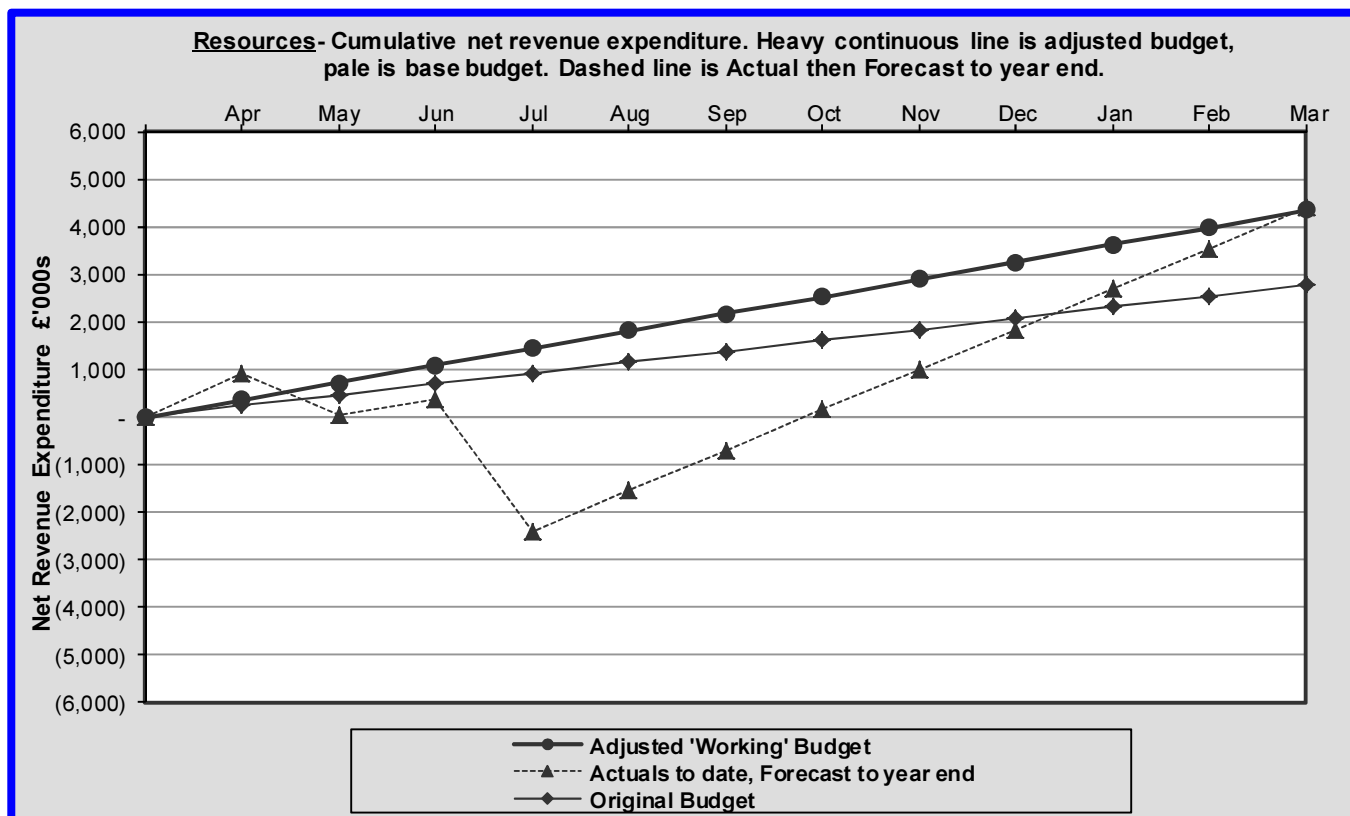


Blackpool Council - Resources

Resources summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	2014/15			F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
		EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000		
RESOURCES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
PROCUREMENT & DEVELOPMENT	54	(99)	119	20	(34)	(96)
REVENUES, BENEFITS & TRANSACTIONAL	(755)	(3,154)	2,200	(954)	(199)	(204)
LEGAL SERVICES	(43)	405	(392)	13	56	(9)
CUSTOMER FIRST	(429)	266	(608)	(342)	87	(100)
ACCOUNTANCY	13	470	(451)	19	6	(33)
RISK SERVICES	5	72	(85)	(13)	(18)	(27)
PROPERTY & ASSET MANAGEMENT	5,503	(351)	6,002	5,651	148	155
TOTALS	4,348	(2,391)	6,785	4,394	46	(314)

Directorate revenue summary graph - budget, actual and forecast:



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

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

Procurement and Development

- The favourable variance of £34k is due to one-off staff savings and un-programmed income generation streams which will be achieved in-year.

Revenues, Benefits and Transactional Services

- The service is forecast to meet its savings requirement in 2014/15. This service projects a £199k favourable position in 2014/15. Additional income has been received in-year from Department for Work and Pensions and Department for Communities and Local Government for welfare reform and implementation of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. This extra income is to provide the funding to assist Councils in their statutory duty to administer and process extra Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit workload during the economic downturn, implementation of welfare reforms (Local Housing Allowance changes, Bedroom Tax, Benefits Cap) and implementation of Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

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

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

Legal Services

- Legal Services is forecasting an £56k overspend for 2014/15, which is partially due to pressures on staffing costs as a result of some increased salaries during 2012/13 due to the pay review process. Pressures are also forecast on computer licence costs relating to the Iken system, the Techniforce system contract exit fee and postage costs. The position has improved since month 3 due to the senior management restructure which took place in mid-August.

Customer First

- Customer First is forecasting a £87k pressure in 2014/15. The majority of this pressure falls within the staffing budget due to the need to keep as many staff as possible answering the phones and the extra duties involved while staff are migrating to Bickerstaff House. It is hoped that some income will be received in year to mitigate some of these costs.

Accountancy

- Accountancy is forecasting a £6k overspent position in month 4.

Risk Services

- Risk Services is forecasting £18k underspend position due to employee costs relating to temporary staffing being off-set by income generation and a staff saving within investigations.

Property and Asset Management

- Property and Asset Management is forecasting an overspend of £148k. The overspend is mainly due to the income not expected to be as budgeted. The position has got better from month 3 due to a reduction in the supplies and services expenditure.

Summary of the revenue forecast

After four months of the financial year, Resources is forecasting £46k overspend. The Directorate continues to operate on the basis of not filling staff vacancies other than in exceptional circumstances.

Budget Holder - Mr S Thompson, Director of Resources.