

Blackpool Council – Community and Environmental Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2022/23 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000
	2023/24					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - DEC £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES						
NET EXPENDITURE						
BUSINESS SERVICES	(866)	942	(508)	434	1,300	-
LEISURE AND CATERING	4,729	3,124	1,455	4,579	(150)	-
PUBLIC PROTECTION	1,950	909	991	1,900	(50)	-
HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES	17,639	13,491	3,748	17,239	(400)	-
STREET CLEANSING AND WASTE	19,815	8,138	11,477	19,615	(200)	-
COASTAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS	6,249	6,700	(951)	5,749	(500)	-
INTEGRATED TRANSPORT	2,964	3,406	248	3,654	690	-
TOTALS	52,480	36,710	16,460	53,170	690	-

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 overspend of £690k is based upon actual financial performance for the first 9 months of 2023/24 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.

Business Services

There is a pressure within Business Services of £1.3m due to ongoing projects being carried out in year by the service. Savings have been identified within the Directorate to deliver these projects.

Leisure and Catering

Leisure and Catering is currently forecasting a saving of £150k. Leisure is reporting a saving of £150k due to savings within staffing and increased income within the Learn to Swim scheme. Catering is facing a pressure due to the increased cost of provisions, but this is expected to be met through reserves.

Public Protection

The service is currently forecasting a saving of £50k due to staff vacancies within Public Protection. There are pressures within Licencing, where the income forecast is currently under budget, however, savings have been identified within other areas of Public Protection which will mitigate this.

Highways and Traffic Management Services

This service is currently forecasting an underspend of £400k due to staffing vacancies within Highways & Engineering and the capitalisation of staff costs.

Street Cleansing and Waste

Waste Services are reporting a saving of £200k. Trade Waste income is expected to be £300k better than budget. There is, however, a £100k pressure within Public Conveniences, where an inflationary uplift has been applied to the contract.

Coastal and Environmental Partnerships

This service is currently forecasting a saving of £500k due to additional Coastal income being received.

Integrated Transport

This service is currently forecasting an overspend of £690k. Childrens Transport Services is reporting an overspend of £690k, due to an increase in demand for Special Educational Needs transport relating to a growth in Education Health and Care Plans.

Conclusion – Community and Environmental Services financial position

At the end of December 2023, the Community and Environmental Services Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £690k. The major pressure is within Integrated Transport where the Childrens Transport Service is forecasting a pressure of £690k. There are other pressures within the Directorate, but these are expected to be covered through other means.

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