

Blackpool Council – Communications & Regeneration

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2019/20 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND £000
	2020/21					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JAN £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
COMMUNICATIONS & REGENERATION						
NET EXPENDITURE						
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & CULTURAL SERVICES	184	(5,560)	5,723	163	(21)	-
PLANNING	455	499	(47)	452	(3)	-
TOURISM AND COMMUNICATIONS	3,089	3,151	155	3,306	217	-
TOTALS	3,728	(1,910)	5,831	3,921	193	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary – basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service area within the Directorate against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. The forecast outturn of £193k overspend is based upon actual financial performance for the first 10 months of 2020/21 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. Of the £193k overspend, £360k is attributable to Covid.

Economic Development and Cultural Services

Due to the reallocation of Covid funding relating to government grant tranches 1-4 and sales, fees and charges compensation claims the service is now showing an expected saving of £21k. Once this funding has been taken into account the net Covid pressure is £25k. There remains a pressure of £4k relating to the Grundy Art Gallery. This has been reduced by the use of savings elsewhere in Arts such as vacant posts and has been further reduced this month by the release of provisions. There is a £33k saving in Libraries due to the release of some reserves and savings on vacant staffing posts. There are savings of £17k in Economic Development due to some additional income and small savings elsewhere in the budget.

Planning

There is an expected saving in this area of £3k. This is due to the reallocation of Covid funding relating to government grant tranches 1-4 and sales, fees and charges compensation claims. Once this has been taken into account the net Covid pressure is £37k. This has been offset in part due to staff savings and better than budgeted income in Building Control.

Tourism & Communications

There is an expected pressure in this area of £217k. Increased income in Communications and savings on vacant posts as well as on supplies and services expenditure means that previous pressures in Visit Blackpool have been met. The service, excluding Covid costs, is now making a saving of £71k. Print Services is once again expecting a small pressure of £7k other than for Covid costs as it is looking less likely the additional building costs will be covered by additional income this year. Illuminations is still predicting a saving of £17k due to staff savings that had previously been covering an expected sponsorship shortfall that is now not likely to materialise. The reallocation of Covid funding relating to government grants tranches 1-4 and sales, fees and charges compensation claims takes the net Covid pressure to £298k.

Covid

The Communications & Regeneration Directorate has a gross pressure of £1,078k relating to Covid. Following the reallocation of Covid funding relating to government grants tranches 1-4, and sales, fees and charges compensation claims amounting to £718k, the net Covid pressure is £360k, which is included in the above table.

Budget Holder – Mr A Cavill, Director of Communications & Regeneration