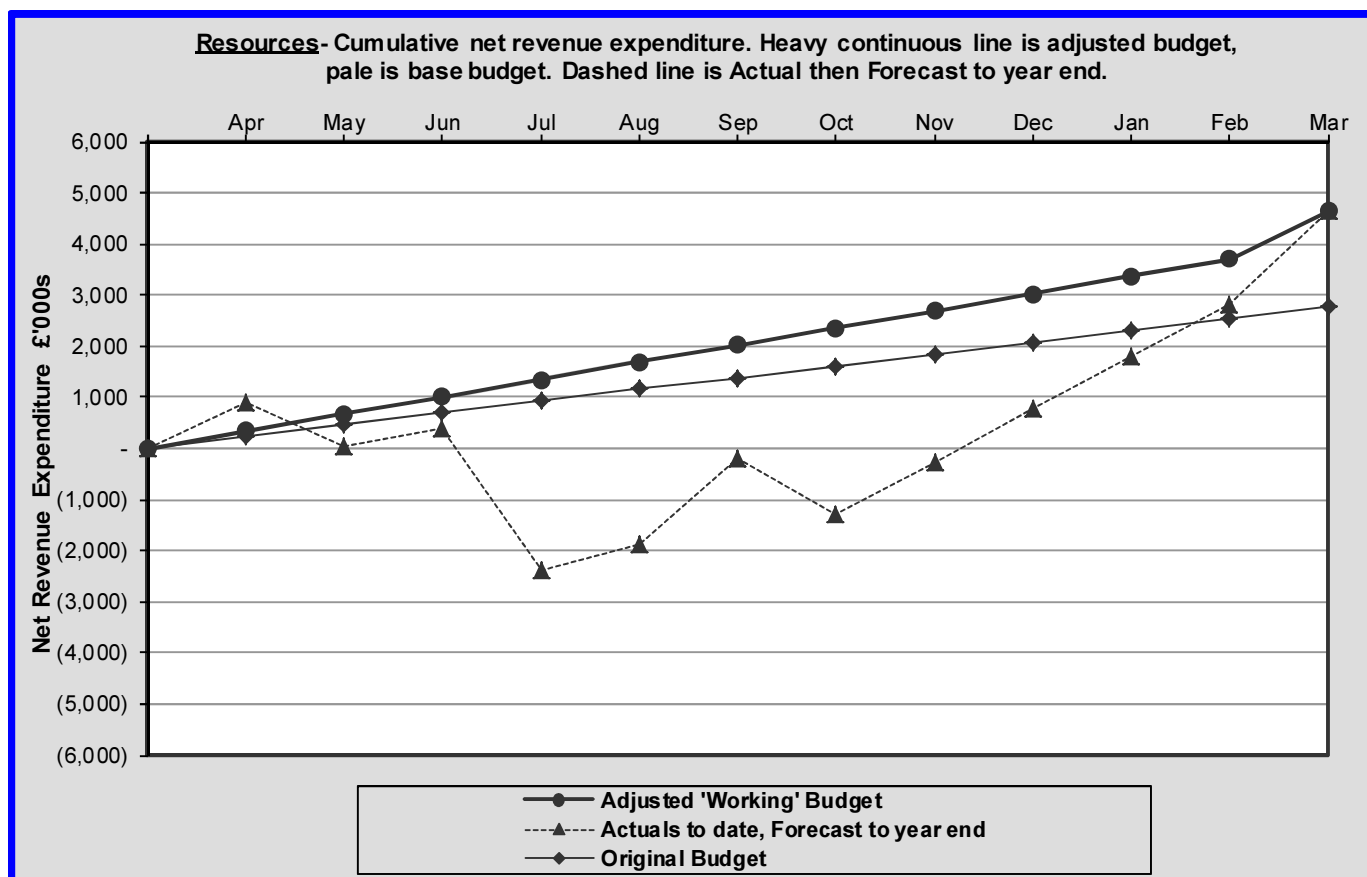


Blackpool Council - Resources

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2013/14 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	2014/15			F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
		EXPENDITURE APR - OCT £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000		
RESOURCES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
PROCUREMENT & DEVELOPMENT	69	(157)	107	(50)	(119)	
REVENUES, BENEFITS & TRANSACTIONAL	(633)	(2,054)	1,196	(858)	(225)	
LEGAL SERVICES	(103)	88	(110)	(22)	81	
CUSTOMER FIRST	(402)	(229)	(95)	(324)	78	
ACCOUNTANCY	(201)	(201)	37	(164)	37	
RISK SERVICES	37	(86)	104	18	(19)	
PROPERTY & ASSET MANAGEMENT	5,869	1,355	4,709	6,064	195	
TOTALS	4,636	(1,284)	5,948	4,664	28	-

Directorate revenue summary graph - budget, actual and forecast:



Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary

- The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within Resources against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 7 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 & Development

- The favourable variance of £119k is due to efficiency savings, one-off staff savings and un-programmed income generation streams which will be achieved in-year.

Revenues, Benefits & Transactional Services

- The service is forecast to meet its savings requirement in 2014/15. This service projects a £225k favourable position in 2014/15. Additional income has been received in-year from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) for welfare reform and implementation of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS). 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 (HB/CTB) workload during the economic downturn, implementation of welfare reforms and implementation of the 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 £81k overspend for 2014/15, which is partially due to pressures on staffing costs as a result of some increased salaries during 2012/13 due to the pay review process. Pressures are also forecast on computer licence costs relating to the Iken system, the Techniforce system contract exit fee and postage costs.

Customer First

- Customer First is forecasting a £78k pressure in 2014/15. The majority of this pressure falls within the staffing budget due to the need to keep as many staff as possible answering the phones and the extra duties involved while staff are migrating to Bickerstaffe House. It is hoped that some income will be received in year to mitigate some of these costs.

Accountancy

- Accountancy is forecasting a £37k overspend position at month 7. This pressure is mainly due to income levels being lower than expected in 2014/15.

Risk Services

- Risk Services is forecasting £19k 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 £195k. The overspend has decreased from month 6 due to increased income in Facilities Management from external bodies.

Summary of the revenue forecast

After seven months of the financial year, Resources is forecasting a £28k budget pressure. 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.