlights:

During this period, 8 Manual Holder Audits, 4 Fire Safety Audits, 13 School Audits, 12 Multi Agency Audits, 1 Legal Compliance Audit, 1 Tramway Safety Audit and 18 Monitoring exercises were completed by the Health and Safety Team, in order to monitor compliance and suggest improvement opportunities.

136 face to face health and safety related training courses were delivered to over 1676 employees in this period. 52 of these courses were delivered internally by the Health and Safety Team. The 52 internally delivered courses, when compared with external trainer costs, resulted in cost savings to the Council of approximately £16,000. A further £3,000 revenue was generated by the external delivery of training to BCH and academies.

The Health and Safety Team's contractual agreement to provide health and safety services for Fylde Borough Council and Bishop Rawstorne Academy continued during this period. SLAs with schools and academies also continued during this period.

Areas of concern:

For the last five years the Annual Health and Safety Report has highlighted the risk to the management of health and safety resulting from organisational change. This, again, is major area for concern as the austerity cuts continue.

In order to reduce this risk, it is strongly advised that senior management ensure that line managers with new roles or new responsibilities continue to have both the skills and knowledge to effectively undertake their new or altered roles. The skills and knowledge set required by managers must include health and safety, in order to ensure that the organisation continues to safeguard the health safety and welfare of its employees and minimise the risk from criminal and civil proceedings.

Line managers must also ensure that any employees with new roles and or responsibilities are provided with the skills and knowledge that they require. Line managers must also ensure that activities undertaken by employees have been suitably risk assessed and that adequate controls are in place to eliminate or manage any identified risks. Line managers must ensure that they identify and meet employee training needs, particularly those with health and safety implications. Line managers must also continue to be aware of the signs of stress, both in themselves and their staff and the support and tools that are in place to assist them to effectively manage stress, particularly in times of change.

Health and Safety training courses are available via OWD to meet these training and development needs.

During this period the Health and Safety Team coached, supported and assisted numerous line managers to carry out monitoring exercises on their work activities. This was undertaken in order to try to embed monitoring as regular management function. It is important that line managers carry out monitoring exercises themselves in order to ensure that what they think and hope is happening, actually is.

During this period serious concerns were raised by the Health and Safety Team regarding environmental and health and safety issues at Carlton Crematorium and the management of work at height within the Illuminations Department.

Future challenges:

The challenge for this organisation continues to be for Senior Management to ensure that the organisation maintains a positive health and safety culture, despite any external economic influences and the significant reductions in staffing levels.

Presently the organisation continues to provide all of its services despite budget cuts and staffing reductions, the challenge is to continue to provide those services in a manner that does not adversely affect the health safety and welfare of staff or others affected by our work activities.

Once again, during this period, there has been significant support for health and safety from Senior Management, Elected Members, the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive with responsibility for Health and Safety. It is critical that this visible and vocal support from Senior Management continues, in order to set the correct health and safety culture for the organisation.

Recommendations

1. Senior Management must ensure that line managers with new roles or responsibilities continue to have both the skills and knowledge to effectively undertake their new or altered roles.
2. It is strongly recommended that Senior Management confirm that their line managers ensure that any employees with new roles and or responsibilities are provided with the skills and knowledge that they require to fulfil their role. Also that all work activities with significant risk are assessed and that adequate controls are in place.
3. It is recommended that the Corporate Leadership Team read and use the forms provided in the Monitoring, Inspecting and Auditing Arrangements to help ensure that their Senior Managers are monitoring and consequently that their line managers are also monitoring health and safety compliance within their work activities.
4. It is recommended that the visible and vocal support of health and safety by senior management continues to be a priority, in order to set the correct health and safety culture within the organisation.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This is the eighth annual Health and Safety Report produced by the Health and Safety Team on behalf of Blackpool Council. This report is for the year April 2014 – March 2015. Annual Health and Safety Reports are presented approximately two months after the period for which they are written, this allows the Health and Safety Team sufficient time to gather and critique accurate data on which to report. Four quarterly health and safety graphical reports have also been produced in this period.
- 1.2 This report is produced during the first quarter of each financial year and will report on a variety of issues that have affected the health, safety and well-being of Blackpool Council employees and users of Council services during the previous financial year.
- 1.3 This annual report is forwarded to the Council's Deputy Chief Executive with responsibility for Health and Safety, for approval. Once the Deputy Chief Executive has approved the report she will present the report to the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) and to the Elected Member responsible for Health and Safety.

2.0 New Legislation and Initiatives

During this period there were several legislative changes, which included:-

- 2.1 Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 - L153.
New Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM 2015) came into force on the 6th of April 2015. Changes to the regulations include:-
 - CDM Coordinator role replaced by 'Principal Designer'.
 - Changes to the threshold for notification of projects to HSE.
 - Domestic projects now included.

In reaction to these changes, the Health and Safety Team have re-drafted and re-distributed the Corporate Arrangement 'Managing Health and Safety in Construction'.
- 2.2 The Petroleum (Consolidation) Regulations 2014. (PCR) came into force on 1 October 2014 updating and replacing all previous legislation on petrol storage. They apply to workplaces that store petrol where petrol is dispensed and non-workplace premises storing petrol, for example at private homes or at clubs/associations.

The Health and Safety Team have it on their annual business plan to develop and distribute a Guidance Note on this subject.
- 2.3 The new Explosives Regulations 2014 (ER 2014) came into force on 1 October 2014. The new regulations consolidate and therefore revoke a number of existing explosives regulations.
- 2.4 The Acetylene Safety Regulations 2014 (ASR 2014) came into force on 1 October 2014. The hazards that are linked to acetylene gas are not fully addressed by DSEAR, therefore the additional legal requirements for its safe use are provided by the ASR 2014, which consolidate and modernise existing legislation.
- 2.5 The Genetically Modified Organisms Regulations 2014 came into force on August 7, 2014. The 2014 Regulations will consolidate and revoke the 2000 regulations and its three sets of amending regulations (2002, 2005 and 2010).

3.0 HSE Interventions

3.1 There were no Health and Safety Executive visits or interventions during this period.

4.0 Health and Safety Training

4.1 Over 136 face-to-face Health and Safety related training courses were delivered during this period. Over 1676 Blackpool Council employees attended these courses, 425 more than the previous year.

4.2 These courses were also available to Fylde Borough Council employees and employees of schools that have entered into a service level agreement with Human Resources.

4.3 In its continuous drive to reduce costs and increase value, members of the Health and Safety Team delivered, internally, over 52 health and safety related training courses. This resulted in improved and more relevant training. This also resulted in cost savings to the Council of approximately £16,000.

4.4 The Health and Safety Team also delivered a number of revenue raising external courses to BCH, and schools during the period resulting in over £3,000 extra income.

4.5 Health and safety related training delivered by members of the Health and Safety Team to Blackpool Council employees during this period included:

- Fire Risk Assessment
- Fire Warden
- Fire Awareness
- Manual Handling
- Work at Height
- Accident Investigation
- COSHH Awareness
- Personal Safety

4.6 Health and safety related training available by external providers to Blackpool Council employees during this period included:

- Module 1 for Facility Managers
- Module 2 for Facility Managers
- Managing Asbestos
- CDM Awareness
- Coping with Work Related Pressure
- Managing Work Related Pressure
- IOSH Managing Safely
- IOSH Working Safely
- First Aid at Work
- First Aid Refresher
- Emergency First Aid at Work

4.7 Online health and safety related training available during this period include:

- You and Your Workstation
- Fire Awareness
- Personal Safety

Health and Safety for Elected Members

- 276 more employees have completed the online course - You and Your Workstation, during this period. This takes the total number of employees completing this course to 2490.
- 1061 employees have completed Fire Awareness online course during this period. This takes the total number of employees completing this course to 1817.
- 75 employees have completed Personal Safety online course during this period. This takes the total number of employees completing this course to 320.
- Unfortunately, despite a request for Health and Safety training for Elected Members, so far, only one Elected Member has completed the online course. These statistics have not changed even though we now have new Councillors in the cabinet.

5.0 Consultation and Arrangements

- 5.1 During this period two new Health and Safety Guidance Notes were developed and issued:-
- Risk Assessment for New and Expectant Mothers.
 - Health and Safety for Volunteers.
- 5.2 An annual review was carried out to identify any documents requiring amendment or review as a result of changes in legislation, processes or best practise etc.

The following Arrangements were amended and reissued:-

- Display Screen Equipment
- Driving at Work
- Occupational Health Service

6.0 Audit, Inspections & Monitoring

- 6.1 During this period the Health and Safety Team undertook:
- 8 Manual Holder Audits
 - 6 Manual Holder Reviews
 - 4 Fire Safety Audits
 - 12 Multi-agency Audit/Inspections
 - 13 School Audits
 - 1 interim audit
 - 1 Asbestos Compliance Audit
 - Tramway Safety Audit
 - 18 monitoring exercises of various topics
 - 16 schools - seeking assurance correspondence
 - 2 Health and Safety Monitoring checks conducted by The Deputy Chief Executive
- 6.2 The Manual Holder Audit objective is to assess whether Health and Safety Manuals are maintained, up to date and populated with appropriate documentation in accordance with Council requirements and that the relevant information is being effectively communicated to employees.
- 6.3 All formal audits and inspections completed by the Health and Safety Team are followed up with a written report, including recommendations. Following the written audit report, the Health and Safety Team make telephone contact to offer support, guidance and assistance on the implementation of any recommendations made to the Manual Holder and/or the service concerned.

- 6.4 The objective of the Fire Safety Audit is to ensure compliance with all current fire legislation and Blackpool's own organisational standards. All formal Fire Safety Audits completed by the Health and Safety Team are followed up with a written report, including recommendations. Following the written audit report the Health and Safety Team make telephone contact to offer support, guidance and assistance to the Responsible Person or their Representative to assist in the implementation of any recommendations.
- 6.5 Multi Agency Audits are carried out in conjunction with our colleagues in Insurance, accompanied by Lancashire Fire & Rescue and the Police.
- 6.6 Individual compliance audits, such as legionella and asbestos, are designed to ensure that Blackpool Council's management of the topic comply with our current legal obligations and/or its own written arrangements.
- 6.7 Monitoring is part of the Monitoring, Inspection and Auditing Arrangements and is primarily a Management function. The H&S Team have been encouraging and assisting line managers to carry out monitoring exercises in order to help demonstrate the value of the exercise and how easy it is to carry the exercise out.
- 6.8 Health and Safety Monitoring checks, conducted by The Deputy Chief Executive, are carried out in conjunction with the Health and Safety Manager. The purpose is to allow the Deputy Chief Executive the opportunity to talk to staff on health and safety matters in order to help gauge the health and safety performance of the department.

7.0 Fire Safety

- 7.1 There is currently a "Memorandum of Understanding" (MoU) between Blackpool Council and Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LF&R); this was originally signed in 2010 and has been re-affirmed on an annual basis. The Memorandum continues to outline the agreement between both parties, to conduct joint inspection, to exchange information, to meet for de-briefs if required, to inspect council premises on a risk based approach, and to meet the needs of the community by ensuring compliance with legislation through inspection and advice.

We and Lancashire Fire and Rescue feel that the MoU should be seen as an exemplar model that reduces the burden on LF&R and ensures that they are free to meet the needs of Blackpool residents, thereby reducing the likely hood of loss of life and property.

- 7.2 Once again, during this period, we are pleased to report, there were no fire enforcement notices or action plans issued against Blackpool Council. We feel this is a result of the MoU and the hard work that has been carried out over the previous 5-6 years in ensuring compliance with current fire safety legislation.
- 7.3 Fire safety auditing continued during this period and 4 Fire Safety Audits were conducted.
- 7.4 In addition to the above, Fire Safety Audit is also included in the school audit process.

8 Accident and Incident Data

- 8.1 Graphs relating to the Accidents/Incidents reported during the period April 2014 - March 2015 are attached for your information.
- 8.2 There were a total of 329 employee accident and/or incidents reported to the Health and Safety Team during this period. This compares with a total of 297 for the previous year and Shows an increase, despite a further reduction in employee numbers.

- 8.3 13 employee accidents were reportable to the Health and Safety Executive, under the requirements of the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases & Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR). This is a reduction from the previous year's total of 17 and indicates a year on year reduction of RIDDOR category accidents.
- 8.4 There were a total of 284 non-employee accident / incidents reported into the Health and Safety Team during this period. This compares with a total of 292 for the previous year and shows a slight decrease.
- 8.5 31 non-employee accidents were reportable to the Health and Safety Executive, to comply with the requirements of RIDDOR. This compares with a total of 67 for the previous year and shows a significant decrease.

It is useful to note that there is a requirement to report, under RIDDOR, any incident that results in a member of public being taken straight to hospital from the scene of an accident. Schools are cautious following injuries to children and this often results in the child being taken straight from the scene of an accident to hospital. The effect of this is high levels of RIDDOR reporting for the Council. Of the 31 non-employee RIDDOR reportable accidents, 27 were school related (including academies (9)).

- 8.6 It can be seen from the information attached, that 90 of the 329 employee accidents occurred in Schools, as might be expected given the number of employees (2,045).
- 8.7 Similarly, 115 of the 284 of non-employee related accidents occurred within schools.
- 8.8 Physical assault was the largest cause of accidents reports for this period (69), followed by verbal assault (52), both reflecting a slight rise from the previous year. Slips, trips and falls was the third highest cause of accidents (43) reflecting a reduction from the previous year of approximately 28%.
- 8.9 Verbal assault (including threatening behaviour) was the largest cause of accidents reports for this period (96), followed by Physical Assault (70), both reflecting a rise from the previous year. Slips, trips and falls was, once again the third highest cause of accidents (55) a slight rise from the previous year.
- 8.10 In response to the above the Council has in place:-
- Personal Safety Arrangements.
 - Online Personal Safety training available via iPool.
 - Face to face Personal Safety training.
 - Dealing with difficult client behaviour – on demand.
 - A Corporate Warning Register to identify those who pose a threat to Council staff.
 - A handbook for staff to help clarify what they should do when faced with situations of physical or verbal abuse.
 - The Deputy Chief Executive has also been in discussions with a representative from Lancashire constabulary to identify support available from the police, in cases where staff are physically assaulted or threatened.
 - The Health and Safety Team have available two posters designed to raise awareness in 'Preventing Slips, Trips & Falls'. Over 150 of these posters have been issued.

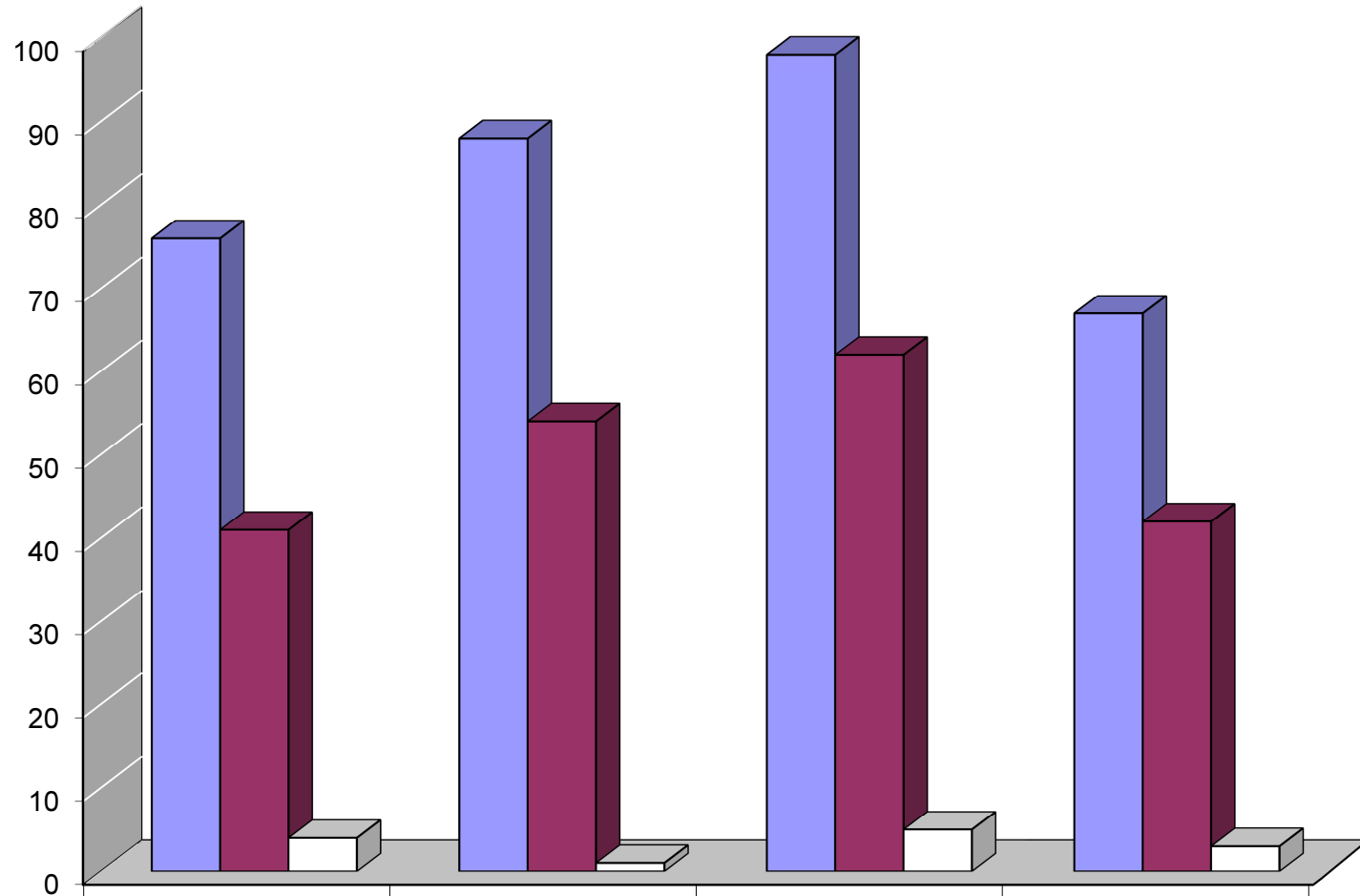
- 8.11 The graphical fire related data provided, we feel, may highlights under reporting of fire related incidents. This is despite highlighting the requirement for reporting via Monthly Briefing Notes, Arrangements and during the audit process.
- 8.12 Further information or breakdown of the accident data attached can be made available by contacting the Health and Safety Team.
- 8.13 Employee liability (EL) claims can be used as an indicator of the health and safety performance of an organisation. The current graph indicates a rise in the number of EL claims for the period 2012-2014. However, the period indicated is for an 18 month period. Therefore comparing with the previous 12 month period, it would be reasonable to conclude that EL claims remain reasonably consistent with the previous period. Employee liability claims can be brought up to 3 years following the incident, therefore the statistics in the 2014-15 column will alter.

9.0 Recommendations

- 9.1 Senior Management must ensure that line managers with new roles or responsibilities continue to have both the skills and knowledge to effectively undertake their new or altered roles.
- 9.2 It is strongly recommended that Senior Management confirm that their line managers ensure that any employees with new roles and or responsibilities are provided with the skills and knowledge that they require to fulfil their role. Also, that all work activities with significant risk are assessed and that adequate controls are in place.
- 9.3 It is recommended that the Corporate Leadership Team read and use the forms provided in the Monitoring, Inspecting and Auditing Arrangements to help ensure that their Senior Managers are monitoring and consequently that their line managers are also monitoring health and safety compliance within their work activities.
- 9.4 It is recommended that the visible and vocal support of health and safety by senior management continues to be a priority, in order to set the correct health and safety culture within the organisation.

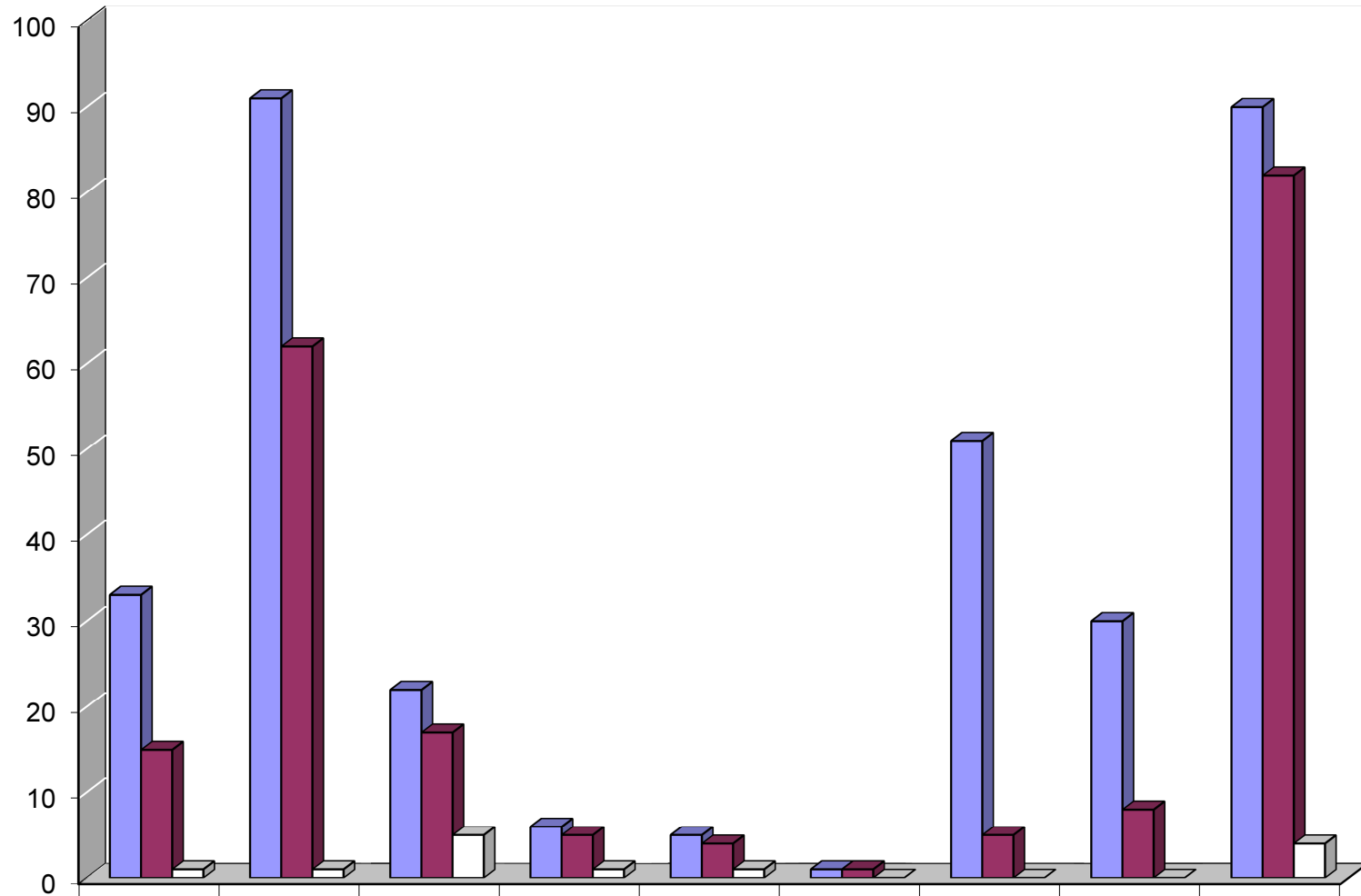
Please find below employee accident/incident information reported April 2014 to March 2015.

Total Number of Employee Accident/Incidents Reported - 2014 / 2015



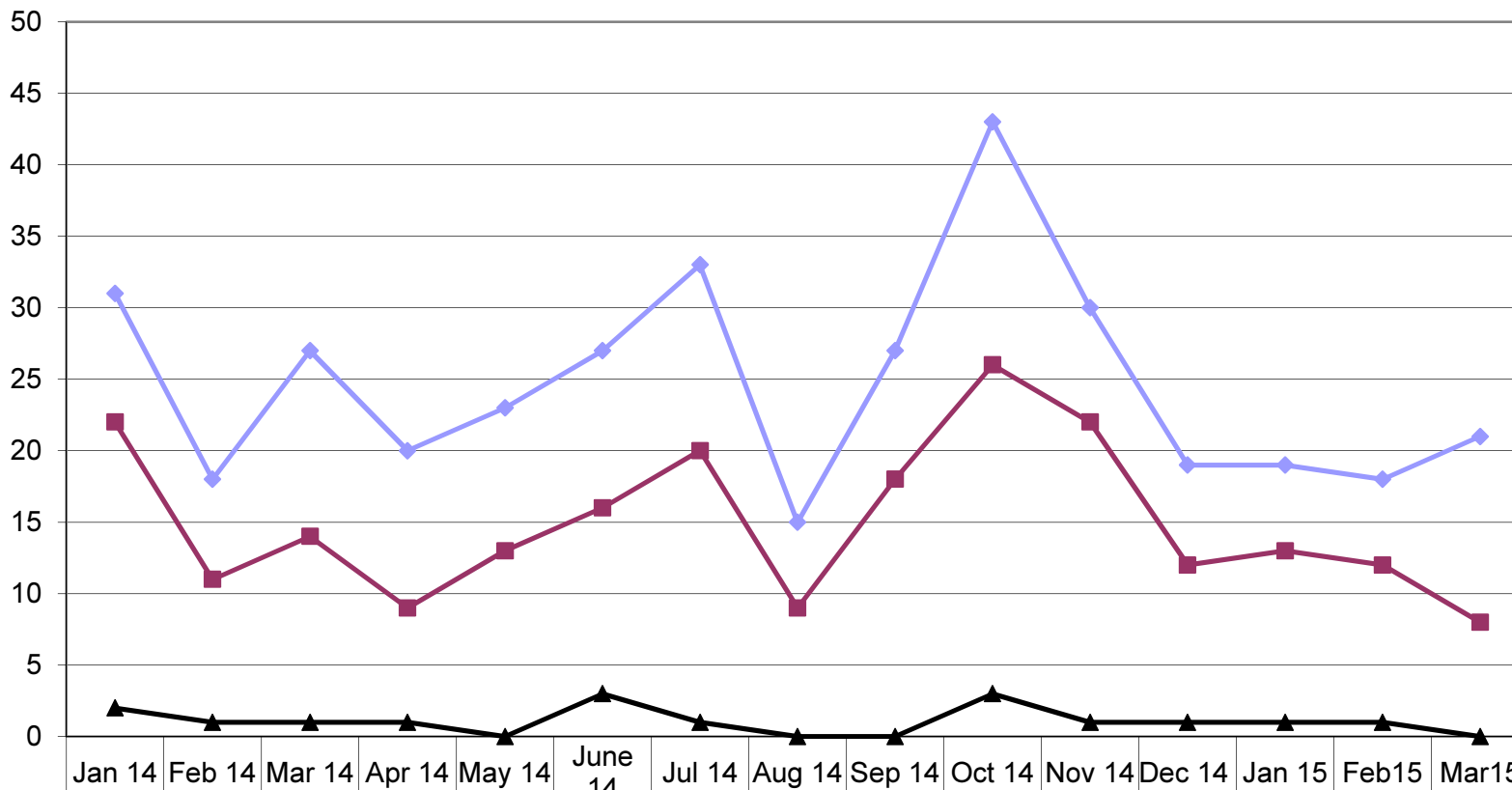
■ Accidents	76	88	98	67
■ Accidents Resulting in Injury	41	54	62	42
□ Accidents Reported to HSE	4	1	5	3

Total Number of Employee Accident/Incidents Reported by Division - 2014 / 2015



■ Accidents	33	91	22	6	5	1	51	30	90
■ Accidents Resulting in Injury	15	62	17	5	4	1	5	8	82
□ Accidents Reported to HSE	1	1	5	1	1	0	0	0	4

Summary of Employee Accident/Incidents,
Accident/Incidents Resulting in Injury,
Accident/Incidents Reported to the HSE January 2014 - March 2015



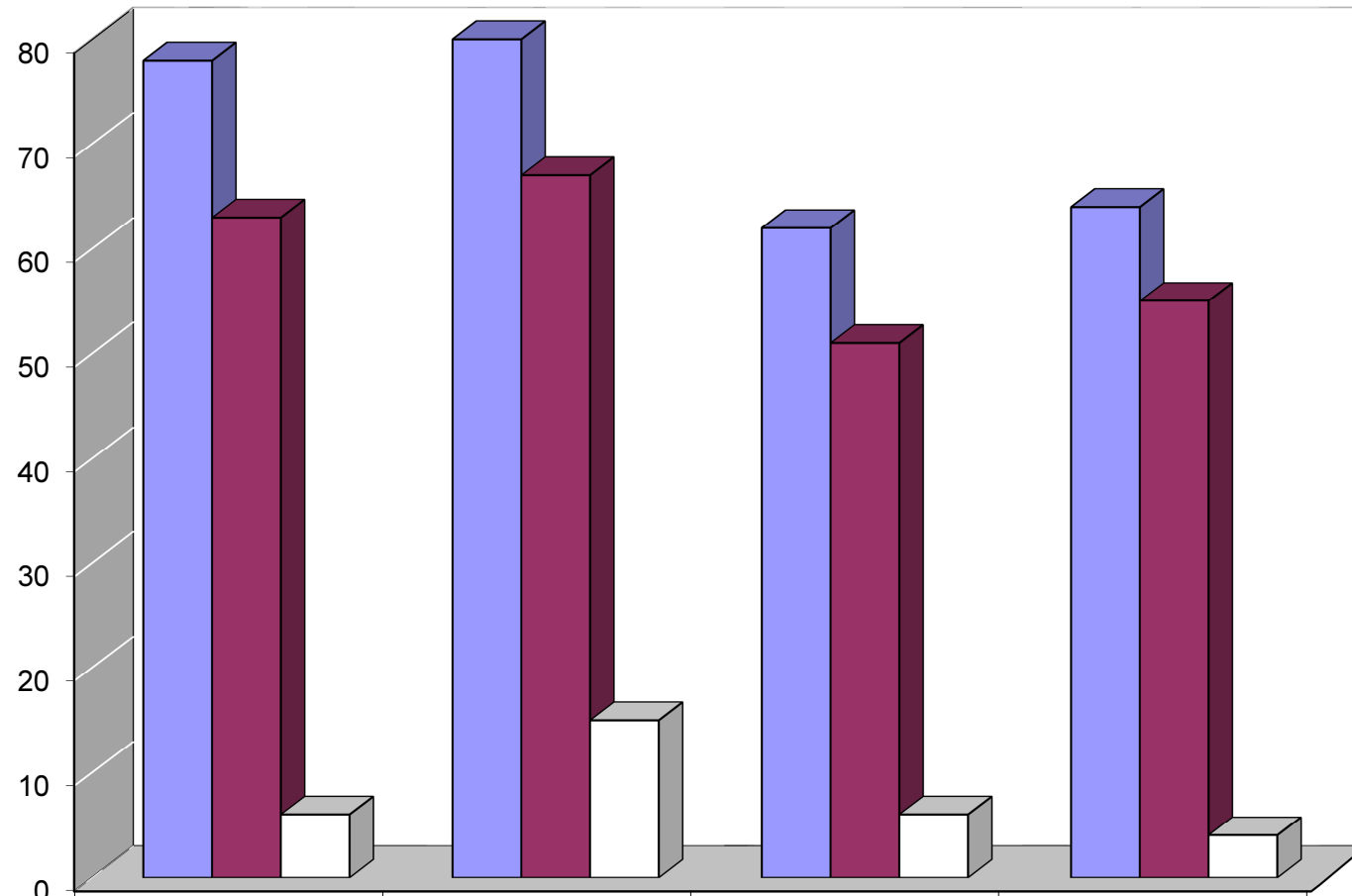
◆ Accidents	31	18	27	20	23	27	33	15	27	43	30	19	19	18	21
■ Accidents Resulting in Injury	22	11	14	9	13	16	20	9	18	26	22	12	13	12	8
▲ Reported to HSE	2	1	1	1	0	3	1	0	0	3	1	1	1	1	0

Employee Accident Types Reported 2014 - 2015

VERBAL ASSAULT (INCL THREATENING BEHAVIOUR)	96
PHYSICAL ASSAULT	70
SLIP/TRIPS SAME LEVEL	55
HIT BY OBJECT	32
HANDLING/ LIFTING/ CARRYING	26
HIT SOMETHING STATIONARY	9
INJURED BY ANIMAL	8
BEHAVIOURAL	7
WORK EQUIPMENT	7
FALL FROM HEIGHT	4
ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISION	4
CONTACT WITH HEAT	3
HIT BY VEHICLE	2
NEAR MISS	2
CONTACT WITH MACHINERY	1
ILL HEALTH	1
OTHER	1
SHARPS/NEEDLESTICK	1

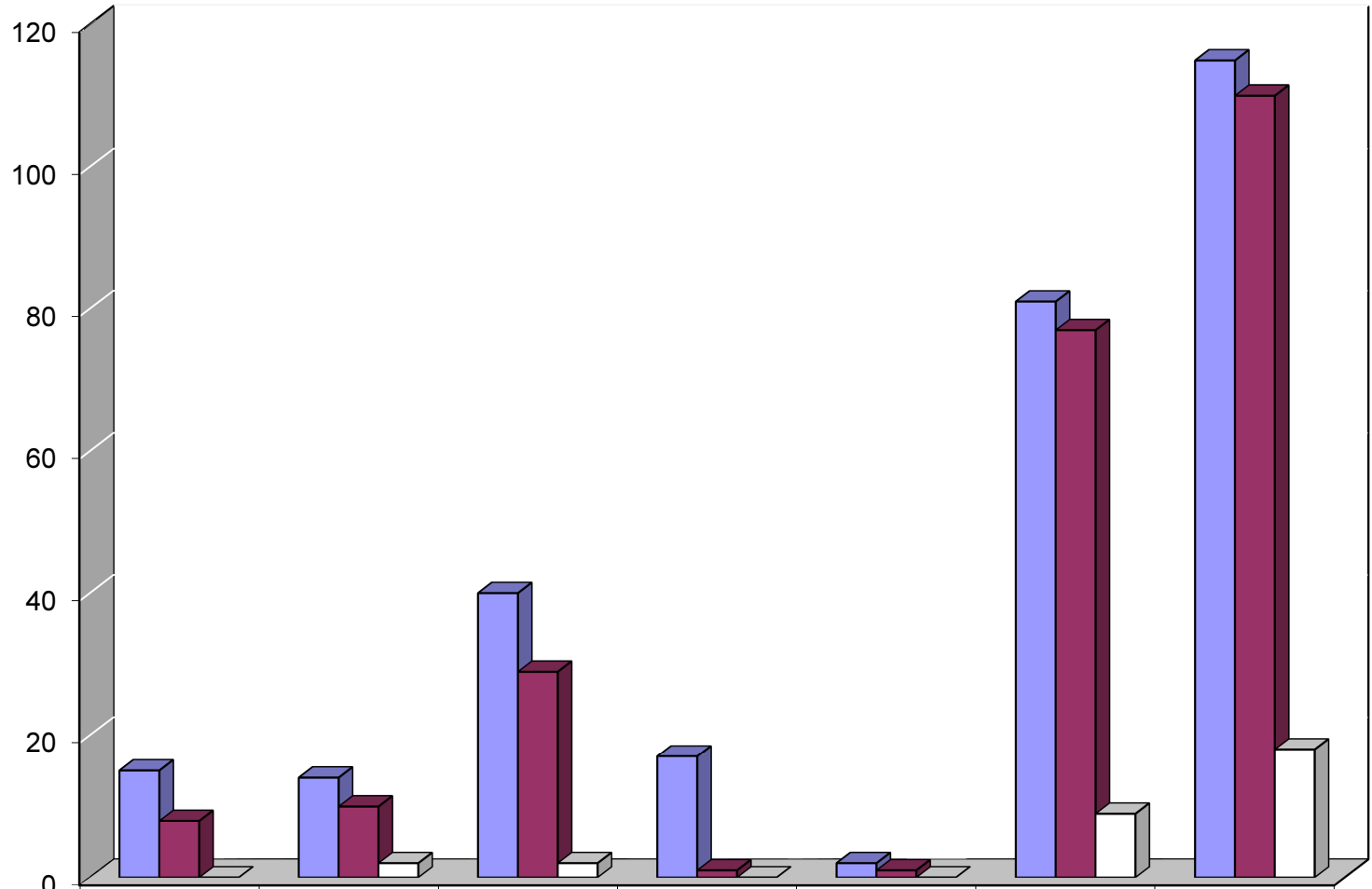
Please find below the Non-Employee accident/incident information reported April 2014 to March 2015.

Total Number of Non Employee Accident/Incidents Reported - 2014 / 2015



	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Accidents	78	80	62	64
Accidents Resulting in Injury	63	67	51	55
Accidents Reported to HSE	6	15	6	4

Total Number of Non Employee Accident/Incidents Reported by Division - 2014 / 2015

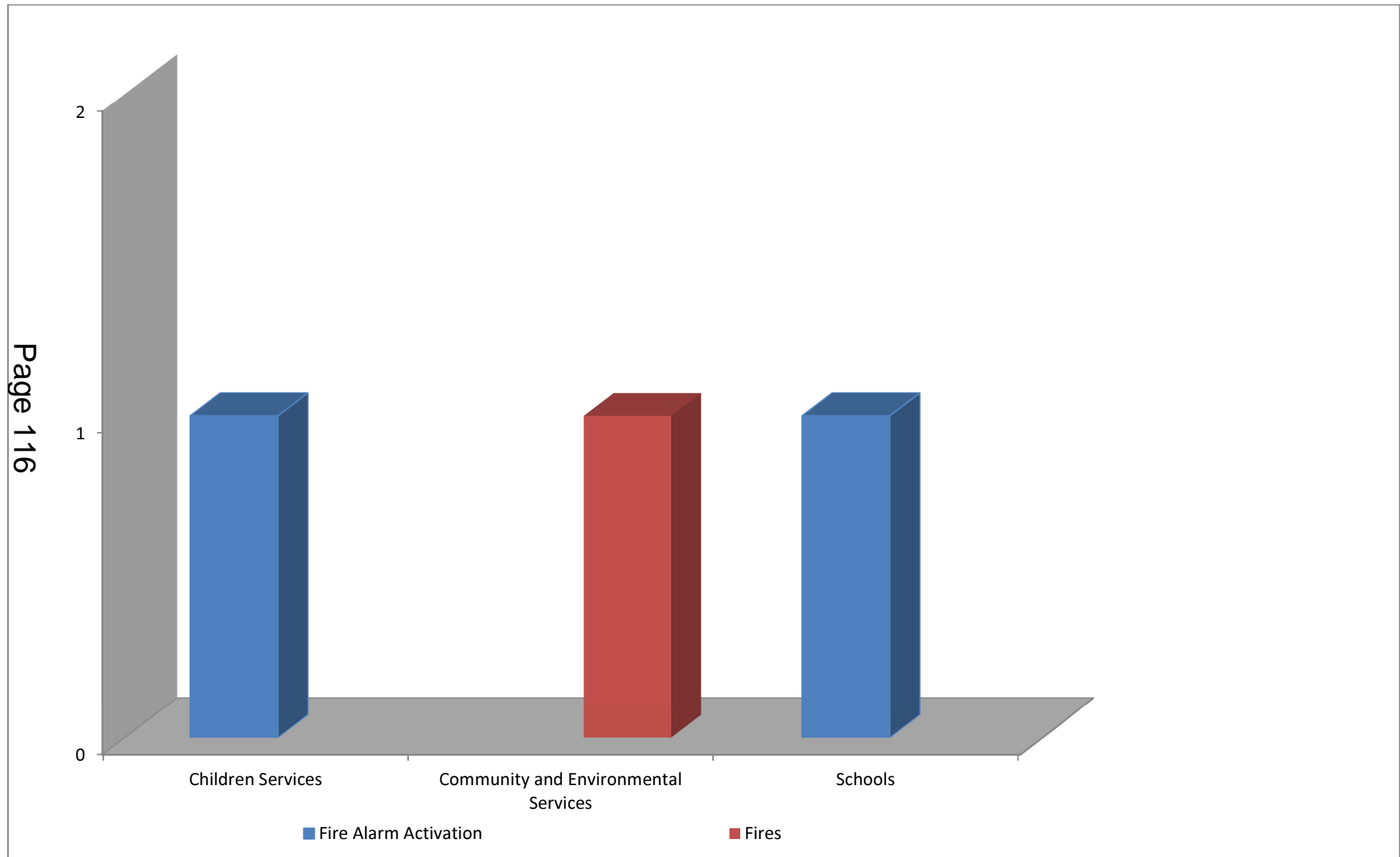


	AS	CES	CS	PLACES	RESOURCES	ACADEMIES	SCHOOLS
■ Accidents	15	14	40	17	2	81	115
■ Accidents Resulting in Injury	8	10	29	1	1	77	110
□ Accidents Reported to HSE	0	2	2	0	0	9	18

Non Employee Accident Types Reported

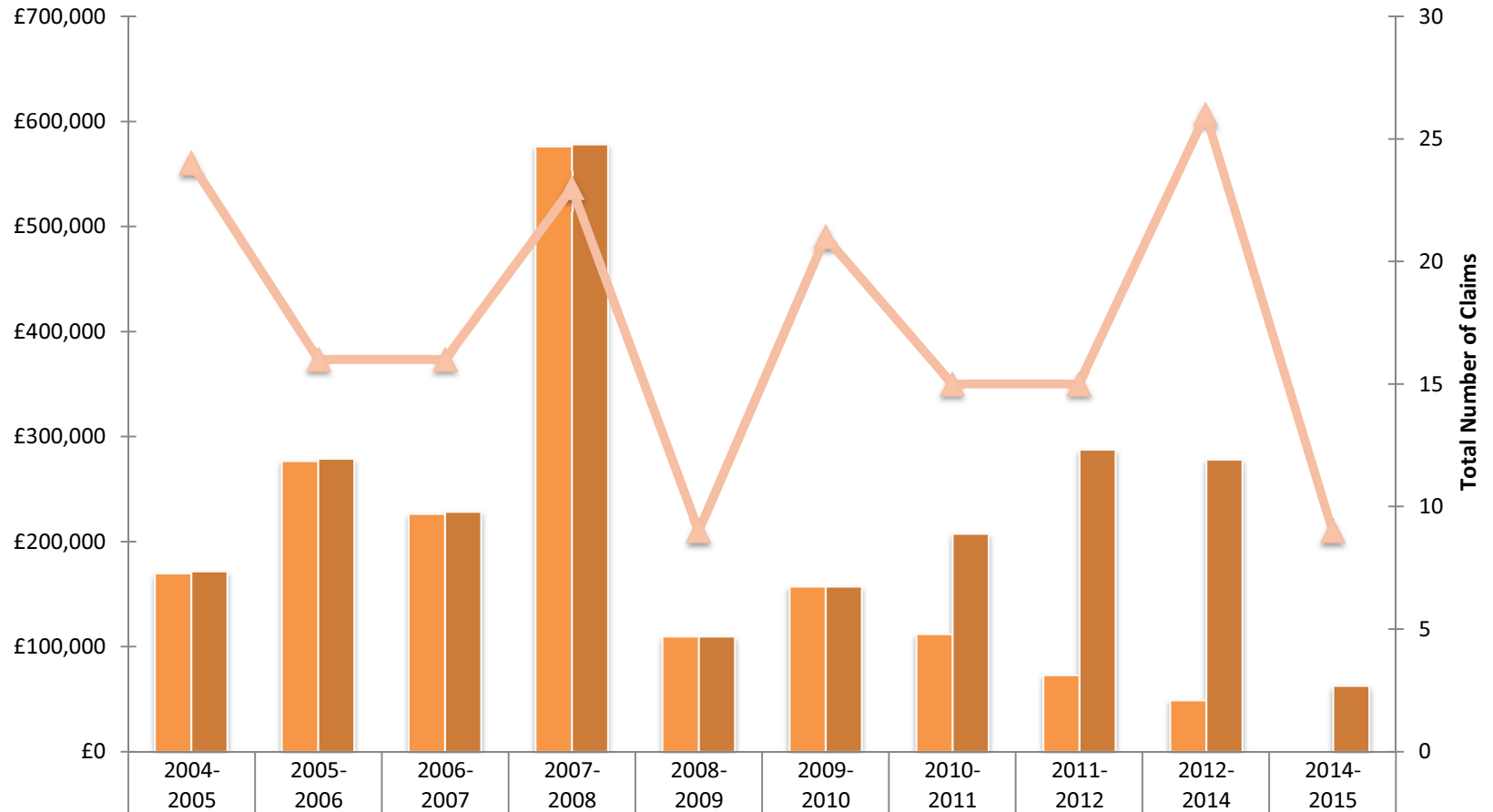
Slip / Trip / Fall on Level	117
Hit by Object	51
Hit Something Stationary	28
Other	25
Fall from Height	23
Physical Assault	17
Handling Lifting Carrying	12
Behavioural	5
Ill Health	4
Contact with Heat	2
Drowned/asphyxiated	1
Injured by animal	1
Substance	1
Work Equipment	1

Please find below information relating to reported fires or fire alarm activations April 2014 to March 2015.



Insurance Information Relating to Work Related Incidents provided by Risk and Insurance

Total Number and Cost of EL Claims (Paid and Outstanding) as at 31.03.15



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Report to:	TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	15 October 2015

SCRUTINY WORKPLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 The Committee to consider the Workplan and to monitor the implementation of Committee recommendations, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review topics.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To approve the Committee Workplan, taking into account any suggestions for amendment or addition.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure the Workplan is up to date and is an accurate representation of the Committee's work.

- 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? N/A

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 **Scrutiny Workplan**

- 5.1.1 The Scrutiny Committee Workplan is attached at Appendix 10a. The Workplan is a flexible document that sets out the work that the Committee will undertake over the course of the year.
- 5.1.2 Committee Members are invited, either now or in the future, to suggest topics that might be suitable for scrutiny in order that they be added to the Workplan.

5.2 **Monitoring Implementation of Recommendations**

- 5.2.1 The table attached at Appendix 10b details the recommendations that have been made by the Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee and an update for Members as to the implementation of those recommendations.
- 5.2.2 The Committee is recommended to monitor its recommendations over the course of the year.

5.3 **Scrutiny Review Checklist**

- 5.3.1 The Scrutiny Review Checklist is attached at Appendix 10c. The checklist forms part of the mandatory scrutiny procedure for establishing review panels and must therefore be completed and submitted for consideration by the Committee, prior to a topic being approved for scrutiny.
- 5.3.2 The Committee is recommended to place an emphasis on the priorities and performance of the Council when considering requests for scrutiny reviews.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 10a – Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Workplan
Appendix 10b – Monitoring Committee Recommendations table
Appendix 10c - Scrutiny Review Checklist

6.0 **Legal considerations:**

- 6.1 None.

7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

- 7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

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 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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TOURISM, ECONOMY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2015/2016

<p>9th July 2015</p>	<p>Council Plan</p> <p>RESOURCES - Provisional Revenue Outturn 2014/2015 - Treasury Management Outturn Report 2014/2015</p> <p>TOURISM – Destination Management Plan 2015-2017</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2014/2015 Roles, Responsibilities and Attributes of Scrutiny Members Scrutiny Review Checklist/ Llandau scrutiny proposal Scrutiny Workplan</p>
<p>10th September 2015</p>	<p>RESOURCES -</p> <p>HOUSING - Decent Homes</p> <p>CSP – Q1 Performance of the Blackpool Community Safety Partnership</p> <p>OTHER - Council Complaints Annual Report Waste Collection Street Cleansing</p> <p>Scrutiny Workplan Landau Scoping document</p>
<p>15th October 2015</p>	<p>RESOURCES - Financial Reporting – Month 4 (Month 3 if required) Health and Safety Annual Report</p> <p>HOUSING - Transience Projects</p> <p>TOURISM - Car Parking</p> <p>Scrutiny Workplan</p>
<p>19th November 2015</p>	<p>Council Plan – Performance Monitoring - Economy</p> <p>RESOURCES - Financial Reporting – Month 5 - Treasury Management half-yearly report</p> <p>TOURISM –Tourism Update report Performance of Blackpool Zoo?</p> <p>CSP –Counter Terrorism</p> <p>OTHER –Enterprise Services and Positive Steps</p> <p>Scrutiny Workplan</p>
<p>21st January 2016</p>	<p>Council Plan – Performance Monitoring - Economy</p> <p>RESOURCES - Financial Reporting – Month 8 (Months 6 and 7if required)</p> <p>MUNICIPAL ASSETS - Flood Risk Management and Drainage Annual Report</p> <p>TOURISM – Performance of Blackpool Airport</p> <p>CSP – Q3 Performance of the Blackpool Community Safety Partnership and Partnership Priorities</p> <p>Scrutiny Workplan</p>

3 rd March 2016	RESOURCES - Financial Reporting – Month 9 HOUSING - Blackpool Coastal Housing Performance MUNICIPAL ASSETS - Bathing Water Quality Annual Report Scrutiny Workplan
31 st March 2016	RESOURCES - Financial Reporting – Month 10 BUSINESS – Performance of Economic Development Company TOURISM – Tourism Update report Scrutiny Workplan
19 th May 2016	Council Plan – Performance Monitoring - Economy CSP – Q4 Performance of the Blackpool Community Safety Partnership. Scrutiny Workplan

MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

DATE OF REC	RECOMMENDATION	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	UPDATE	RAG RATING
9.07.15	To establish a scrutiny review panel to consider Licensed Horse Drawn Carriages on the promenade.	October 2015	Chris Kelly	'In a day' Scrutiny review to be held on 14 th October 2015.	
10.09.15	With regards to the Annual Customer Feedback report, it was recommended that further work be undertaken with departments to encourage all services to follow the Council's complaints procedure and improve their compliant handling, particularly across those services which have changed due to restructures or where officers designated to deal with customer feedback have left the authority.	September 2016	Ruth Henshaw	To be incorporated within the 2015/2016 Annual Customer Feedback report	
10.09.15	With regards to the Annual Customer Feedback report, it was recommended that further work needed to be done to encourage services to capture and act upon learning from	September 2016	Ruth Henshaw	To be incorporated within the 2015/2016 Annual Customer Feedback report	

	complaints where appropriate so that services could be improved as a result.				
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SCRUTINY SELECTION CHECKLIST

Title of proposed Scrutiny:

The list is intended to assist the relevant scrutiny committee in deciding whether or not to approve a topic that has been suggested for scrutiny.

Whilst no minimum or maximum number of 'yes' answers are formally required, the relevant scrutiny committee is recommended to place higher priority on topics related to the performance and priorities of the Council.

Please expand on how the proposal will meet each criteria you have answered 'yes' to.

	Yes/No
The review will add value to the Council and/or its partners overall performance:	
The review is in relation to one or more of the Council's priorities:	
The Council or its partners are not performing well in this area:	
It is an area where a number of complaints (or bad press) have been received:	
The issue is strategic and significant:	
There is evidence of public interest in the topic:	
The issue has potential impact for one or more sections of the community:	
Service or policy changes are planned and scrutiny could have a positive input:	
Adequate resources (both members and officers) are available to carry out the scrutiny:	

Please give any further details on the proposed review:

Completed by:

Date: