

Blackpool Council

7 September 2021

To: Councillors Burdess, Mrs Callow JP, Galley, Hutton, Jackson, Mrs Scott, Stansfield and Walsh

The above members are requested to attend the:

SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD

Thursday, 16 September 2021 at 6.00 pm
in Council Chamber

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 either a

- (a) personal interest
- (b) prejudicial interest
- (c) disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI)

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 13 JULY 2021 (Pages 1 - 4)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 13 July 2021 as a true and correct record.

3 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 3 (Pages 5 - 68)

To allow scrutiny of the level of spending and exposure against the Council's Revenue budgets and reserves and balances for the first three months to 30 June 2021.

4 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT - Q1 2021/2022 (Pages 69 - 82)

To present performance against the Council Plan for the period 1 April to 30 June 2021.

5 SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD WORKPLAN (Pages 83 - 86)

To consider the workplan of the Scrutiny Leadership Board and identify any further areas requiring scrutiny.

6 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date and time of the next formal meeting of the Scrutiny Leadership Board as 2 March 2022, 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 Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager, Tel: 01253 477213, e-mail sharon.davis@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.

Present:

Councillor Mrs Callow JP (in the Chair)

Councillors

Burdess	Jackson	Stansfield
Hutton	Mrs Scott	Walsh

In Attendance:

Sharon Davis, Blackpool Council
Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2021 were signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

3 CAPITAL STRATEGY 2021/22 TO 2023/24

Mr Steve Thompson, Director of Resources, advised that this was the Council's third annual Capital Strategy following its recent introduction by Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (Cipfa) in response to the increasing commercial activities of local authorities. The purpose of the Strategy was to provide long term context, a high level overview of capital expenditure and treasury management and to look at potential risks and remediation. It aligned with the Capital Programme which was updated on a three-year rolling basis.

He noted that the Strategy also included details on the governance process, how decisions would be made, what informed decisions, what skills were required to take those decisions and the long term liabilities and potential consequences. Additionally, debt and borrowing and commercial activity were detailed.

The Leadership Board was advised that capital expenditure schemes had a lifespan of more than one year and a threshold of £15,000, with revenue spend being the day-to-day spending on services. Mr Thompson noted that some areas of spending fell into both categories such as maintenance of buildings and that it was technically easier to fund capital from revenue than revenue from capital.

MINUTES OF SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING - TUESDAY, 13 JULY 2021

In relation to commercial investment, it was reported that the Council held only two investments outside of the borough, not including Blackpool Airport which sat just over the boundary in Fylde. It was further noted that there were four different kinds of assets – operational, community, regeneration and investment and that the Council had set the geographical area for its potential investments as that of the Lancashire Economic Partnership (LEP) of which it was a member.

Mr Thompson advised that funds for capital developments came from many sources including contributions from developers and the sale of assets with 50% coming from external grant funding for specific projects in the previous financial year.

Members commended the Capital Strategy and queried the flexibility on the loans offered by the Council to businesses. In response, Mr Thompson advised that the Business Loan Fund had been established to boost the economy and create jobs and therefore the Council tried to be as flexible as possible with applicants. Typically the loans offered were on a fixed term but with no penalties for early redemption. A six-month payment holiday had been offered during 2021 in response to the difficulties caused by the pandemic. He further advised that all loans were underwritten by assets which were reviewed as required.

The Leadership Board further queried the due diligence carried out and the costs of independent advice required with regards to the provision of loans. Mr Thompson reported that costs relating to due diligence were passed on to applicants and that the level of due diligence required varied depending on the size and complexity of the loan. He noted that there had been a small number of failures and that the risk of the loan was reflected in the interest rate charged. In addition, the scheme included allowance for bad debt which allowed for cross-subsidisation within the scheme. In answer to a further question, Mr Thompson advised that the maximum unsecured loan would be no more than £15,000.

In response to a further question in relation to interest rates, Mr Thompson noted that borrowing was currently undertaken at a rate of about 0.1% whilst the budget was based on a rate of 1% and that it was expected that any future increases in interest rates would be incremental rather than a significant step change allowing for the scheme to adequately respond. He noted that 75% of Council borrowing was currently short-term.

4 PROVISIONAL OUTTURN 2021/2022

Mr Steve Thompson, Director of Resources, presented the provisional revenue outturn for 2021/2022 and highlighted that the Covid-related overspend totalled £3.16 million, which was a much improved position than early forecasts which had estimated an overspend of up to £30 million. He noted that whilst Children's Services had overspent by £1.2 million, the underspend by Adult Social Care had resulted in an underspend of £1.8 million across the social care services provided by the Council.

In relation to working balances the Council had ended the year above the target of £6 million and earmarked reserves had also increased to £71 million. It was reported that the increase in earmarked reserves was primarily due to £15 million in business rates relief

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received in 2020/2021 but to be allocated in 2021/2022 and the external funding which had been received for the development of the museum. Mr Thompson added that the Council had received a total of £166 million in Covid-related grants.

There had been a significant impact on Council Tax and Business Rate collection during the pandemic with in-year Council Tax collection rates in the town the third lowest in the country at 87.8%. Business Rate collection had similarly dropped from 95.6% to 85.8%, the fourteenth lowest in the country. Mr Thompson advised that once the economic position of the town had improved, missed payments would be targeted with an emphasis on collecting payments from those that could pay but had chosen not to.

Mr Thompson raised concern that, despite the statement of accounts being finalised by the Council for the financial year ending March 2021, the external auditor had indicated that they would not be able to meet the deadline of September 2021 for final sign-off of the accounts and that it was likely this would happen in November 2021. In response to a question Mr Thompson noted that deadlines for final accounts had been aligned across sectors resulting in increasing demands on external auditors which it appeared could not be met.

Members noted the underspend in Community and Environmental Services and queried whether it would be possible to increase focus on weeds and highways with that underspend. In response, Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council, advised that work was ongoing to extend the remit of Enveco. She also highlighted the importance of community engagement and responsibility and the aims to involve residents in plans. She added that the Alleyway project due to launch in March 2020 would be reinvigorated following the easing of restrictions.

In response to a question, Mr Thompson advised that when the budget had been set dividends had been expected from Blackpool Transport Services Limited (BTS) and Blackpool Operating Company Limited. Due to the pandemic and the resultant reduction in services offered by BTS and closure of the Sandcastle it had not been possible for the Companies to pay the dividends in 2020/2021.

The Leadership Board expressed disappointment in the overspend by Children's Services, noting that it was a reoccurring issue. Mr Thompson highlighted that whilst a large number of Government grants had been received during the previous financial year to offset increased expenditure for Adult Social Care during the pandemic, some had been applied to Children's Social Care in the same way. He added that in June 2020, a five-year Medium Term Financial Strategy had been approved for Children's Services and that the Council was starting to see some effect of that Strategy with the overspends reducing.

In relation to the overspend by Print Services, Mr Thompson noted that there had been a history of overspend in that department but the Service had now been relocated to a more prominent location. He noted that due to the pandemic the service had not been able to operate as expected and that grants from Government as a result of Covid only covered 75% of lost income.

Members also highlighted the overspend by the Illuminations and queried whether it was a result of increased maintenance costs due to the lights being left up all year round

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rather than taken down after each season. Mr Thompson agreed to investigate this issue further and report back following the meeting.

The Chair thanked Mr Thompson and his team on behalf of the Leadership Board for their hard work.

5 SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORKPLANS

The Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees presented the revised workplans to the Scrutiny Leadership Board and highlighted key topics coming up through the year.

The Board agreed to note the updates.

6 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date and time of the next meeting was noted as 16 September 2021, commencing at 6.00pm.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 6.57 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:

Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager

Tel: 01253 477213

E-mail: sharon.davis@blackpool.gov.uk

Report to: **SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD**

Relevant Officer: Steve Thompson, Director of Resources

Date of Meeting: 16 September 2021

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 3 2021/22

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To report the level of spending and exposure against the Council's Revenue budgets and reserves and balances for the first three months to 30 June 2021 for scrutiny.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To independently review the financial and operational performances of the services of the Council specifically Growth and Prosperity, Children's Services, Strategic Leisure Assets and Adult Services.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure financial performance against the Council's Revenue Budget and its reserves and balances is kept under timely review by members.

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

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

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

5.0 Council Priority:

5.1 The relevant Council Priority is: The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool.

6.0 Background Information

6.1 See reports and appendices circulated to members under separate cover.

6.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

Appendix 3(a): Executive Report
Appendix 1 - Revenue Summary
Appendix 2 - Schedule of Service forecast overspendings
Appendix 3a - Chief Executive
Appendix 3b - Governance and Partnership Services
Appendices 3b/c - Ward Budgets
Appendix 3d - Resources
Appendix 3e – Communications and Regeneration
Appendix 3f - Strategic Leisure Assets
Appendix 3g – Growth and Prosperity
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 3m – Wholly-owned companies (this is a brief summary for the Executive’s information. The financial performance of the companies in detail is a matter that will be considered by the Shareholder Committee).
Appendix 4 – Covid-19 Funding
Appendix 5 – Budget Savings performance
Appendix 6 - Capital Monitoring
Appendix 7 - Cash Flow Summary
Appendix 8 - General Fund Balance Sheet Summary

All circulated to members under separate cover

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 See reports and appendices circulated to Members under separate cover.

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 Impact of financial performance against approved Revenue budgets and upon Council reserves and balances.

11.0 Equalities considerations:

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

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None directly from this report.

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

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BLACKPOOL COUNCIL
REPORT
of the
DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
to the
EXECUTIVE
13TH SEPTEMBER 2021

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 3 2021/22

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 3 months of 2021/22, ie. the period to 30th June 2021, 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 and statements relating to Cash Flow Summary and Balance Sheet Summary. It also incorporates the impact of the Council's wholly-owned companies for which the Council is parent company and underwriter.
- 1.2 However, 2021/22 has continued to be unprecedented in the operational and consequential financial demands being placed upon the Council with continuing Government lockdown and restriction measures resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic. This has impacted in a variety of ways from increasing service demand and cost to curtailing income sources and not just for Council services but also its private sector providers, its wholly-owned companies and its partners, necessitating continuing budgetary overspends, supplier reliefs and subsidies, cashflow loans and other support measures.

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 - Governance and Partnership Services
- Appendix 3b/c - Ward Budgets
- Appendix 3d - Resources
- Appendix 3e - Communications and Regeneration
- Appendix 3f - Strategic Leisure Assets
- Appendix 3g - Growth and Prosperity
- 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 3m - Wholly-owned companies (this is a brief summary for the Executive's information. The financial performance of the companies in detail is a matter that will be considered by the Shareholder Committee).

These incorporate summary financial statements which continue to be prepared on a full accruals basis and focus on the forecast revenue outturns for 2021/22. 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. The Covid monitoring return for July 2021 (round 15), required by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), has been reconciled to these figures. 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 Provisional Outturn Report 2020/21 was reported to the Executive on 14th June 2021. To allow services to enter the new financial year in a balanced position and give directorates a realistic chance of meeting their budget savings for what will be the 11th consecutive year of material budget cuts, the Executive agreed to write-off all 2020/21 service variances but carry forward the 2020/21 underspend of £63k on Ward Budgets.
- 3.2 The full-year forecast position at this stage of 2021/22 shows a deterioration in the Council's financial standing when compared with the draft 2020/21 unaudited statement of accounts which show the working balances as at the close of £6,293k. These balances are expected to fall by £6,554k (of which £3,480k is Covid-related) to a deficit of £261k by the end of 2021/22. However, this is still very early in the financial year and plans are being developed to address the in-year pressures identified in this report besides progressing any outstanding budget savings that had been planned.
- 3.3 In line with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Spending Review of November 2020 the Council's Budget for 2021/22 assumed a pay freeze for all staff other than those earning £24,000 or less for which a pay rise of £250 was factored in. Negotiations are still underway between local authority employers and the unions and it is anticipated, though as yet indeterminable, that there will be some pay award pressure as the outcome.
- 3.4 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 3 forecast overspend of **£6,554k** for 2021/22 are summarised below:-

Directorate	Service	Forecast Variance £000
Children's Services	An overspend of £3,575k is forecast including £762k net Covid costs. The Children's Social Care budget was increased by £8.173m in August 2020 following the approval of the refreshed Children's Services Medium	3,575

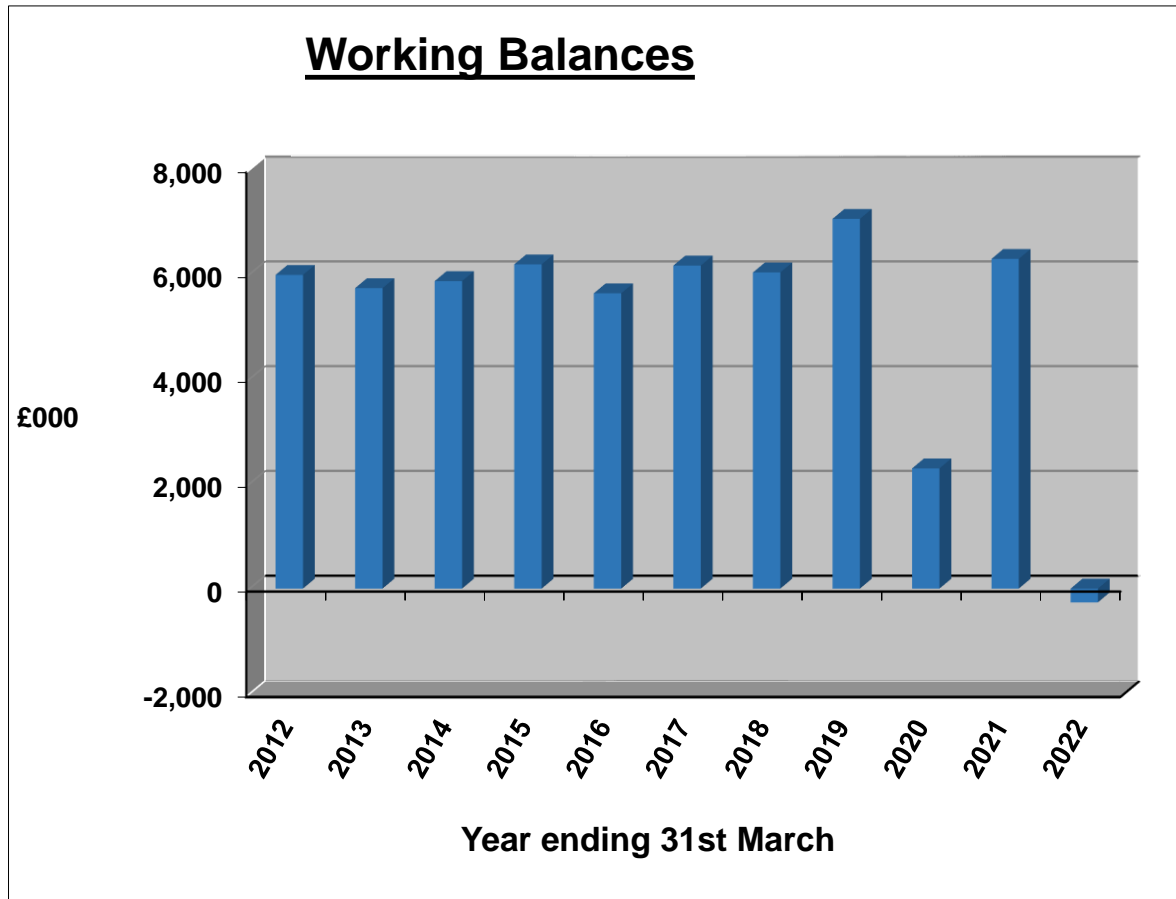
	<p>Term Financial Strategy (CSMTFS). The additional investment was required to cover the increase in numbers and unit costs of Looked After Children (LAC) between 2020/21 budget setting and 31st May 2020 and also to develop the placements market and increase the capacity within internal fostering. The CSMTFS aims to reverse the current trend and this investment alongside other service improvements should ensure the service can live within the current budget by 2022/23. However, the Children's Social Care division had a worsening position since May 2020 of £2,644k, mainly due to the additional support required following the breakdown of high cost placements. An additional workstream has been set up to review, understand the issues and mitigate the additional costs wherever possible. £459k of this pressure relates to breakdowns due to Covid. By June 2021 LAC numbers stand at 596 which is a reduction of 13 on March 2021. There is expected to be a gross overspend in Education of £1,086k. This relates in the main to a gross overspend of £945k against the Children's Transport Service although a Covid grant of £85k reduces this overspend to £860k. £664k is due to demand pressures and a historical savings target that was not achieved and £196k relates to the net additional Covid Transport Costs. There is also expected to be a gross £136k Covid pressure due to the requirement for school baseline assessments and an additional post in the Special Educational Needs Team. Early Help for Children is expected to underspend by £70k due to vacant posts across the service.</p>	
Strategic Leisure Assets	<p>Strategic Leisure Assets is forecasting a pressure of £4,124k including £3,382k net Covid costs. This overspend consists of a Leisure Assets medium-term financial plan gap (excluding Covid costs) of £301k, a £350k income target, £91k shortfall on expected income from VAT cultural exemption and £3,382k net loss relating to Covid restrictions after assuming modest income from the Sales, Fees & Charges compensation scheme of £139k. In accordance with the original decision for this programme by the Executive on 7th February 2011 the projected overspend on Strategic Leisure Assets of £742k (excluding Covid costs) will be carried forward and transferred to Earmarked Reserves. The forecast cumulative deficit as at 31st March 2022 is £15,677k. The Leisure Assets medium-term financial plan now forecasts the service to break-even, in-year, during 2025/26. This has increased from 2024/25 due to a delay in the Conference Centre income generation.</p>	3,382
Adult Services	<p>An overspend of £2,498k is forecast including £2,181k net Covid costs. Adult Commissioning Placements is forecasting a £2,543k overspend. The total Covid cost of £5,105k is partially offset by the Infection Prevention</p>	2,498

	Control grant (£1,219k), Lateral Flow Testing grant (£922k) and a contribution from the Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group (£783k). It is anticipated that the net Covid pressure of £2,181k will be mitigated when the Government grants relating to 2021/22 are allocated. The non-Covid overspend of £362k relates to nursing placements and staff vacancies. Care and Support is forecasting an underspend of £39k due to staff vacancies.	
Community and Environmental Services	An overspend of £526k is forecast of which £750k is attributable to net Covid costs. The Leisure Service is forecasting a saving of £236k, mainly due to staffing vacancies and there is a non-Covid related pressure of £12k within Parks.	526
Communications and Regeneration	An overspend of £453k is forecast including £218k net Covid costs. The Illuminations service is currently forecasting a pressure of £116k. This is made up of a £99k additional cost of extending the Illuminations period till the end of December, £13k of additional staff costs due to Covid and an £8k loss of income from business collections (£3k after the Sales, Fees and Charges compensation scheme). Visit Blackpool is expecting a pressure of £299k. Of this pressure, £164k relates to Covid of which £87k is lost advertising income on shelters and £77k relates to lost resort pass income. These figures are after £23k of Sales, Fees & Charges compensation scheme income has been applied. There is a non-Covid pressure of £135k forecast which is mainly additional costs for Switch-on (£116k) and increased rates costs on shelters.	453
Governance and Partnership Services	An overspend of £275k is forecast of which £2k is attributable to net Covid costs. Corporate Legal Services is expecting a £250k overspend relating to the large number of complex cases. Life Events is forecasting a pressure of £25k. £2k of this relates to Covid costs whilst the balance relates to income pressures. Ward budgets are expected to break-even.	275
Resources	As at month 3 the Resources Directorate is forecasting a net pressure of £25k, of this £53k relates to budget savings targets yet to be achieved as at period 3 and a net Covid pressure of £100k assuming Sales, Fees & Charges compensation scheme income of £33k. A backdated rent increase for Bond Street Car Park generates £90k and £38k staffing savings due to vacancy slippage and restructures have helped to improve the position.	25
Growth & Prosperity	The pace of delivery of the G&P work programme has been significantly and adversely impacted by the consequences of Covid in relation to due diligence work, planning permissions/objections/appeals, private sector risk appetite, central government decision-making, office and retail rental levels, sourcing of building labour and	Nil

	materials and project costs. Rather than incorporate subjective and volatile monthly assessments of the magnitude and likelihood of such schemes being realised, a thorough half-year review will be undertaken for the month 06 report.	
Public Health	A break-even position is forecast. Since March 2020 Public Health has been responding to the outbreak of Covid to protect the population of Blackpool. A single point of contact has been established to respond to calls/emails actioned by appropriately qualified and informed Public Health staff. A Public Health Duty Desk has been set up to respond to incident and outbreaks offering specialist guidance, advice and support. During the pandemic, the team have developed Community Hubs, including supporting the homeless population, to ensure that those left vulnerable from Covid receive the support they need, for example food, welfare checks, medication, accommodation, etc. The Public Health team opted to support the Government's NHS Test and Trace service by contact tracing and providing support for all positive cases in Blackpool. More recently the Public Health team have been supporting with the vaccination programme delivery, aiming to get the most vulnerable people in Blackpool fully vaccinated. The spend relating to this work is estimated to be £4,081k in 2021/22 and is being funded through a ringfenced Test and Trace service support grant and Contain Outbreak Management Fund from the Department of Health and Social Care, and therefore has no financial impact on the budgetary position for the directorate. There has been reduced activity against some Payment By Results contracts as a result of Covid impacting our providers' ability to offer routine treatments and these savings have offset a shortfall in income generation for the directorate.	Nil
Chief Executive	A breakeven position is forecast. Additional costs of £70k relating to the temporary accommodation of rough sleepers in line with the Government guidelines have been met by grant funding.	Nil
Budgets Outside the Cash Limit	An underspend of £17k is forecast including £1,630k net Covid costs. Parking Services is forecasting a shortfall on income of £500k for 2021/22 due to reduced parking income relating to Covid after assuming that £231k of income from the Sales, Fees & Charges compensation scheme is allocated to the service. There is a pressure of £1,376k in subsidiary companies relating to Covid. It has been assumed that this is fully recovered from the Sales, Fees & Charges compensation scheme (£246k) and the additional funding provided in 2021/22 from the Medium Term Financial Plan (£1,130k). Treasury Management is forecasting a favourable variance of £517k. The Council is	(17)

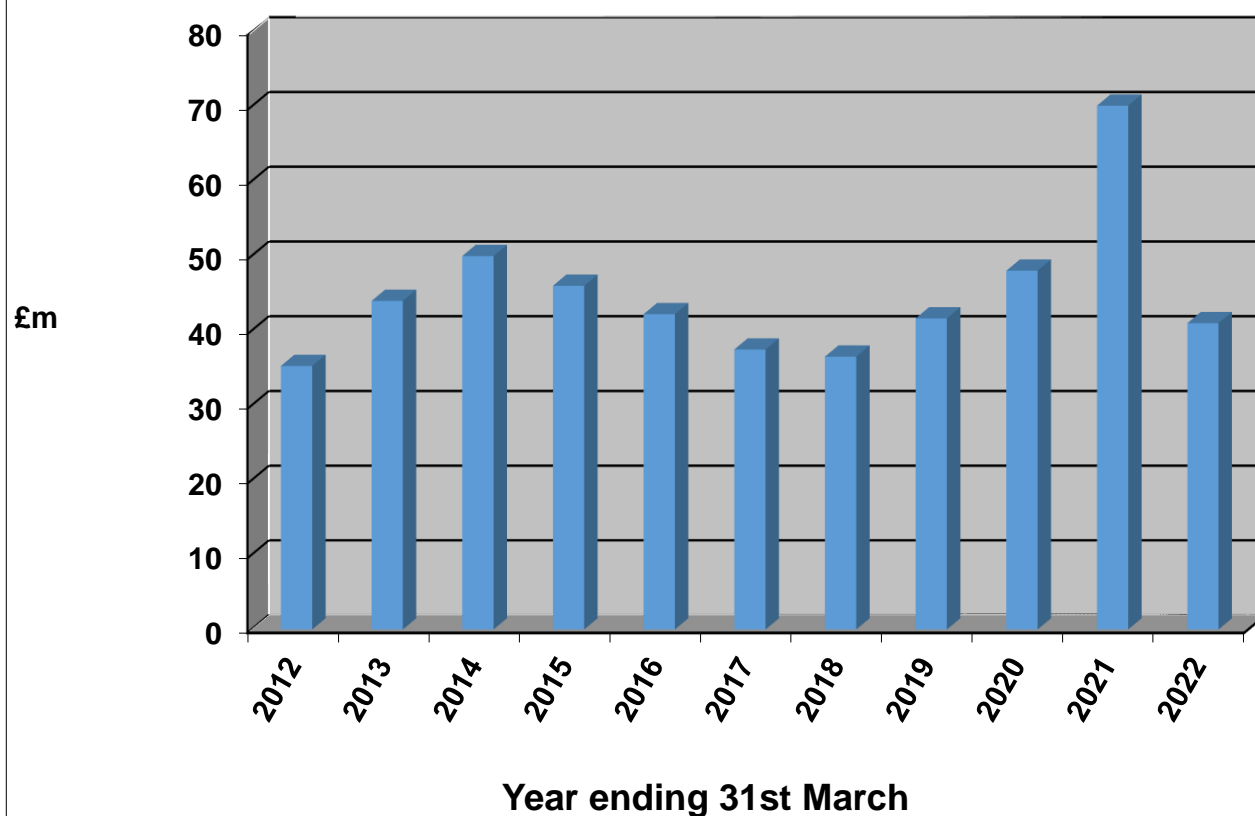
	currently using temporary and long-term borrowing to finance Prudentially-funded capital expenditure. While temporary investment rates and temporary borrowing rates are low, the Treasury team will continue to use a mix of both temporary and long-term borrowing to fund planned capital expenditure. The Business Loans Fund now has a savings target of £3,309k and there is some slippage in the loans being made to date. Following a review of the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) which was approved by the Executive on 8 th February 2021 a total of £6.7m of saving has been forecast to be achieved in 2021/22.	
Contingencies and Reserves	There are also savings from prior years that have not yet been met recurrently and these are currently showing a pressure of £1,382k, primarily corporate procurement savings (£632k) & non-essential spending (£750k). Funding of £5,545k has so far been received from MHCLG and a contribution of £783k is anticipated from Blackpool CCG for Enhanced Hospital Discharges. A MHCLG compensation scheme for non-commercial income lost due to Covid is estimated to provide an additional £990k in the full year. The impact of reallocating the Covid funding relating to sales, fees and charges compensation claims and the contribution from the CCG amounting to £1,773k has been shown in the services above. The residual funding of £5,545k is yet to be allocated.	(4,163)
Total		6,554

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



3.6 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 Localised Business Rate system. In order to present a complete picture of the Council's financial standing an equivalent graph to that of working balances, including a projection to 31st March 2022, is shown on the next page:

Earmarked Revenue Reserves



3.7 Earmarked Revenue Reserves (ERR)

	£m
Provisional Earmarked Revenue Reserves as at 1 st April 2021	70.124
Less s31 Grants used to offset NNDR deficit	(14.599)
Less Covid grant funding	(2.061)
Less Strategic Leisure Assets non-Covid element of overspend	(0.742)
Less Recurrent Gap funding underwritten by ERR	(2.987)
Less Ward Budget underspend 2020/21	(0.063)
Less Transfers from ERR month 1, 2 & 3	<u>(2.148)</u>
Forecast Earmarked Revenue Reserves as at 30 th June 2021	<u>(47.524)</u>
Forecast Earmarked Revenue Reserves as at 31 st March 2022	<u>(41.024)</u>

4. Covid-19

4.1 The current forecast effect on the Council's 2021/22 outturn due to the effects of Covid stands at £17,238k gross (**£3,480k net**) of which funding of £7,430k has been assumed from MHCLG Covid support funding (£6,440k) and the Sales, Fees & Charges compensation scheme (£990k). It is anticipated that a recharge of £783k of these costs will be made to Blackpool CCG for Enhanced Hospital Discharges. This leaves a residual pressure to the Council of £9,025k. A further £5,545k of Covid Grants relating to 2021/22 is yet to be allocated. The Council's July Covid financial monitoring return to MHCLG has been reconciled to the above figures.

4.2 For completeness the table shown in Appendix 4 shows all the Government Covid-related funding support announcements totalling £13.95m as at the end of June 2021.

5. Budget Savings

- 5.1 Appendix 5 comprises a summary schedule showing the progress made by directorates in achieving their revenue budget savings targets for 2021/22 which total £20.285m. As at 30th June 2021 80% of the 2021/22 savings target has already been delivered. The full-year forecast, predicts that 99% will be achieved by the year end.

6. Collection Rates

6.1 Council Tax

At the end of month 3 the amount collected for Council Tax (excluding Police and Fire precepts) was £15.7m and the collection rate was **25.1%**. This compares to £14.7m and 24.5% at the same point in 2020/21. The amount collected has risen by £1.0m which is mainly due to increases in both the Council Tax rate and base being offset by the impact of Covid, primarily deferred payments and revised instalment arrangements.

In the light of the reductions in discount and the introduction of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme the target collection rate is still 97.5% over a 4-year collection period as approved on 29th January 2021 as part of the setting of the Council Tax Base for 2021/22.

6.2 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. From 1st April 2017 the scheme was amended so that certain vulnerable groups would have the 27.11% reduced to 13.56%. The scheme was also amended from 1st April 2018 to provide additional support for low income groups of claimants (in receipt of Income Support, Income-Based Jobseekers Allowance or Income Related Employment Support Allowance) by amending the percentage reduction applied to their award from 27.11% to 13.56%. From 1st April 2019 the scheme was further amended. The Executive approved the provision of additional support by amending the percentage from 27.11% to 13.56% for further low income groups of claimants or partners (in receipt of Jobseeker's Allowance Contribution Based, Main Phase Employment and Support Allowance and are in the Work Related Activity Group, Maximum Universal Credit and neither employed, self-employed or in receipt of any other income which is taken into account when calculating their Universal Credit award such as an Occupational Pension or other unearned income and Universal Credit which includes either the limited capability for work and/or work-related activity). Other claimants will continue to have a 27.11% reduction applied to their award and all applicants who were protected and paid 13.56% under the previous scheme will continue to pay 13.56% when they move to Universal Credit. At its meeting on 7th December 2020, the Executive approved that the reduction applied to working-age claimants under the 2021/22 Scheme remained the same as the 2020/21 Scheme. These have the effect of reducing the amount to be collected.

At the end of month 3 the amount collected (excluding Police and Fire precepts) in respect of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Council Tax for those who have to pay CTRS either for the first time or in addition to a proportion of their Council Tax was £0.88m and the collection rate was **18.9%**. This compares to £0.82m and 18.7% at the same point in 2020/21.

The likely impact for 2021/22 is that the underlying rate of collection of Council Tax Reduction Scheme will be under greater pressure than 2020/21 due to accumulated arrears, limits on the amount that can be recovered from Attachment of Benefits, the impact of Covid and the ending of furlough payments in September and the temporary £20 uplift to Universal Credit in the autumn.

6.3 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 to 31st March 2019 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.

On 13th December 2018 the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) approved the establishment of a Lancashire-wide 75% Business Rate Pilot Pool (including Blackpool) in 2019/20 to share risk and reward. As part of this, the 50% rate retention scheme increases to 75% and authorities in the pool forego Revenue Support Grant. The value of the Revenue Support Grant was taken into account when revised business rate tariffs and top-ups for the pilot authorities were set. The Government also increased the Safety Net from 92.5% to 95% for the new pilot pools. Consequently, from 1st April 2019 the income relating to Blackpool is shared between central government (25%), the Council (73.5%) and the Fire Authority (1.5%).

From 1st April 2020 the Pilot scheme ceased and the percentage shares and Safety Net reverted back to the previous original shares. Revenue Support Grant was also reinstated.

At the end of month 3 the amount collected for Business Rates was £5.1m and the collection rate was **16.5%**. This compares to £4.4m and 22.4% at the same point in 2020/21. Both years exclude the significant s31 'Extended Retail/Nurseries etc.' relief provided by central government. In 2020/21 100% relief was provided. In 2021/22 a new relief scheme has been introduced which provides 3 months' relief (April 2021 to June 2021) at 100% and 9 months' relief (July 2021 to March 2022) at 66%. This will impact on future collection rates.

From April 2014 Business Ratepayers have been entitled to elect to pay by 12 monthly instalments instead of over 10 months. This has allowed businesses more time to pay. In the current circumstances no business rate summonses were issued in the 3 months to the end of June 2021.

Subject to audit, the Business Rate cumulative deficit as at 31st March 2021 was £28,578k. The Council's share of this deficit is £13,687k (£1,293k surplus @ 73.5% + £29,871k deficit @ 49%). The 2020/21 deficit will be offset by the s31 'Extended Retail/Nurseries etc.' relief provided by central government.

In 2020/21, s31 grants for Business Rate Reliefs totalling £14.599m were received which are to be applied in 2021/22 to the Collection Fund. This causes Earmarked Revenue Reserves to be overstated at year-end.

7. Capital Monitoring Performance

- 7.1 All active capital schemes have been included within Appendix 6. The purpose is to present the overall position of capital spend. The schemes are shown individually where total scheme budget is greater than £500k 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.
- 7.2 The report includes the capital programme as approved by the Executive in February 2021. The month 3 report includes this data for comparative purposes. Future reports may show further changes in the capital programme, representing schemes that were approved after submission of the 2021/22 capital programme.
- 7.3 As at month 3 an overspend of £1.8m on capital schemes is anticipated. Following the announcement that Marcus Worthington and Company Limited and its subsidiary company, Hollinwood Homes Limited, have gone into administration, the Council is working with the appointed administrators, PwC, and partners to develop options for the Foxhall Village scheme. The reported overspend of £1.8m reflects the current optimistic estimate which is subject to ongoing negotiations with the administrators and partners including Homes England.

8. Summary Cash Flow Statement

- 8.1 As part of the reporting format for this financial year a summary cash flow statement is included at Appendix 7. This provides a comparison of the actual cash receipts and payments compared to forecast for 2021/22.
- 8.2 During the first 3 months of the year, the Council’s net cashflow has resulted in fluctuations in short-term net investment/borrowing balances. The Council is predominantly using temporary borrowing to finance Prudentially-funded capital expenditure, though is switching to fixed Public Works Loan Board loans as and when opportune to do so.
- 8.3 The uptake from the Business Loans Fund is expected to continue steadily during 2021/22.

9. Summary Balance Sheet

- 9.1 In order to provide a complete picture of the Council’s financial performance Appendix 8 provides a snapshot of the General Fund balance sheet as at the end of month 3. 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.
- 9.2 Over the 3-month period there has been an increase in Property, Plant and Equipment of £10.1m due to capital expenditure which is in line with the Council’s approved capital programme for 2021/22. There has been an increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents of £10.7m due to the timing of capital and revenue grants.

10. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 10.1 Over the 11-year period 2011/12 – 2021/22 cumulative Revenue Budget savings amounting to £186m have been required to be made by Blackpool Council. This is greater than the Council's current annual Net Requirement Budget of £149m and even more starkly the compound effect over the same period amounts to £1.2bn of resource that has been removed from the Blackpool economy. This reflects one of the highest cuts per head of population across local authorities in England and in an environment of growing demands upon services as befalling an authority with such recognised pockets of significant deprivation.
- 10.2 The principles of the Medium-Term Financial Sustainability Strategy 2016/17 – 2021/22 are still valid and have been used to successfully keep apace with and deliver budget savings plans year after year. However, in tandem the soaring demand for child protection services and the rising costs of providing care for looked after children are still creating a crippling burden that current levels of local taxation and Government funding struggle to meet. In addition, the financial consequences of Covid have been immense but so far the Government has been making good with its promises of financial recompense.
- 10.3 Over the last 11 years of Government funding cuts Blackpool Council has consistently:
- delivered its annual budget in line with statutory requirements
 - maintained its reserves and balances at stable and appropriate levels that reflect the risk environment, indeed increasing them further in 2020/21 by £20.3m despite the unprecedented financial pressures faced in that year.

Most importantly and despite this backdrop it has consistently funded and delivered the ambitions of successive administrations.

- 10.4 The full-year forecast position at the end of month 3 of 2021/22 shows a deterioration in the Council's financial standing when compared with the draft unaudited position as at the close of 2020/21. Working balances are expected to reduce by the current forecast overspend of £6,554k including an overspend of **£3,480k** which is Covid-related.
- 10.5 The Council's Revenue Budget for 2021/22 set a target level of General Fund working balances of around £6m. Despite the circumstances it is still deemed appropriate to maintain this target level of £6m for working balances for the medium term and every endeavour has been made to deliver this and more. Earmarked revenue reserves at the start of the financial year stood at a record high of £70,124k, though with known in-year commitments against this the balance will fall to an estimated £41,024k by the end of the year. This should still be sufficient to underwrite the current year's financial risks with a separate financial plan in place for the Council's wholly-owned companies (ref. appendix 3m). It is planned that by the end of the calendar year there will be sufficient clarity regarding Covid and future funding policies for local government to enable a refresh of the medium-term financial sustainability strategy together with an updated medium-term financial plan of another 6 years' horizon.
- 10.6 If the 2021/22 forecast position became the actual outturn, then in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules within its Constitution the forecast revenue outturn 2021/22 within this report contravenes both of the two specific conditions that excess spending does not:

2. have the effect of reducing the authority's Working Balances below 50% of their normal target level (= £3m).

But these are still unprecedented times for the whole of local government and in the context of relatively healthy levels of Earmarked Revenue Reserves per CIPFA's Financial Resilience Index and with 9 months of the financial year still remaining officers are working continuously to maintain the position - revised service and financial plans are still underway, including the review of technical accounting treatments, freezing of non-essential spend, use of earmarked reserves and delays to filling non-front line vacancies.

10.7 The Executive is asked:

1. To note the report.
2. To require the respective directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage service financial and operational performances, specifically Growth and Prosperity, Children's Services, Strategic Leisure Assets and Adult Services.
3. To encourage the Tourism, Economy and Communities Scrutiny Committee to continue to independently review the financial and operational performances of the services listed in 2.
4. To note that detailed information on the financial performance of each of the Council's wholly-owned companies will be submitted to the next meeting of the Shareholder Committee in line with decision EX26/2021 and this will be the case from now on.
5. To continue to lobby central government (HM Treasury, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Department for Health and Social Care, Department for Transport, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Department for Education in particular) along with local authority peers and networks and the Local Government Association for the funding necessary to cope with the demands and new burdens presenting as a result of both Covid and within Children's Services.

Steve Thompson
Director of Resources
24th August 2021

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Blackpool Council

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

BLACKPOOL COUNCIL														
FORECAST GENERAL FUND POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2022														
SUMMARY														
APP.	GENERAL FUND NET REQUIREMENTS	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD	VARIANCE						
		ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR-JUN £000	2021/22 PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID	GROSS	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS	COVID-19 CCG CONTRIBUTION	SALES, FEES & CHARGES	NET	
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
3(a)	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	(241)	(768)	527	(241)	-	-	-	70	(70)	-	-	-	-
3(b)	GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	1,836	1,249	862	2,111	275	-	273	5	(3)	-	-	-	2
3(b/c)	WARD BUDGETS	353	(42)	395	353	-	(63)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3(d)	RESOURCES	2,097	6,042	(3,920)	2,122	25	-	(75)	133	-	-	-	(33)	100
3(e)	COMMUNICATIONS AND REGENERATION	3,545	(2,944)	6,942	3,998	453	-	235	309	-	-	-	(91)	218
3(f)	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	509	(302)	4,935	4,633	4,124	-	742	3,521	-	-	-	(139)	3,382
	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS - TRANSFER FROM RESERVES	-	-	(742)	(742)	(742)	-	(742)	-	-	-	-	-	-
3(g)	GROWTH & PROSPERITY	(7,327)	1,193	(8,520)	(7,327)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	GROWTH & PROSPERITY - TRANSFER FROM RESERVES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3(h)	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	43,153	(9,185)	52,864	43,679	526	-	(224)	1,000	-	-	-	(250)	750
3(i)	ADULT SERVICES	59,251	13,805	47,944	61,749	2,498	-	317	5,165	(2,201)	(783)	-	-	2,181
3(j)	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	62,745	3,588	62,732	66,320	3,575	-	2,813	847	(85)	-	-	-	762
3(k)	PUBLIC HEALTH	27	233	(206)	27	-	-	-	4,081	(4,081)	-	-	-	-
3(l)	BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT	7,096	985	6,094	7,079	(17)	-	(1,647)	2,107	-	-	-	(477)	1,630
	CAPITAL CHARGES	(27,708)	(6,927)	(20,781)	(27,708)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NET COST OF SERVICES:	145,336	6,927	149,126	156,053	10,717	(63)	1,692	17,238	(6,440)	(783)	(990)	9,025	
	CONTRIBUTIONS:													
	- TO / (FROM) RESERVES	(2,987)	-	(2,987)	(2,987)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	- 2020/21 SERVICE OVER/(UNDERSPENDS)	(63)	-	(63)	(63)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	- REVENUE CONSEQUENCES OF CAPITAL OUTLAY	300	-	300	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	- CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(783)	-	783	-	-	-
	- SALES, FEES & CHARGES - COVID COMPENSATION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(990)	-	-	990	-	-
	CONTINGENCIES	6,020	-	1,857	1,857	(4,163)	-	1,382	(5,545)	-	-	-	-	(5,545)
	LEVIES	456	-	456	456	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CONTRIBUTIONS, etc.	3,726	-	(437)	(437)	(4,163)	-	1,382	(7,318)	-	783	990	-	(5,545)
	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE TO BE MET FROM PUBLIC FUNDS	149,062	6,927	148,689	155,616	6,554	-	3,074	9,920	(6,440)	-	-	-	3,480
	ADDED TO/(TAKEN FROM) BALANCES	-	-	(6,554)	(6,554)	(6,554)	-	(3,074)	(9,920)	6,440	-	-	-	(3,480)
	NET REQUIREMENT AFTER WORKING BALANCES	149,062	6,927	142,135	149,062	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GENERAL BALANCES AS AT 1st APRIL 2021 PER UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2020/21							6,293	6,293	-	-	-	-	-	-
In-year (reduction in) / addition to General Fund Working Balances							(6,554)	(3,074)	(9,920)	6,440	-	-	-	(3,480)
ESTIMATED UN earmarked WORKING BALANCES AS AT 31st MARCH 2022							(261)	3,219	(9,920)	6,440	-	-	-	(3,480)

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	Blackpool Council															
2																
3	Schedule of Service forecast annual overspendings over the last 12 months															
4																
5																
6																
7	Directorate	Service	Scrutiny Committee		Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
8			Report		2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021
9					£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
10																
11	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS			7,434	7,434	6,834	6,834	6,534	6,534	4,473	1,394	1,394			4,124
12	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE			10,939	3,583	3,880	3,805	4,131	3,901	1,808	1,474	1,474			2,644
13	ADULT SERVICES	ADULT COMMISSIONING PLACEMENTS			7,163	7,542	10,047	9,898	9,356	8,782						2,543
14	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	EDUCATION			1,274	1,187	1,260	1,268	1,260	1,260	547	660	660			1,001
15	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	LEISURE AND CATERING			2,768	2,773	2,642	2,642	2,303	2,303						526
16	COMMUNICATIONS & REGENERATION	TOURISM AND COMMUNICATIONS			574	630	616	616	640	640	217	343	343			416
17	GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	CORPORATE LEGAL SERVICES			726	726	726	774	839	839	938	1,037	1,037			250
18	PUBLIC HEALTH	MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES			81	81	81	469	399	485	480					161
19	GROWTH & PROSPERITY	GROWTH & PROSPERITY			812	2,400	1,725	1,725	8,832	8,832	8,832	10,085	10,085			-
20	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	STREET CLEANSING AND WASTE			515	523	554	554	608	608	261					-
21	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	BUSINESS SERVICES										1,432	1,432			-
22	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	HOUSING			358	456	459	459	459	459						-
23	GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	LIFE EVENTS & CUSTOMER CARE			454	450	424	424	397	397						-
24	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	INTEGRATED TRANSPORT			314	320	320	320	124	124	153					-
25	ADULT SERVICES	CARE & SUPPORT			156	131	101	83	75							-
26	COMMUNICATIONS & REGENERATION	PLANNING			122	79	79	79	80	80						-
27	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES			105	103	102	102								-
28	COMMUNICATIONS & REGENERATION	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & CULTURAL SERVICES			76		79	79								-
29	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES			125											-
68		Sub Total			33,996	28,418	29,929	30,131	36,037	35,244	17,709	16,425	16,425	-	-	11,665
69																
70		Transfer to Earmarked Reserves (note 3)			(1,742)	(1,742)	(1,742)	(1,742)	(1,742)	(1,742)	(10,574)	(10,226)	(10,226)	-	-	(742)
71																
72		Other General Fund (under) / overspends			(7,847)	(17,804)	(18,494)	(23,325)	(24,499)	(25,041)	(16,207)	(2,198)	(2,198)	-	-	(4,369)
73																
74		Total			24,407	8,872	9,693	5,064	9,796	8,461	(9,072)	4,001	4,001	-	-	6,554
75																
76																
77	Notes:															
78																
79	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															
80	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															
81	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															
82	respective financial performance over a 12-month rolling basis for comparison of progress being made.															
83																
84	2. The Strategic Leisure Assets overspend reflects the in-year position.															
85																
86	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. This represents the Non-Covid element. During 2020/21, the overspend of £8,832k on Growth and Prosperity was funded from Earmarked Reserves as per the General Fund Budget Report 2021/22 reported to the Executive on 8th February 2021 and is reflected in the period January 2021 to March 2021.															
87																
88	4. Between April and December 2020 service overspends were shown gross of Covid costs and the Covid funding appeared in 'Other General Fund (under)/overspends'. In January 2021, £25,407k of the total funding of £28,419 in 2020/21 was allocated to services thereby reducing the level of overspends being reported at service level. The remaining £3,012k funding appeared in 'Other General Fund (under)/overspends' because it was yet to be allocated. In 2021/22 Covid funding (other than Covid grants relating to 2021/22) has been netted off overspends. Covid grants relating to 2021/22 have not been allocated yet so appear in 'Other General Fund (under)/overspends'.															
89																

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Blackpool Council - Chief Executive

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE				
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	2021/22		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID	COVID-19			
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000			£000	GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000
CHIEF EXECUTIVE											
NET EXPENDITURE											
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	579	147	432	579	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HUMAN RESOURCES, ORGANISATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	(16)	61	(77)	(16)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHIEF EXECUTIVE TOTAL	563	208	355	563	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CORPORATE DELIVERY UNIT	(4)	(482)	478	(4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HOUSING	(800)	(494)	(306)	(800)	-	-	70	(70)	-	-	-
ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE	(804)	(976)	172	(804)	-	-	70	(70)	-	-	-
TOTALS	(241)	(768)	527	(241)	-	-	70	(70)	-	-	-

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within the Chief Executive's Directorate against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2021/22 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year.

Chief Executive

This service is currently forecasting a break even position.

Human Resources, Organisation and Workforce Development

This service is also currently forecasting a break even position.

Corporate Delivery Unit

This service is forecasting a break even position.

Housing

It has been assumed that a Covid pressure of £70k will be fully met from the additional funding provided in the Rough Sleepers grant.

Covid

The Chief Executive's Directorate has a gross pressure of £70k relating to Covid. It is assumed that this pressure will be met from the Rough Sleepers grant, the net Covid pressure therefore is nil.

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Blackpool Council – Governance and Partnership Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	2021/22		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID	COVID-19				
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000			£000	GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	NET £000
GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES												
NET EXPENDITURE												
DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE	2,238	745	1,493	2,238	-	-	3	(3)	-	-	-	-
CORPORATE LEGAL SERVICES	(2)	513	(265)	248	250	-	250	-	-	-	-	-
INFORMATION GOVERNANCE	-	10	(10)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LIFE EVENTS & CUSTOMER CARE	(400)	(19)	(356)	(375)	25	-	23	2	-	-	-	2
GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	1,836	1,249	862	2,111	275	-	273	5	(3)	-	-	2
WARDS	353	(42)	395	353	-	(63)	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2,189	1,207	1,257	2,464	275	(63)	273	5	(3)	-	-	2

Commentary on the key issues:

Directorate Summary - basis

The Revenue summary (above) lists the outturn projection for each individual service within Governance and Partnership Services against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2021/22 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. Of the £275k pressure, £2k is attributable to Covid.

Democratic Governance Service

The Democratic Governance Service is currently forecasting a break-even position. A Covid grant of £3k has been received to cover the extra costs relating to running Covid-secure elections.

Corporate Legal Services

This service is forecasting an overspend of £250k. This figure relates to an expected overspend in Children's legal services due to the large number of complex cases.

Information Governance

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

Life Events & Customer Care

This service is forecasting a pressure of £25k. £2k of this relates to Covid costs whilst the balance relates to income pressures.

Ward Budgets

Ward budgets are expected to break-even in 2021/22.

Covid

Governance and Partnership Services has a gross pressure of £5k relating to Covid. Direct Service Grants reduce this to £2k.

Budget Holder - Mr M Towers, Director of Governance and Partnership Services.

Blackpool Council
Ward Budgets
2021/22
Month 3

Wards

Ward	Councillors	Total No. of Requisitions Submitted	No. of Requisitions Approved	No. Awaiting Approval	Total No. of Requisitions Completed	Total 2021-22 Budget	2021-22 Budget Committed to <u>Approved</u> Schemes	Remaining 2021-22 Budget
Anchorsholme Ward BC1001/BC1101	Cllr. Galley Cllr. A Williams	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£7,602.07 £7,602.08	£0.00 £0.00	£7,602.07 £7,602.08
Bispham Ward BC1002/BC1102	Cllr. Clapham Cllr. Wilshaw	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	£8,814.88 £8,814.88	£558.00 £558.00	£8,256.88 £8,256.88
Bloomfield Ward BC1003/BC1103	Cllr. Cain Cllr. Hobson	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	£8,445.95 £8,445.95	£125.00 £125.00	£8,320.95 £8,320.95
Brunswick Ward BC1004/BC1104	Cllr. Blackburn Cllr. G Coleman	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£8,823.68 £8,823.68	£0.00 £0.00	£8,823.68 £8,823.68
Claremont Ward BC1005/BC1105	Cllr. I Taylor Cllr. L Williams	2 2	2 2	0 0	0 0	£9,073.45 £9,073.44	£1,125.00 £1,125.00	£7,948.45 £7,948.44
Clifton Ward BC1006/BC1106	Cllr. P. Burdess Cllr. Hutton	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£8,061.11 £8,061.11	£0.00 £0.00	£8,061.11 £8,061.11
Greenlands Ward BC1007/BC1107	Cllr. Scott Cllr. Wing	2 2	2 2	0 0	0 0	£9,457.38 £9,457.37	£488.92 £488.92	£8,968.46 £8,968.45
Hawes Side Ward BC1008/BC1108	Cllr. Brookes Cllr. Critchley	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£9,042.70 £9,042.69	£0.00 £0.00	£9,042.70 £9,042.69
Highfield Ward BC1009/BC1109	Cllr. Hunter Cllr. Mitchell	1 0	1 0	0 0	0 0	£7,500.40 £7,500.40	£1,600.00 £0.00	£5,900.40 £7,500.40
Ingthorpe Ward BC1010/BC1110	Cllr. Cross Cllr. Farrell	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£9,967.96 £9,967.96	£0.00 £0.00	£9,967.96 £9,967.96
Layton Ward BC1011/BC1111	Cllr. Mrs Benson Cllr. M Mitchell	0 2	0 2	0 0	0 0	£9,234.36 £9,234.36	£0.00 £1,280.00	£9,234.36 £7,954.36
Marton Ward BC1012/BC1112	Cllr. D Coleman Cllr. Stansfield	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£9,984.93 £9,984.93	£0.00 £0.00	£9,984.93 £9,984.93
Norbreck Ward BC1013/BC1113	Cllr. Mrs Callow Cllr. Sloman	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£9,360.40 £9,360.40	£0.00 £0.00	£9,360.40 £9,360.40
Park Ward BC1014/BC1114	Cllr. Campbell Cllr. Kirkland	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£9,182.42 £9,182.42	£0.00 £0.00	£9,182.42 £9,182.42
Squires Gate Ward BC1015/BC1115	Cllr. Cox Cllr. Walsh	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£7,500.00 £7,500.00	£0.00 £0.00	£7,500.00 £7,500.00
Stanley Ward BC1016/BC1116	Cllr. Baker Cllr. Roberts	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£10,000.00 £10,000.00	£0.00 £0.00	£10,000.00 £10,000.00
Talbot Ward BC1017/BC1117	Cllr. Hugo Cllr. Smith	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	£9,130.14 £9,130.13	£3,496.62 £3,496.62	£5,633.52 £5,633.51
Tyldesley Ward BC1018/BC1118	Cllr. Collett Cllr. Matthews	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£10,000.00 £10,000.00	£0.00 £0.00	£10,000.00 £10,000.00
Victoria Ward BC1019/BC1119	Cllr. Jackson Cllr. Owen	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£9,664.44 £9,664.43	£0.00 £0.00	£9,664.44 £9,664.43
Warbreck Ward BC1020/BC1120	Cllr. Scott Cllr. Mrs Scott	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£8,178.71 £8,178.71	£0.00 £0.00	£8,178.71 £8,178.71
Waterloo Ward BC1021/BC1121	Cllr. O'Hara Cllr. Robertson BEM	0 1	0 1	0 0	0 0	£10,000.00 £10,000.00	£0.00 £892.23	£10,000.00 £9,107.77

Ward Totals	18	18	0	0	£378,049.92	£15,359.31	£362,690.61
Unallocated Budget	-	-	-	-	(£25,000.00)	£0.00	(£25,000.00)
Income Budget	-	-	-	-	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Area Ward Totals	18	18	0	0	£353,049.92	£15,359.31	£337,690.61

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Blackpool Council - Resources

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUNE £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID £000	COVID-19				
								GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	NET £000
RESOURCES												
NET EXPENDITURE												
PROCUREMENT, PROJECTS & EXCHEQUER SERVICES	1	1,122	(1,102)	20	19	-	10	25	-	-	(16)	9
BENEFITS	(1,033)	685	(1,718)	(1,033)	-	-	(2)	2	-	-	-	2
REVENUES SERVICES	1,538	445	1,093	1,538	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CUSTOMER FIRST	(13)	191	(190)	1	14	-	14	-	-	-	-	-
ICT SERVICES	19	559	(540)	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ACCOUNTANCY	2	451	(435)	16	14	-	14	-	-	-	-	-
RISK SERVICES	(4)	173	(152)	21	25	-	24	2	-	-	(1)	1
PROPERTY SERVICES (Incl. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO)	1,587	2,416	(876)	1,540	(47)	-	(135)	104	-	-	(16)	88
TOTALS	2,097	6,042	(3,920)	2,122	25	-	(75)	133	-	-	(33)	100

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 3 months of 2021/22 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, Projects and Exchequer Services

Procurement, Projects and Exchequer Services are forecasting an overspend of £19k. Procurement and Projects are forecasting an overspend of £9k including a net Covid pressure of £7k which is due to no Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO) dividend now being expected. Exchequer Services are forecasting an overspend of £10k including a Covid pressure of £2k; Transactional Services underspending by £9k due to vacancy savings and Payroll overspending by £19k due to a reduction in Schools SLA income offset in part by vacancy savings.

Benefits

The Benefits Service is forecasting a break-even position. Monthly Housing Benefit new claims processing figures for June was 12 days. The cumulative processing time to-date for new claims for Housing Benefit, new claims for Council Tax Reduction and changes in circumstances notifications was 7 days. It is anticipated that there will be a further significant increase in new claims for Council Tax Reduction over the coming months.

Revenue Services

Revenue Services are forecasting a break-even position on a gross budget of £2.25m.

Customer First

Customer First is forecasting an overspend of £14k against a gross budget of £1.08m. This is due to unachieved vacancy savings within the service.

ICT Services

ICT is forecasting a break-even position on a gross budget of £5.2m.

Accountancy

Accountancy is forecasting an overspend of £14k. This is due to a forecast reduction in SLA income offset in part by vacancy savings within the service.

Risk Services

Risk Services are forecasting an overspend of £25k against a gross budget of £1.15m. This is due to a forecast reduction in additional income generation during the year and £24k unachieved PLB savings target, in addition to a £1k net Covid pressure relating to a loss of training course income.

Property Services (incl. Investment Portfolio)

Property Services are forecasting an underspend of £47k against a gross budget of £13.4m, including a net Covid pressure of £88k. Pressures against income generation have been offset by vacancy savings and utilities and maintenance savings as a result of under occupancy of some Council buildings. In addition, a new rental agreement for Bond Street car park generating £90k (£75k arrears and an additional £15k pa) has been included in the forecasts for period 3. A decision has been made to continue to bill tenants in line with their rental agreement, whilst offering deferred payment terms to businesses where appropriate.

Covid

Resources has a gross pressure of £133k relating to Covid. Covid funding relating to Sales, Fees and Charges compensation claims amounts to £33k reducing the net Covid pressure to £100k, which is included in the above table. Covid costs include a loss/reduction in income streams within Risk Services, room hire income in Property Services and dividend payments in Procurement Services.

Summary of the revenue forecast

After 3 months of the financial year Resources are forecasting a £25k 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

Blackpool Council – Communications & Regeneration

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	2021/22		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID		COVID-19			
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000			GROSS	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS	CCG CONTRIBUTION	SALES, FEES & CHARGES	NET	
COMMUNICATIONS & REGENERATION												
NET EXPENDITURE												
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & CULTURAL SERVICES	312	(3,556)	3,868	312	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PLANNING	496	(281)	777	496	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOURISM AND COMMUNICATIONS	2,737	893	2,297	3,190	453	-	235	309	-	-	(91)	218
TOTALS	3,545	(2,944)	6,942	3,998	453	-	235	309	-	-	(91)	218

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 £453k overspend is based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2021/22 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 £453k overspend, £218k is attributable to Covid.

Economic Development and Cultural Services

This service is expecting a break-even position in 2021/22.

Planning

This service is expecting a break-even position in 2021/22.

Tourism & Communications

There is an expected pressure in this area of £453k including a net Covid pressure of £218k.

The Illuminations service is currently forecasting a pressure of £116k. This is made up of a £99k additional cost of extending the Illuminations period till the end of December, £13k of additional staff costs due to Covid and an £8k loss of income from business collections (£3k after the Sales, Fees and Charges compensation scheme).

Visit Blackpool is expecting a pressure of £299k. Of this pressure, £164k relates to Covid of which £87k is lost advertising income on shelters and £77k relates to lost resort pass income. These figures are after £23k of Sales, Fees & Charges compensation scheme income has been applied. There is a non-Covid pressure of £135k forecast which is mainly additional costs for Switch-on (£116k) and increased rates costs on shelters.

Covid

The Communications & Regeneration Directorate has a gross pressure of £309k relating to Covid. It is expected that Sales, Fees and Charges compensation claims amounting to £91k will be received. The net Covid pressure is £218k which is included in the above table.

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

Blackpool Council – Strategic Leisure Assets

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	2021/22		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID	COVID-19				
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000			GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	NET £000	
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS												
NET EXPENDITURE												
STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	509	(302)	4,935	4,633	4,124	-	742	3,521	-	-	(139)	3,382
TOTALS	509	(302)	4,935	4,633	4,124	-	742	3,521	-	-	(139)	3,382

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 3 months of 2021/22 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 reallocation of Covid funding relating to Sales, Fees and Charges compensation claims reduces the overspend to £4,124k, of which Covid net costs are £3,382k.

This overspend consists of a Leisure Assets medium-term financial plan gap (excluding Covid costs) of £301k, a £350k income target not in Leisure Assets medium-term financial plan, £91k shortfall on expected income from VAT cultural exemption and £3,382k net loss relating to Covid restrictions after assuming modest income from the Sales, Fees & Charges compensation scheme of £139k.

In accordance with the original decision for this programme by the Executive on 7th February 2011 the projected overspend on Strategic Leisure Assets of £742k (excluding Covid costs) will be carried forward and transferred to Earmarked Reserves. This brings the expected cumulative deficit as at 2021/22 to £15,677.

The Leisure Assets medium-term financial plan now forecasts the service to break-even, in-year, during 2025/26. This has increased from 2024/25 due to a delay in the Conference Centre income generation.

Covid

Strategic Leisure Assets has a gross pressure of £3,521k relating to Covid. Following the reallocation of Covid funding relating to Sales, Fees and Charges compensation claims amounting to £139k, the net Covid pressure is £3,382k, which is included in the above table.

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Blackpool Council – Growth & Prosperity

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE				VARIANCE	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE						VARIANCE	
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	2021/22		FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID		COVID-19				COVID-19	NON-COVID
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000				GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	NET £000	£000	£000	
GROWTH & PROSPERITY															
NET EXPENDITURE															
GROWTH & PROSPERITY	(7,327)	1,193	(8,520)	(7,327)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	(7,327)	1,193	(8,520)	(7,327)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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 3 months of 2021/22 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 pace of delivery of the G&P work programme has been significantly and adversely impacted by the consequences of Covid in relation to due diligence work, planning permissions/objections/appeals, private sector risk appetite, central government decision-making, office and retail rental levels, sourcing of building labour and materials and project costs. Rather than incorporate subjective and volatile monthly assessments of the magnitude and likelihood of such schemes being realised, a thorough half-year review will be undertaken for the month 6 report.

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

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Blackpool Council – Community and Environmental Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	2021/22		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID £000	COVID-19				
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000				GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	NET £000
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES												
NET EXPENDITURE												
BUSINESS SERVICES	-	152	(152)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LEISURE AND CATERING	3,968	289	4,205	4,494	526	-	(224)	1,000	-	-	(250)	750
PUBLIC PROTECTION	672	(1,216)	1,888	672	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES	16,828	(4,923)	21,751	16,828	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
STREET CLEANSING AND WASTE	16,182	(4,302)	20,484	16,182	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COASTAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS	4,627	550	4,077	4,627	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INTEGRATED TRANSPORT	876	265	611	876	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	43,153	(9,185)	52,864	43,679	526	-	(224)	1,000	-	-	(250)	750

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 £526k overspend is based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2021/22 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. All of the £526k overspend is attributable to the after effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Business Services

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

Leisure and Catering

Leisure and Catering is currently forecasting a pressure of £526k. The Leisure service is forecasting lost income in relation to Covid of £1,000k in total, due to the continued reduction in capacity and patronage at leisure centres after lockdown measures were eased. It is, however, anticipated that a Sales, Fees and Charges compensation claim will be made for losses in quarter 1 of 2021/22, amounting to £250k. Within the service, there are savings of £236k, mainly due to staffing vacancies, and also a non-Covid related pressure of £12k, within Parks, due to unpaid invoices.

Public Protection

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

Highways and Traffic Management Services

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

Street Cleansing and Waste

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

Coastal and Environmental Partnerships

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

Integrated Transport

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

Covid

Community and Environmental Services has a gross pressure of £1,000k relating to Covid. Following the anticipated Sales, Fees and Charges compensation claim, amounting to £250k, the net Covid pressure is £750k, which is included in the above table.

Conclusion – Community and Environmental Services financial position

At the end of June 2021, the Community and Environmental Services Directorate is forecasting a £526k pressure, of which £750k relates to Covid, with non-Covid savings of £224k being identified.

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

Blackpool Council - Adult Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	2021/22		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID £000	GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	COVID-19		NET £000
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000						CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	
ADULT SERVICES												
NET EXPENDITURE												
ADULT SOCIAL CARE	7,371	2,074	5,297	7,371	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CARE & SUPPORT	5,320	1,193	4,088	5,281	(39)	(39)	60	(60)	-	-	-	
ADULT COMMISSIONING PLACEMENTS	45,893	10,438	37,998	48,436	2,543	362	5,105	(2,141)	(783)	-	2,181	
ADULT SAFEGUARDING	667	100	561	661	(6)	(6)	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTALS	59,251	13,805	47,944	61,749	2,498	-	317	5,165	(2,201)	(783)	-	2,181

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 Directorate against their respective, currently approved, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2021/22 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)

The Adult Commissioning Placements budget is forecasting a £2,543k overspend on a £63m gross expenditure budget. The total Covid cost of £5,105k is partially offset by the Infection Prevention Control grant (£1,219k), Lateral Flow Testing grant (£922k) and a contribution from the Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group (£783k). It is anticipated that the net Covid pressure of £2,181k will be mitigated when the Government grants relating to 2021/22 are allocated. The non-Covid overspend of £362k relates to nursing placements and staff vacancies.

Care and Support

Care and Support is forecasting an underspend of £39k due to staffing vacancies within the service. The Covid cost of £60k has been met by the Infection Prevention Control grant.

Covid

Adult Services have incurred significant costs in relation to Covid of £5,165k. Providers have been supported through a number of schemes including the Emergency Workforce provision, a 10% Covid premium applied to fee rates and access to free Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). There have been increased Covid related hospital discharges with these costs being reclaimed from Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group. Direct Service grants have also been allocated to providers in relation to Infection Prevention Control and Lateral Flow Testing. It is anticipated that the net Covid pressure of £2,181k will be mitigated when the government grants relating to 2021/22 are allocated.

Summary of the Adult Services financial position

As at the end of June 2021 the Adult Services Directorate is forecasting an overall overspend of £2,498k for the financial year to March 2022 on a gross budget of £87m, including £2,181k net Covid costs.

Budget Holder – K Smith, Director of Adult Services

Blackpool Council – Children’s Services

Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE				VARIANCE	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE				
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	NON-COVID £000		COVID-19				
								GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	NET £000
CHILDREN'S SERVICES												
NET EXPENDITURE												
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - ISB	94,765	4,620	90,184	94,804	39	-	39	-	-	-	-	-
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - NON DELEGATED	452	-	480	480	28	-	28	-	-	-	-	-
EDUCATION	27,205	3,799	23,918	27,717	512	-	512	-	-	-	-	-
EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	182	46	136	182	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BUSINESS SUPPORT AND RESOURCES	8,895	2,427	6,468	8,895	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DEDICATED SCHOOL GRANT	(131,172)	(14,586)	(116,513)	(131,099)	73	-	73	-	-	-	-	-
CARRY FORWARD OF DSG UNDER/(OVER) SPEND	(327)	-	(979)	(979)	(652)	-	(652)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL DSG FUNDED SERVICES	-	(3,694)	3,694	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPRECIATION	2,213	-	2,213	2,213	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EDUCATION	3,279	(371)	4,651	4,280	1,001	-	698	388	(85)	-	-	303
EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	6,121	(457)	6,508	6,051	(70)	-	(70)	-	-	-	-	-
CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE	49,934	8,487	44,091	52,578	2,644	-	2,185	459	-	-	-	459
BUSINESS SUPPORT AND RESOURCES	1,380	(377)	1,757	1,380	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LOCAL SERVICES SUPPORT GRANT	(18)	-	(18)	(18)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT	(164)	-	(164)	(164)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL COUNCIL FUNDED SERVICES	62,745	7,282	59,038	66,320	3,575	-	2,813	847	(85)	-	-	762
TOTALS	62,745	3,588	62,732	66,320	3,575	-	2,813	847	(85)	-	-	762

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 3 months of 2021/22 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.

Children’s Social Care

The Children’s Social Care budget was increased by £8.173m in August 2020 following the approval of the refreshed Children’s Services Medium Term Financial Strategy (CSMTFS). The additional investment was required to cover the increase in numbers and unit costs of Looked After Children (LAC) between 2020/21 budget setting and 31st May 2020 and also to develop the placements market and increase the capacity within internal fostering. The CSMTFS aims to reverse the current trend and this investment alongside other service improvements should ensure the service can live within the current budget by 2022/23.

However, the Children’s Social Care division had a worsening position since May 2020 of £2,644k, mainly due to the additional support required following the breakdown of high cost placements. An additional work stream has been set up to review, understand the issues and mitigate the additional costs wherever possible. £459k of this pressure relates to breakdowns due to Covid.

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 (ISB), 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 2022/23 and, in the case of overspends, become the first call on the grant in that year.

Education

There is expected to be a gross overspend of £945k against the Children's Transport Service and there is £85k of Covid grant which reduces this overspend to £860k. £664k is due to demand pressures and a historical savings target that was not achieved and £196k relates to the net additional Covid Transport Costs.

There is also expected to be a gross £136k Covid pressure due to the requirement for school baseline assessments and an additional post in the Special Educational Needs Team.

Early Help

The Early Help Service is expected to underspend by £70k due to vacant posts across the service.

Covid

The Children's Services Directorate has a gross pressure of £847k relating to Covid. This will be reduced by Direct Service Grants totalling £85k. The net Covid pressure is £762k which is included in the above table.

Summary of the Children's Services financial position

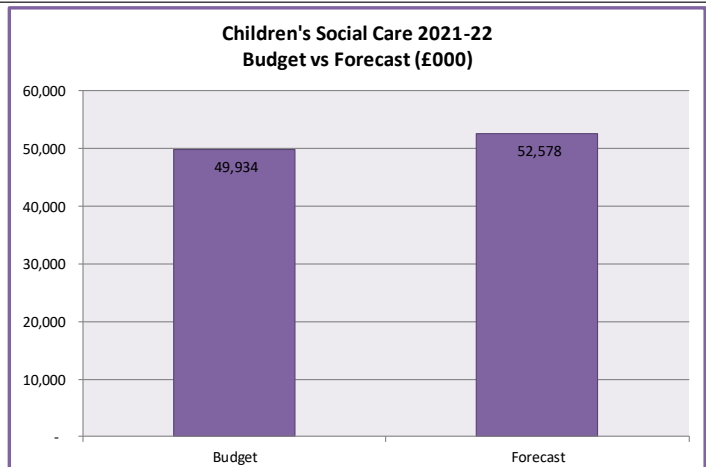
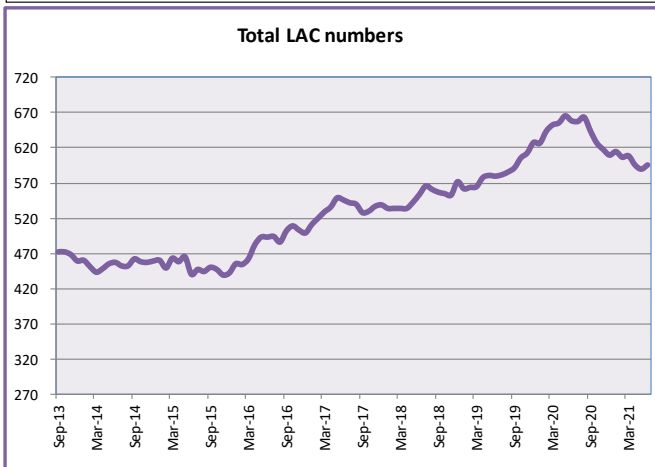
As at the end of June 2021 the Children's Services Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £3,575k for the financial year to March 2022, including £762k of additional Covid costs.

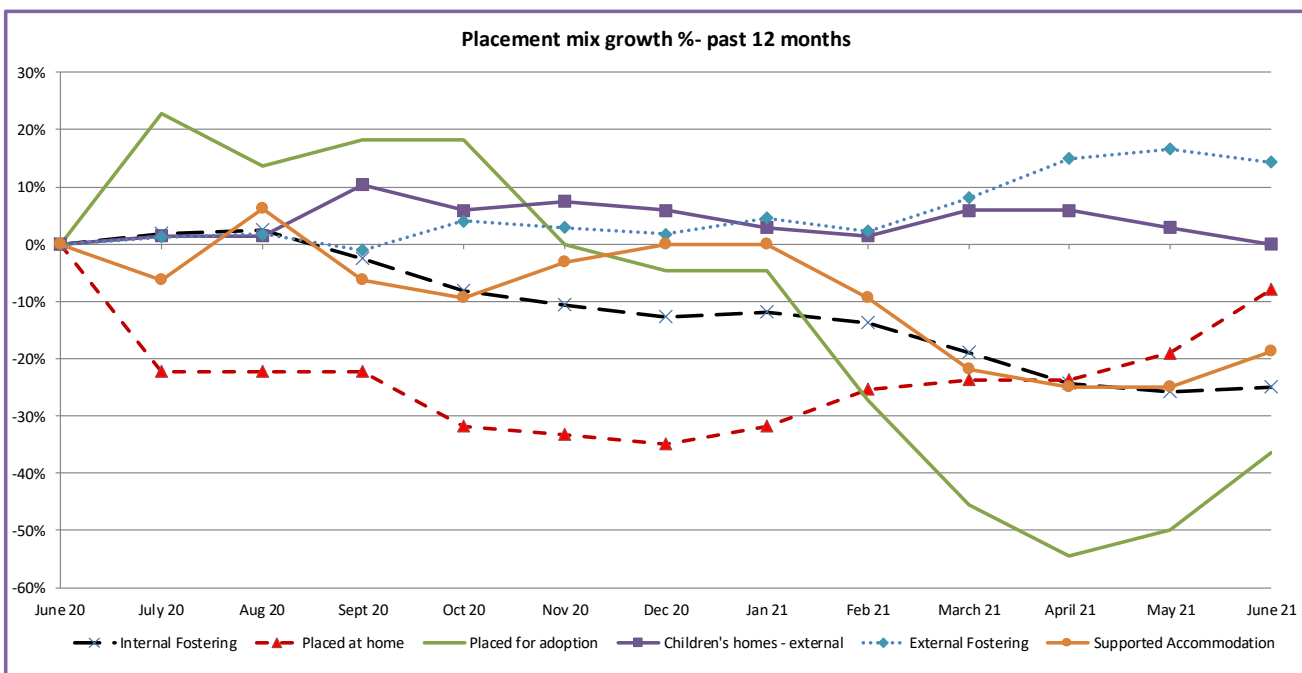
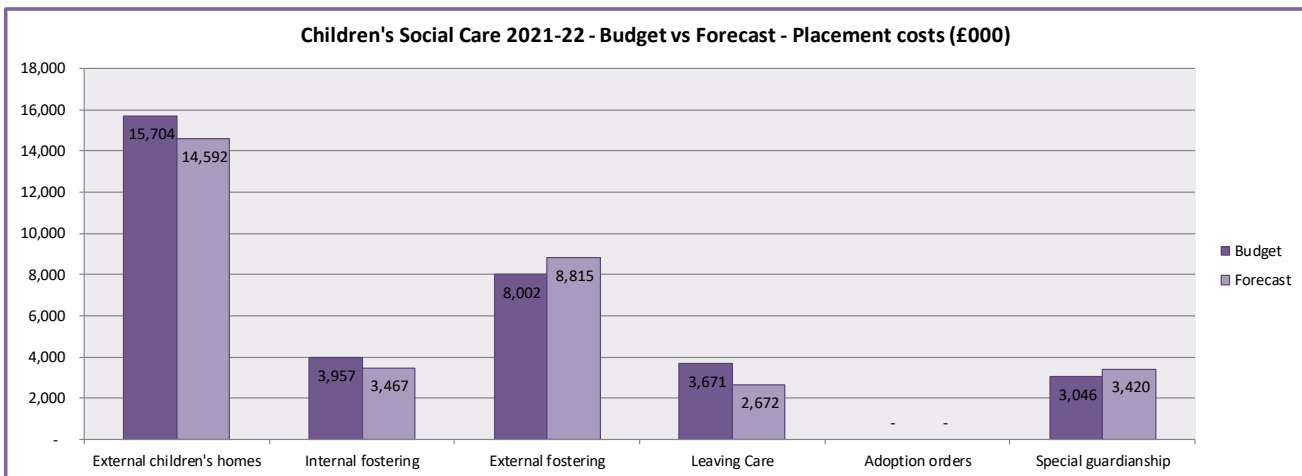
Budget Holder – Victoria Gent, Director of Children's Services

Children's Social Care Trends

Date	External Placements Projection						Supported Accommodation			Internal Fostering			LAC number	SGO	
	Fostering inc M&B			Residential			Number	% of LAC	£ per placement	Number	% of LAC	£ per placement	No.	Number	£ per placement
	Number	% of LAC	£ per placement	Number	% of LAC	£ per placement									
Jun-13	72	15%	36,202	41	8%	111,596	16	3%	no data	263	53%	11,887	492	no data	
Sep-13	66	14%	35,667	33	7%	111,523	17	4%	no data	272	58%	11,908	472	no data	
Dec-13	69	15%	36,560	30	7%	117,073	17	4%	no data	260	57%	11,828	459	no data	
Mar-14	64	14%	34,058	27	6%	118,473	15	3%	no data	248	56%	11,757	443	no data	
Jun-14	74	16%	35,928	25	5%	102,561	18	4%	no data	250	55%	12,833	457	no data	
Sep-14	75	16%	37,655	21	5%	121,210	27	6%	no data	237	51%	12,570	462	no data	
Dec-14	70	15%	38,760	18	4%	124,281	23	5%	no data	243	53%	12,474	459	no data	
Mar-15	73	16%	40,155	23	5%	128,868	19	4%	no data	244	53%	12,374	463	no data	
Jun-15	74	17%	40,625	25	6%	147,777	20	5%	no data	219	50%	12,541	440	no data	
Sep-15	73	16%	40,040	25	6%	142,934	16	4%	no data	225	50%	12,549	450	no data	
Dec-15	70	16%	41,243	27	6%	145,196	17	4%	no data	217	49%	12,428	442	no data	
Mar-16	69	15%	42,215	29	6%	146,120	22	5%	no data	257	56%	12,453	462	no data	
Jun-16	77	16%	42,145	34	7%	157,136	28	6%	38,608	259	53%	12,630	493	230 5,472	
Sep-16	84	17%	42,750	32	6%	169,996	27	5%	41,376	254	51%	12,688	502	240 5,582	
Dec-16	89	18%	43,038	36	7%	175,954	28	6%	41,037	258	52%	12,857	499	245 5,562	
Mar-17	103	19%	43,502	44	8%	179,669	26	5%	42,416	269	51%	12,872	529	249 5,555	
Jun-17	100	18%	40,933	49	9%	151,450	26	5%	60,946	272	50%	13,227	546	258 5,576	
Sep-17	95	18%	40,991	35	7%	161,487	36	7%	57,928	270	51%	13,213	528	267 5,383	
Dec-17	103	19%	41,277	43	8%	162,623	36	7%	58,358	272	50%	13,169	539	277 5,281	
Mar-18	98	18%	41,099	44	8%	165,935	30	6%	55,728	273	51%	13,116	534	286 5,109	
Jun-18	97	18%	40,083	45	8%	164,794	24	4%	48,006	297	54%	13,403	554	320 5,512	
Sep-18	97	17%	40,425	45	8%	159,388	28	5%	46,073	302	54%	13,441	557	308 5,294	
Dec-18	99	17%	40,227	47	8%	169,287	33	6%	46,167	305	53%	13,430	572	332 5,175	
Mar-19	94	17%	39,536	53	9%	177,477	23	4%	45,845	306	54%	13,289	565	317 5,238	
Jun-19	107	18%	42,426	53	9%	172,929	26	4%	68,367	305	53%	13,014	580	318 5,988	
Sep-19	116	20%	43,981	58	10%	180,014	32	5%	56,148	294	50%	12,649	592	315 5,693	
Dec-19	145	23%	45,812	62	10%	184,396	31	5%	60,289	300	48%	12,854	628	334 5,670	
Mar-20	167	26%	45,201	65	10%	183,892	33	5%	61,076	292	45%	13,166	653	339 5,624	
Jun-20	175	27%	47,565	69	10%	207,288	32	5%	92,575	284	43%	12,877	659	357 5,882	
Sep-20	173	27%	47,125	75	12%	211,328	30	5%	97,225	277	43%	12,979	644	376 6,056	
Dec-20	178	29%	47,361	72	12%	209,062	32	5%	105,274	248	41%	14,343	610	410 6,551	
Mar-21	189	31%	47,883	72	12%	209,953	25	4%	107,561	230	38%	14,234	609	424 6,685	
Jun-21	200	34%	45,809	68	11%	225,246	26	4%	78,324	213	36%	16,619	596	450 7,650	

Note:
The variance between the current total number of Looked After Children (596) and the total internal fostering and external placement numbers (507) 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		2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE							
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	2021/22		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	NON-COVID £000		COVID-19							
			PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000				GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	NET £000			
PUBLIC HEALTH															
NET EXPENDITURE															
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORATE & CORPORATE SUPPORT	934	144	790	934	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NHS HEALTH CHECKS - MANDATED	100	7	93	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHILDREN (5-19) - PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMMES	629	150	479	629	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHILDREN'S 0-5 SERVICES	2,534	566	1,968	2,534	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOBACCO CONTROL	354	(107)	461	354	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING	15	-	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES - MANDATED	1,861	355	1,506	1,861	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUBSTANCE MISUSE (DRUGS AND ALCOHOL)	2,675	573	2,102	2,675	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HARM REDUCTION (SEXUAL HEALTH, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL)	824	90	734	824	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HEALTHY WEIGHT/WEIGHT MANAGEMENT	117	-	117	117	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	8,468	3,055	5,574	8,629	161	161	4,081	(4,081)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT	28	76	(15)	61	33	28	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRANT	(18,512)	(4,676)	(14,030)	(18,706)	(194)	(194)	(194)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	27	233	(206)	27	-	-	-	4,081	(4,081)	-	-	-	-	-	-

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, revenue budget. Forecast outturns are based upon actual financial performance for the first 3 months of 2021/22 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with the service leads.

Public Health Grant

The Public Health Grant is a central government grant which is ring-fenced.

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.

The Public Health Directorate are forecasting an overall spend of the full grant, £18,705,648, for the financial year to March 2022.

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 June 2021, the Public Health Directorate are forecasting a break-even position for the financial year to March 2022.

Since March 2020 Public Health has been responding to the outbreak of Covid to protect the population of Blackpool. A single point of contact has been established to respond to calls/e-mails actioned by appropriately qualified and informed Public Health staff. A Public Health Duty Desk has been set up to respond to incident and outbreaks offering specialist guidance, advice and support. During the pandemic, the team have developed Community Hubs, including supporting the homeless population, to ensure that those left vulnerable from Covid receive the support they need, for example food, welfare checks, medication, accommodation, etc.

The Public Health team opted to support the Government's NHS Test and Trace service by contact tracing and providing support for all positive cases in Blackpool. More recently the Public Health team are supporting with the vaccination programme delivery, aiming to get the most vulnerable people in Blackpool fully vaccinated.

The spend relating to this work is estimated to be £4.081m in 2021/22 and is being funded through a ring-fenced Test and Trace service support grant and Contain Outbreak Management Fund from the Department of Health and Social Care, and therefore has no financial impact on the budgetary position for the directorate.

There has been reduced activity against some of our PbR contracts as a result of COVID impacting our provider's ability to offer routine treatments. These savings have offset a shortfall in income generation for the directorate.

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	2020/21 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE				
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUN £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID £000	COVID-19			
								GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000
BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT											
NET EXPENDITURE											
TREASURY MANAGEMENT	3,801	821	2,463	3,284	(517)	-	(517)	-	-	-	-
PARKING SERVICES	(4,750)	(455)	(3,795)	(4,250)	500	-	-	731	-	-	500
CORPORATE SUBSCRIPTIONS	137	107	30	137	-	-	-	-	-	(231)	-
HOUSING BENEFITS	1,472	370	1,102	1,472	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COUNCIL TAX & NDR COST OF COLLECTION	1,104	275	829	1,104	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES	(333)	(443)	110	(333)	-	-	(1,130)	1,376	-	(246)	1,130
LAND CHARGES	(51)	(27)	(24)	(51)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CONCESSIONARY FARES	4,431	16	4,415	4,431	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EMPLOYERS PREVIOUS YEARS' PENSION LIABILITY	1,330	332	998	1,330	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEW HOMES BONUS	(45)	(11)	(34)	(45)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	7,096	985	6,094	7,079	(17)	-	(1,647)	2,107	-	(477)	1,630

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 3 months of 2021/22 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

Treasury Management is forecasting a favourable variance of £517k. The Council is currently using temporary and long-term borrowing to finance Prudentially-funded capital expenditure. While temporary investment rates and temporary borrowing rates are low, the Treasury team will continue to use a mix of both temporary and long-term borrowing to fund planned capital expenditure. The Business Loans Fund now has a savings target of £3,309k and there is some slippage in the loans being made to date.

Following a review of the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), which was approved by the Executive on 8th February 2021, a total of £6.7m of saving has been forecast to be achieved in 2021/22.

Parking Services

There are net in-year pressures in Parking Services of £500k. Currently all this expected pressure is assumed to relate to reduced parking income due to Covid and assumes that £231k of income from the Sales, Fees & Charges compensation scheme is allocated to the service.

The graphs below show, for comparison, the patronage and income figures for 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22.

Housing Benefit

This service is forecasting a break-even position.

Council Tax and NNDR Cost of Collection

This service is forecasting a break-even position.

Subsidiary Companies

Subsidiary Companies assumes that the pressure of £1,376k relating to Covid is recovered from the Sales, Fees & Charges compensation scheme (£246k) and the additional funding provided in 2021/22 from the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Land Charges

This service is expected to break-even.

Concessionary Fares

This service is expected to break-even.

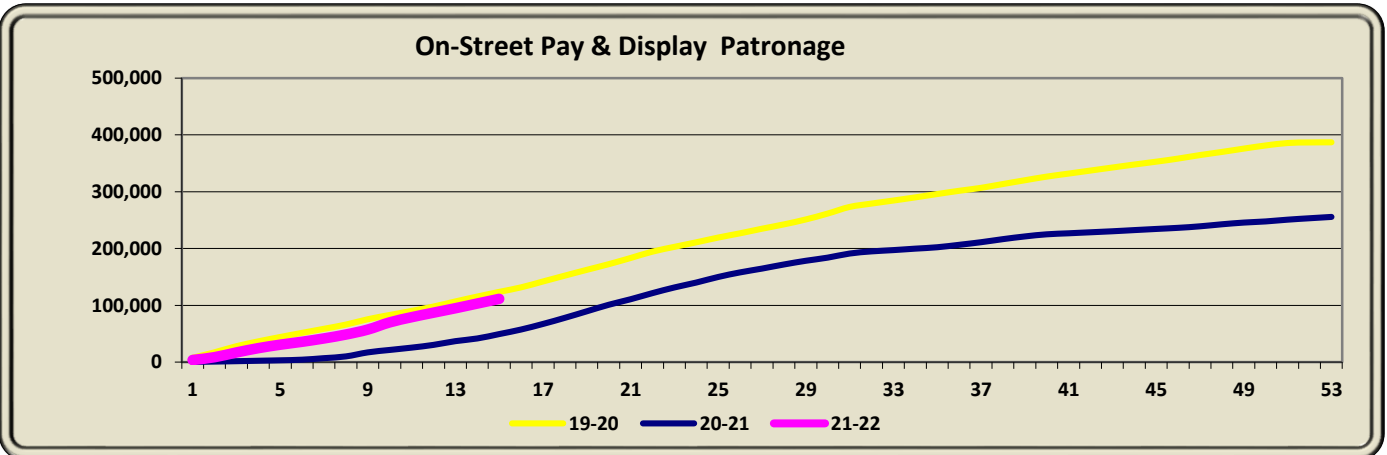
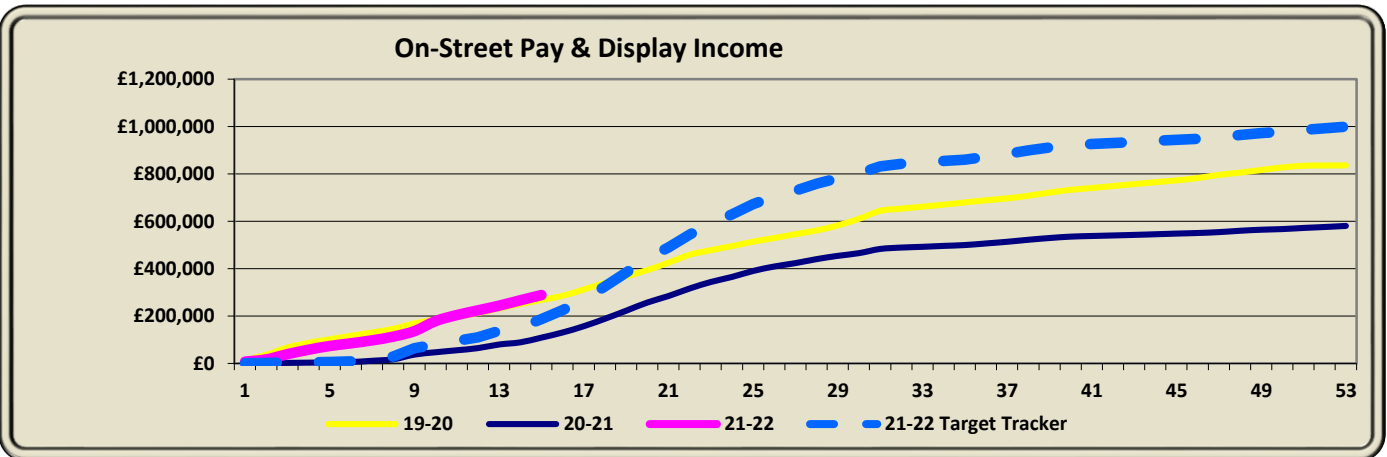
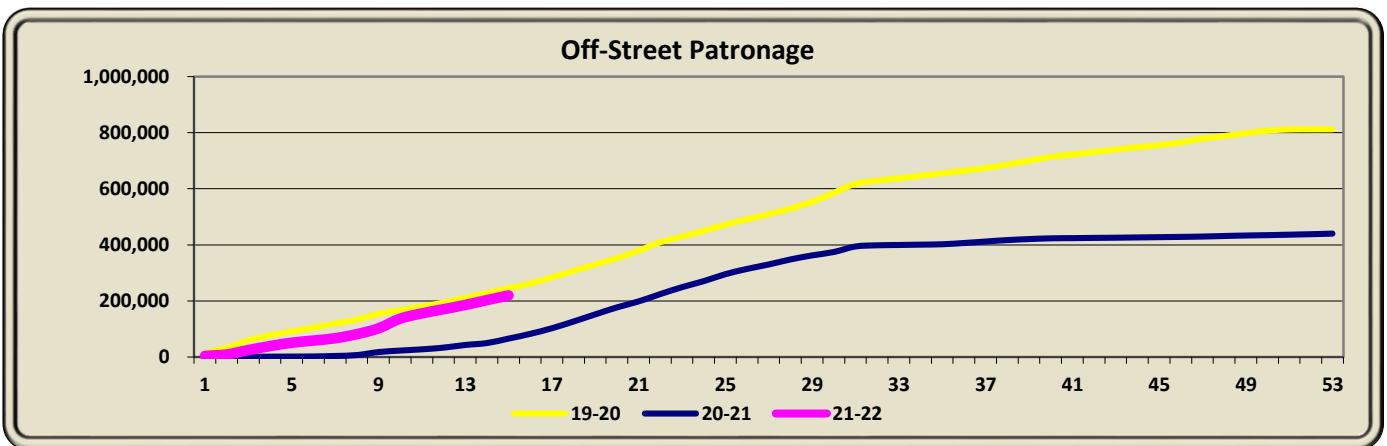
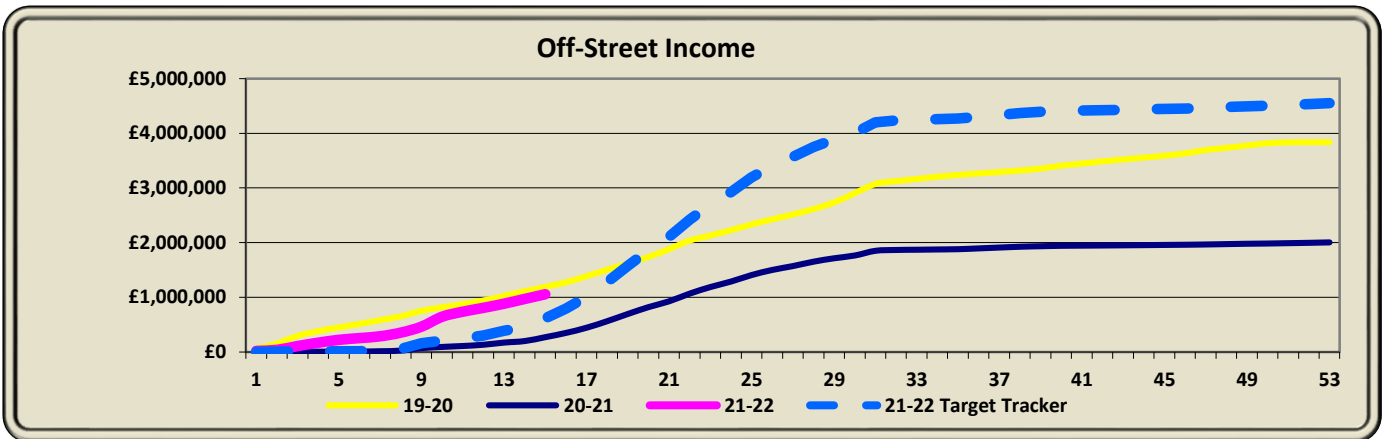
Covid

Services falling Outside the Cash Limit have a gross pressure of £2,107k relating to Covid. Following the reallocation of Covid funding relating to the Sales, Fees and Charges compensation claims amounting to £477k, the net Covid pressure is £1,630k, which is included in the above table.

Summary of the revenue forecasts

After 3 months of the financial year, the Budgets Outside the Cash Limit services are forecasting a £17k underspend. This still includes £1,630k net Covid related costs.

Car Parking Trends



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Blackpool Council

Wholly Owned Companies

This is a brief summary for the Executive's information. The financial performance of the companies in detail is a matter that will be considered by the Shareholder Committee.

Covid Support to Council Wholly Owned Companies

The Coronavirus pandemic led to a number of Council Wholly Owned Companies (WOCs) facing significant income losses as a result of lockdown and subsequent social distancing restrictions. This impacted both company profitability and cashflow. It looked likely that without Council support some would not be able to recover within a reasonable timeframe, which could leave the Council without an operator for assets of significant financial value and importance to the town and its tourist economy.

In November 2020 Executive approved the establishment of a £24m Covid Recovery Fund (PH46/2020), £20m plus a 20% contingency, ringfenced for WOCs only, from within the existing Business Loans Fund.

To be eligible to access the Covid Recovery Fund facility companies needed to produce a 5-year Covid recovery plan (2020/21 year + 4) and to demonstrate a cumulative breakeven income and expenditure position by the end of year 5 of their recovery plan, or as close as possible to this term.

Loans were offered at a fixed rate over 5 years, thereby providing the WOCs with certainty over future repayments requirements and were tailored to the individual circumstances of the company and its recovery plan, offers being made on either an interest-only basis with balloon principal repayment or with monthly repayments of interest and principal.

To date there have been loan approvals of £13.3m against that facility of which £7.32m has been drawn down. The Council's Business Loans Fund Panel monitors progress against the WOCs' respective recovery plans on a regular basis.

Non Covid-related loan support to WOCs

The Council also supports its WOCs' capital spending (capex) requirements where there is a robust business case demonstrating either a valid 'Spend to Save' initiative or an opportunity to spend to generate income. The Council's exposure to such WOC capex loans is currently £44.1m.

Wholly-owned companies financial performance as at Month 3 2021/22

The consolidated forecast financial position of the Council's wholly-owned subsidiary companies is a loss of £4.5m based on their individual Month 3 financial monitoring reports. This represents an improvement of £700k from the Month 2 position of a £5.2m loss, resulting from some businesses forecasting better than expected trading in the initial months of the 2021/22 financial year coupled with clarity regarding the continuation of certain funding streams. However, the Government's delay in relaxing Covid restrictions from 21st June 2021 to 19th July 2021 has adversely impacted these forecasts.



The forecast loss in respect of Blackpool Entertainment Company Limited (BECL) is included within Strategic Leisure Assets in the forecast directorates' financial performances per convention and the Council is currently awaiting confirmation from CIPFA and from its external auditors, Deloitte, regarding the proper accounting treatment in respect of such forecast losses.

Blackpool Council

Covid -19 Funding 2021/22

	2021/22	
	£	
COVID-19 Additional Funding for 2021/22 - Additional Unringfenced Funding for 2021/22	5,544,757	
Additional Surge Funding 2021/22	1,430,905	
ASC Infection Control and Testing Fund 2021/22 (including Extension)	2,201,455	
Welcome Back Fund 2021/22 (formerly Reopening High Streets Fund)	222,771	
Additional Home to School Transport 2021/22	133,534	
DWP Covid Winter Grant Scheme 2021/22	410,805	
Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2021/22	2,570,905	
Contain Outbreak Management Fund (including Test and Trace Support Grant) for 2021/22	1,430,905	
Total Funding for Local Authorities for 2021/22	13,946,037	

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Blackpool Council

Budget Savings Target 2021/22

	Target	Achieved	Not yet achieved	To be achieved before year-end	Not able to be achieved
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Corporate Services	7,314.0	7,314.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Adult Services	410.0	110.0	300.0	300.0	0.0
Chief Executive	600.0	485.0	115.0	115.0	0.0
Children's Services	582.0	211.0	371.0	371.0	0.0
Governance & Partnership Services	114.0	68.0	46.0	46.0	0.0
Community & Environmental Services	2,400.0	0.0	2,400.0	2,400.0	0.0
Outside Cash Limit	7,306.0	6,982.0	324.0	324.0	0.0
Public Health	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Communications & Regeneration	425.0	50.0	375.0	375.0	0.0
Growth & Prosperity	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Strategic Leisure Assets	50.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	50.0
Resources	1,084.0	1031.0	53.0	53.0	0.0
Per Appendices	20,285.0	16,251.0	4,034.0	3,984.0	50.0

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**2021/22 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 3**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/21	Budget Brought Forward 2020/21	Capital Programme 2021/22	Total Available Budget 2021/22	Spend to Date April - June	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Resources									
Property and Asset Management									
Central Business District Phase 1	40,432	38,142	2,290	-	2,290	-	2,290	-	
ICT Refresh	3,713	3,713	-	-	-	88	(88)	-	
Local Full Fibre Network	3,434	3,434	-	-	-	(87)	87	-	
Finance, HR, Payroll System	1,200	174	(174)	1,200	1,026	371	655	-	
Other Resources Schemes	2,193	1,705	348	140	488	44	444	-	
Total Resources	50,972	47,168	2,464	1,340	3,804	416	3,388	-	
Director Responsible for Adult Services									
Support to Vulnerable Adults - Grants	9,709	7,959	-	1,750	1,750	261	1,489	-	
Other Adult Services Schemes	6,323	5,607	231	485	716	280	436	-	
Total Adult Services	16,032	13,566	231	2,235	2,466	541	1,925	-	
Director Responsible for Community and Environmental Services									
Anchorsholme Seawall	27,515	25,632	1,883	-	1,883	46	1,837	-	
Coastal Protection Strategy 21-25	569	-	-	569	569	-	569	-	
Coastal Protection Studies	1,857	1,777	80	-	80	26	54	-	
Refuse Vehicles	4,054	2,986	1,068	-	1,068	-	1,068	-	
Total Community and Environmental Services	33,995	30,395	3,031	569	3,600	72	3,528	-	

**2021/22 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 3**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/21	Budget Brought Forward 2020/21	Capital Programme 2021/22	Total Available Budget 2021/22	Spend to Date April - June	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Governance & Partnership Services									
Carleton Crematorium Works 2018-20	2,990	2,990	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Carleton Burial Plots	1,161	31	1,130	-	1,130	(14)	1,144	-	
Others	146	-	-	146	146	-	146	-	
Total Governance & Partnership Services	4,297	3,021	1,130	146	1,276	(14)	1,290	-	
Chief Executive									
Housing									
Foxhall Village	12,798	13,423	(625)	-	(625)	10	(635)	1,800	
Work towards Decent Homes Standard	10,337	-	-	2,770	2,770	469	2,301	-	
Queens Park Redevelopment Ph2	13,241	13,422	(181)	-	(181)	(19)	(162)	-	
Troutbeck Redevelopment	10,819	6,169	-	6,279	6,279	830	5,449	-	
Grange Park	1,130	176	-	1,130	1,130	65	1,065	-	
Dunsop Court	510	361	-	403	403	94	309	-	
Feasibility/ Infill site	2,490	135	2,215	140	2,355	-	2,355	-	
Haweside Masterplan	562	-	-	562	562	-	562	-	
Garstang Road West	1,728	302	-	1,426	1,426	291	1,135	-	
Acquisition and Refurbishment	2,441	1	-	2,440	2,440	-	2,440	-	
Others	1,559	-	-	1,559	1,559	-	1,559	-	
Total Chief Executive	57,615	33,989	1,409	16,709	18,118	1,740	16,378	1,800	

**2021/22 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 3**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/21	Budget Brought Forward 2020/21	Capital Programme 2021/22	Total Available Budget 2021/22	Spend to Date April - June	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Communications and Regeneration									
Regeneration									
College Relocation/Illumination Depot	13,205	13,924	(719)	-	(719)	-	-	-	
Leisure Assets	63,899	63,883	16	-	16	442	(426)	-	
Conference Centre	28,471	20,343	8,128	-	8,128	2,099	6,029	-	
Spanish Hall roof & façade	1,995	1,691	304	-	304	-	304	-	
CBD Phase 2 - Hotel	24,500	6,723	17,777	-	17,777	1,667	10,110	-	
Land Release Fund	3,150	364	2,786	-	2,786	32	2,754	-	
Town Centre Investment	3,200	3,001	199	-	199	-	199	-	
Enterprise Zone	13,000	8,905	4,095	-	4,095	485	5,000	-	
Town Centre Parking Strategy	16,000	2,345	13,655	-	13,655	716	1,500	-	
Town Centre Investments	50,000	50,770	(770)	-	(770)	4	(774)	-	
Museum	7,894	412	7,482	-	7,482	30	7,452	-	
Abingdon Street Market	3,600	1,286	2,314	-	2,314	41	2,273	-	
HoundsHill Ph2	20,190	1,965	18,225	-	18,225	339	7,886	-	
Other	382	368	14	-	14	147	(133)	-	
Transport									
Local Transport Plan 2019/20	1,842	1,748	94	-	94	47	47	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2019/20	403	403	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Local Transport Plan Quality Corridor 2019/20	283	283	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Local Transport Plan 2020/21	2,183	1,214	969	-	969	262	707	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2020/21	343	343	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Local Transport Plan 2021/22	2,242	-	-	2,242	2,242	-	2,242	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2021/22	283	-	-	283	283	-	283	-	
Quality Corridor	7,050	6,225	825	-	825	825	-	-	
Blackpool/Fleetwood Tramway	99,990	99,990	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tramway Extension	16,400	15,542	858	-	858	187	671	-	
Tramway Refurbishment	1,052	701	351	-	351	-	351	-	
Sintropher	1,903	2,780	(877)	-	(877)	-	-	-	
Total Communications and Regeneration	383,460	305,209	75,726	2,525	78,251	7,323	46,475	-	

**2021/22 CAPITAL MONITORING
MONTH 3**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/21	Budget Brought Forward 2020/21	Capital Programme 2021/22	Total Available Budget 2021/22	Spend to Date April - June	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Director Responsible for Children's Services									
Devolved Capital to Schools	645	516	129	-	129	5	124	-	
Park Expansion	610	412	198	-	198	-	198	-	
Basic Need	1,053	3	1,050	-	1,050	-	1,050	-	
Condition	891	-	578	313	891	5	886	-	
Total Children's Services	3,199	931	1,955	313	2,268	10	2,258	-	
CAPITAL TOTAL	549,570	434,279	85,946	23,837	109,783	10,088	75,242	1,800	

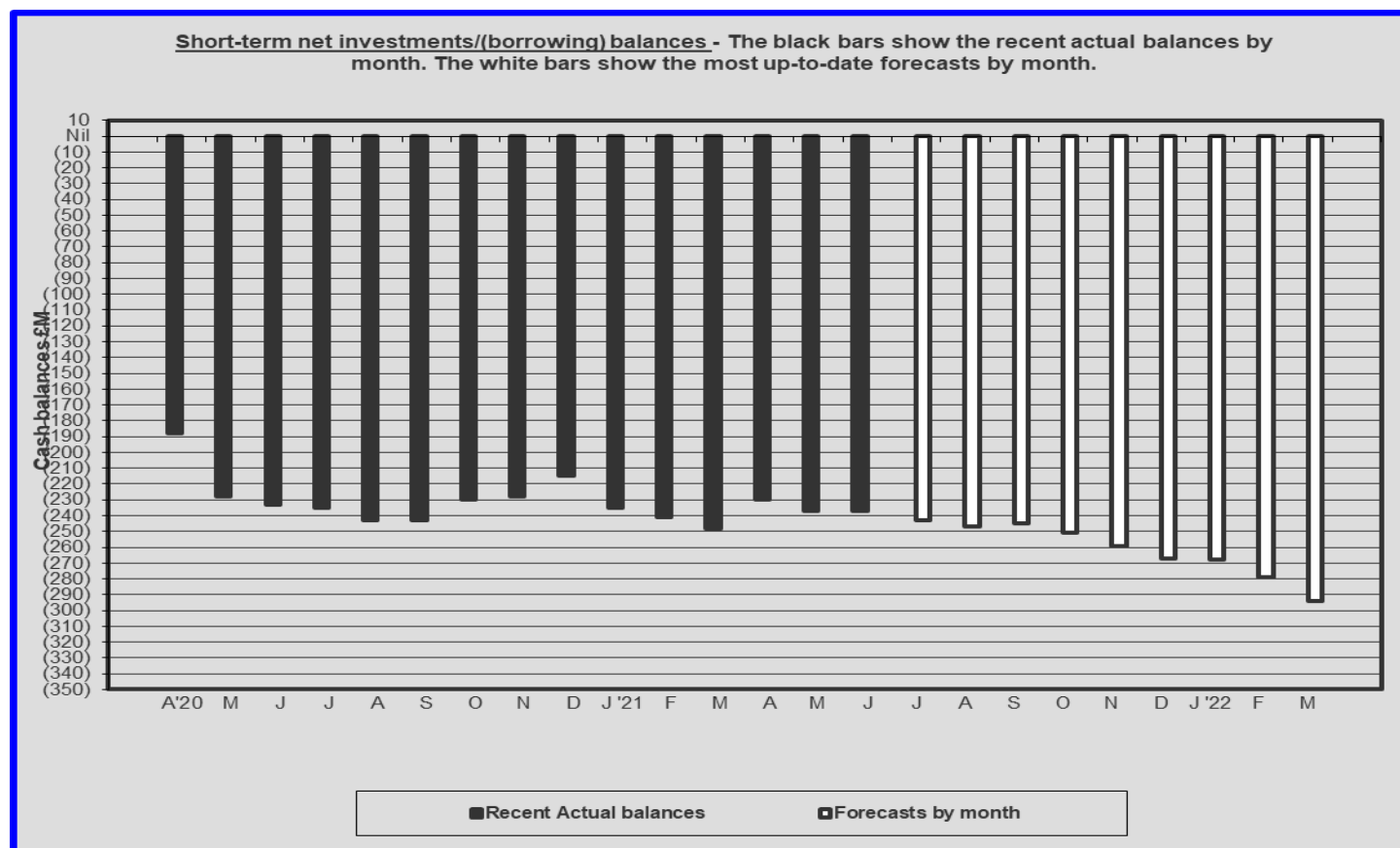
Notes

(1) Following the announcement that Marcus Worthington and Company Limited and its subsidiary company, Hollinwood Homes Limited, have gone into administration, the Council is working with the appointed administrators, PwC, and partners to develop options for the Foxhall Village scheme. The reported overspend of £1.8m reflects the current optimistic estimate subject to ongoing negotiations with the administrators and partners including Homes England.

Blackpool Council

Cash summary - budget, actual and forecast:

CASH FLOW - SUMMARY - 21/22							
FULL YEAR CASH FLOW ORIGINAL BUDGET (*)	APR - JUN CASH FLOW ORIGINAL BUDGET (*)	APR - JUN CASH FLOW ACTUAL	JUL - 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 - JUN MORE / (LESS) CASH ACTUAL vs ORIGINAL BUDGET	JUL - MAR MORE / (LESS) CASH FORECAST vs ORIGINAL BUDGET	FULL YEAR MORE / (LESS) AS NOW FORECAST vs ORIGINAL BUDGET
£M	£M	£M	£M		£M	£M	£M
50	13	11	38	RECEIPTS			
115	30	20	84	Housing Benefit & Subsidy	(2)	1	(1)
16	4	3	12	Council tax and NNDR	(10)	(1)	(11)
33	9	18	24	VAT	(1)	-	(1)
110	29	74	94	RSG & BRR	9	-	9
121	29	33	79	Other Grants	45	13	58
-	-	68	9	Other Income	4	(13)	(9)
-	10	76	67	Money Market Transactions Received	68	9	77
				Receipt of Loans	66	77	143
445	124	303	407	RECEIPTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES	179	86	265
11	2	2	9	PAYMENTS			
354	88	112	267	Police & Fire	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	General Creditors	(24)	(1)	(25)
100	25	25	81	RSG & BRR	-	-	-
44	10	10	33	Salaries & wages	-	(6)	(6)
258	78	155	201	Housing Benefits	-	1	1
				Money Market Transactions Paid Out	(77)	(21)	(98)
767	203	304	591	PAYMENTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES	(101)	(27)	(128)
(322)	(79)	(1)	(184)	NET CASH FLOW IN/(OUT)	78	59	137
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 three months of the year, the Council's net cashflow has resulted in fluctuations in short-term net investment/borrowing balances. The Council is predominantly using temporary borrowing to finance Prudentially-funded capital expenditure, though is switching to fixed Public Works Loan Board loans as and when opportune to do so. The uptake from the Business Loans Fund is expected to continue steadily during 2021/22.

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 2022.

Blackpool Council

Balance Sheet / Working capital:

BALANCE SHEET 2021/2022				
LAST Y/END		CURRENT	CHANGE	NEXT Y/END
Draft 31 Mar 21		30 Jun 21 Actual £000s	Movement since 31 Mar 21 £000s	31 Mar 22 Forecast £000s
£000s				
825,963	Property, Plant and Equipment	836,051	10,088	901,205
112,022	Long-term Assets	112,922	900	109,000
	Current Assets			
62,302	Debtors	59,900	(2,402)	60,000
774	Inventories	905	131	800
1,235	Short-term loans	1,235	-	-
3,352	Cash and cash equivalents	14,089	10,737	5,000
1,005,648	Total Assets	1,025,102	19,454	1,076,005
	Current Liabilities			
(259,607)	Borrowing Repayable within 12 months	(259,607)	-	(350,000)
(98,343)	Creditors	(99,900)	(1,557)	(86,000)
	Long-term Liabilities			
(79,487)	Borrowing Repayable in excess of 12 months	(79,487)	-	(78,500)
(93,359)	Long Term Creditors	(93,359)	-	(90,259)
(15,725)	Capital Grants in Advance	(15,725)	-	(14,000)
(9,363)	Provisions	(9,363)	-	(9,200)
(322,226)	Other Long-term Liabilities	(322,226)	-	(320,000)
127,538	Total Assets less Liabilities	145,435	17,897	128,046
	Reserves			
(99,913)	Usable Reserves	(70,759)	29,154	(67,277)
(27,625)	Unusable Reserves	(74,676)	(47,051)	(60,769)
(127,538)	Total Reserves	(145,435)	(17,897)	(128,046)

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 3. 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.

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 were sold.

Over the 3-month period there has been an increase in Property, Plant and Equipment of £10.1m due to capital expenditure which is in line with the Council's approved capital programme for 2021/22. There has been an increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents of £10.7m due to the timing of capital and revenue grants.

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Report to:	SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD
Relevant Officer:	Antony Lockley, Director of Strategy and Assistant Chief Executive
Date of Meeting	16 September 2021

COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT – Q1 2021/22

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To present performance against the Council Plan for the period 1 April – 30 June 2021.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 Scrutiny Leadership Board is asked to scrutinise the content of the report and highlight any areas for further consideration.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure constructive and robust scrutiny of performance against the Council Plan.

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

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

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priority is:

- The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool
- Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.

6.0 Background information

6.1 In March 2021, the corporate suite of Council Plan key performance indicators (KPIs) was reviewed to ensure that the KPIs remained fit for purpose and continued to provide the relevant performance information required by senior officers and Members. The revised suite of KPIs

now incorporates some indicators from the monthly COVID-19 recovery reports as well as a more comprehensive set of indicators around organisational resilience.

6.2 Performance in Quarter 1 2021/22 is detailed in the attached Performance Summary and Headline KPI Dashboard.

6.3 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 Appendix 4(a): Performance Summary Q1 2021-22
Appendix 4(b): Headline KPI Dashboard Q1 2021-22

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 N/A

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 N/A

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 N/A

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 N/A

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 To take account of the Council's climate emergency declaration and the target to be carbon net zero by 2030, information on the Council's carbon emissions has now been included in the suite of Council Plan performance indicators.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 N/A

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 N/A

Council Plan Performance Summary Q1 2021/22

Priority One: The Economy - Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool

Blackpool will be the number 1 tourist destination in the UK

- *Performance against the headline KPIs for visitor numbers and visitor spend for the 2020 season will be included in the Quarter 2 Council Plan performance report.*
- Promenade footfall during this period was 9,239,101. This is higher than footfall during the same period for the previous 2 years.
- Tram ridership in Quarter 1 was 631,008. It is not possible to compare this to the same period in 2020/21 due to the closure of the tramway from 1st April 2020 to 18th July 2020. However, compared with the same period in 2019, there has been a 50% reduction in tram ridership (1,270,505 in Q1 2019/20).
- The total inbound car movements during Quarter 1 for the six major car parks - Chapel Street, Bonny Street, Central, West Street, Talbot Road and South Beach – was 721,609. This is a significant increase compared with the same period in 2020/21 (+549,561) and compared with the same period in 2019/20 (+149,949). Car park usage peaked at 98,121 during the Spring bank holiday week (31st May – 6th June 2021), which is higher than any weekly total during 2020/21.
- Supporting data is also available on traffic counts on the following key routes into central Blackpool – Progress Way, Preston New Road West, North Promenade, South Promenade, East Park Drive and Yeadon Way. Traffic counts during Quarter 1 were higher across all routes compared with the same period in 2020/21 (54.2% increase). On a number of key routes (Yeadon Way, Progress Way and South Promenade) there was little difference between weekday/weekend average daily traffic counts, indicating more people are visiting by road for day visits and for leisure purposes.

People in Blackpool will have access to a range of employment options

- The number of claimants for out of work benefits was 8,775 people (10.4%) in June 2021. This is a reduction compared with the position in the previous quarter (12.3%) but is higher than the regional (6.2%) and national (5.6%) rates. Compared to other local authorities, Blackpool has the third highest rate behind Birmingham (10.8%) and Haringey (10.5%).
- When looking at the claimant rate by age group, the proportion of the population aged 18-24 claiming out of work benefits was 15% (1,555 people) compared with 18.9% in the previous quarter. However, this is still the highest rate out of all local authorities.
- Employment support programmes provided by Positive Steps into Work, aimed at those people who are the furthest from the job market, supported 123 people into employment in Quarter 1 against a target of 129. This year there are a number of employment support programmes being delivered, with some ending mid-year and new programmes commencing. The programmes include:
 - NEET 16/17
 - NEET 18-24 Care Leavers
 - More Positive Together
 - Journey2Work
 - Individual Placement and Support (IPS) in Early Intervention in Psychosis Services
 - Individual Placement and Support (IPS) in Drug and Alcohol Services
 - Kickstart
 - Restart

- Youth Hub

The Council will support businesses to prosper and expand

- During Quarter 1, 13 new start businesses have been supported by the Council's Get Started service against a quarterly target of 10 resulting in the creation of 13 new jobs. The target for 2021/22 is to support 45 new start businesses.
- For the Enterprise Zone, performance is encouraging with 58 new jobs created during Quarter 1 against a quarterly target of 35. Broken down by industry, 15 jobs were created in advanced manufacturing, 4 in food manufacturing, 34 FTE in construction and 5 in digital creative.
- The percentage of expenditure with third party suppliers that are locally based this quarter was 48% which is above the annual target and is an improvement compared with the same period in 2020/21 (43%).

The town centre in Blackpool will be strong and vibrant

- Town centre footfall during Quarter 1 was 5,784,120. This is an increase of 159.9% when compared to the same period in 2020/21.
- The diagram below shows footfall for each of the 12 town centre locations during June 2021 compared with June 2020.



- The locations seeing the biggest increase in footfall in June were – Coronation Street, at the Houndshill car park entrance (387% increase); the junction of Coronation Street and Albert Road (280% increase); and the junction of Albert Road, Bank Hey Street and Central Drive (200% increase).

- The May 2021 retail and vacancy survey shows that 25.5% of units in the principal retail core were vacant (41 of 161 units). The principal retail core is the area around Houndshell, Victoria Street, Bank Hey Street, Church Street, Corporation Street and Adelaide Street West. This is a 5.6% increase compared with the previous survey undertaken in August 2020 (due to COVID, there was no survey conducted in May 2020).
- Looking at the wider town centre boundary, there was a net increase of 6 vacant units compared to August 2020, bringing the overall total up to 171 and increasing the vacancy rate from 25.9% to 27% - its highest on record. However, since August 2020 a number of businesses have occupied previously vacant units and World Travel Lounge and the Post Office have relocated to alternative units within the town centre. It should be noted that due to the pandemic the trading statuses of some units were difficult to determine and this will be closely monitored going forward.
- *Now that survey activity is starting to resume, data on resident satisfaction with the town centre will be collected as part of the Infusion rolling survey and will be included in future Council Plan performance reports.*

Good quality and affordable housing which meets the needs of a varied population across the rental and privately owned sector in Blackpool

- Blackpool Housing Company has developed 14 units during Quarter 1 2021/22, bringing the cumulative total of units in the portfolio to 488. The target position for the end of 2021/22 is 556 units in the portfolio.
- The satisfaction of BCH tenants with repairs is a proxy measure for the satisfaction of BCH tenants with the quality of their home, which is measured every 2-3 years. Satisfaction in Quarter 1 was 98.04%, which is a slight reduction compared with the same period in 2020/21, but is above the target for this year.
- In 2020/21, there were 93 new build home completions. The estimate for new build completions in 2021/22 is 185; performance against which will be reported in Quarter 4.

Priority Two: Our Communities – Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience

Families are supported to provide stable home lives where children and young people can flourish

- The number of Our Children at the close of Quarter 1 was 592, a rate of 203.4 per 10,000 population. This is a reduction compared with the previous quarter where there were 609 looked after children (208.5 per 10,000 population) and a reduction on the same period in 2020/21. Of those 592 children, 418 (70.6%) have a placement within the FY area.
- The number of statutory assessments undertaken this quarter was 919. The number of Education, Health and Care Plans issued this quarter was 36. 88.9% of these (32/36) were issued within the 20 week timescale.
- Quarter 1 data for the number of referrals to mental health services for children and young people is not yet available as we are awaiting data for June 2021. However, data for April and May 2021 is available.
- The chart below covers referrals by all NHS Providers across the Integrated Care System (ICS). Please note that data from Blackpool Teaching Hospitals (BTH) also includes under 18s seen by Adult mental health services.



- In April and May 2021, BTH saw an increase in referrals compared with the same period in 2020 (+824), of which 92% were accepted (an increase of 5% on 2020). Data for East Lancashire Children and Adolescent Services (ELCAS), although incomplete for May 2021, also shows an increase in referrals.
- During the same period, BTH have also received a further 56 re-referrals, ELCAS received 88 re-referrals and Lancashire & South Cumbria Foundation Trust received 778 re-referrals.
- *Data for the proportion of children in receipt of free school meals is an annual measure and will be included in the end of year Council Plan performance report.*

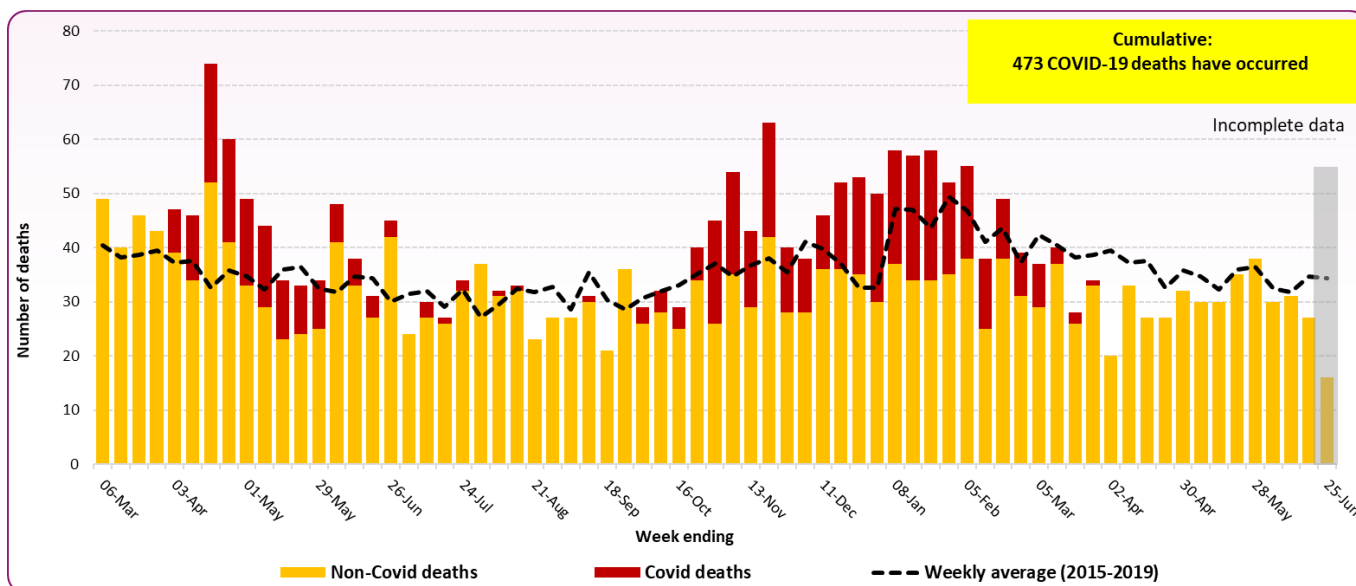
Good quality education provision in Blackpool supporting all children and young people to develop skills and obtain qualifications which set them up for a range of employment options

- *Data for the proportion of schools in Blackpool that are rated as good or better by Ofsted will be available in September and will therefore be included in the Quarter 2 Council Plan performance report. This KPI includes ratings for all primary, secondary, all through and special schools.*
- *Data for the headline attainment KPIs will be included in the Quarter 2 Council Plan performance report.*
- Data for the proportion of 16-17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training will be reported in the end of year Council Plan performance report. However, the latest verified data shows NEET levels are currently at 4.5%.

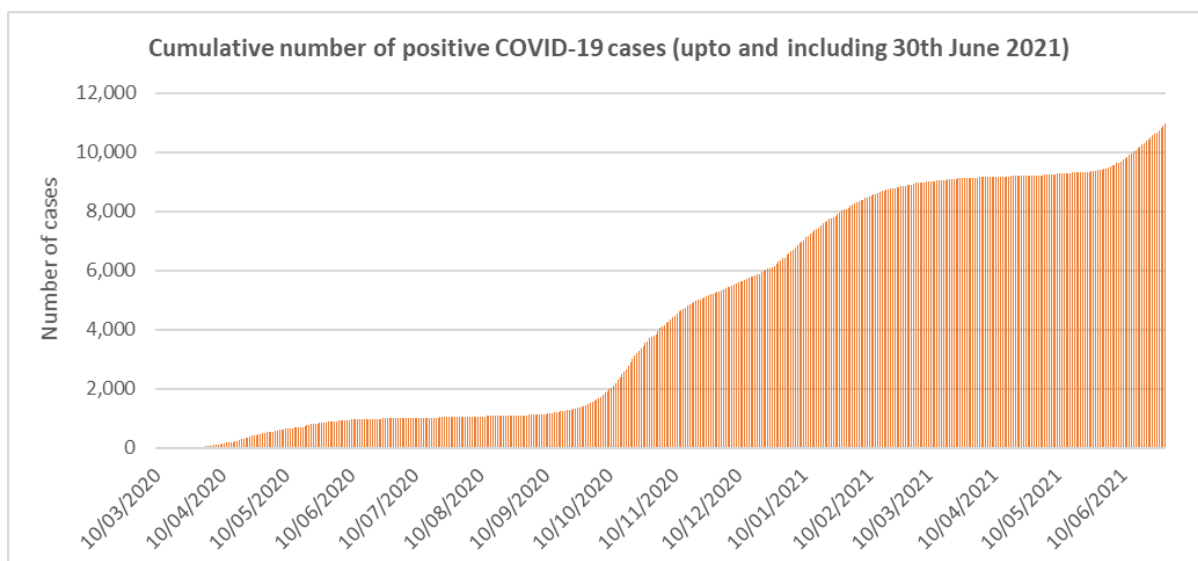
Improving health outcomes for people who live in Blackpool, with fewer people developing preventable long term health conditions

- The chart below shows the trend in deaths of Blackpool residents. The dark orange bars show the deaths identified as COVID-19 on death certificates and the black line allows a comparison of the total number of deaths currently being recorded each week with the average number we have seen in the last five years. The gap between the two is often described as the number of 'excess deaths'.

Weekly deaths occurring up to 25 June but were registered up to 3 July 2021 Blackpool residents



- At the end of Quarter 1 (period up to 3rd July 2021), 473 residents of Blackpool have COVID-19 recorded on their death certificate. The latest available data shows that in the period up to 14th August 2021, this had increased to 478 residents.
- The chart below shows the cumulative number of people with at least one positive COVID-19 test result, either lab-reported or rapid lateral flow test, since the start of the pandemic.



- At the end of Quarter 1, the cumulative number of positive cases was 10,984. The position at the end of last quarter was 9,147. It should be noted that due to the lack of testing at the start of the pandemic, there is likely to be some under-representation in these figures.
- The latest available data on vaccination coverage shows that as at 17th August 2021, 78.7% of Blackpool adults have now received at least one dose of the vaccine. 69.2% of Blackpool adults have received two doses.
- The most recent data published by ONS on the number of deaths related to drug misuse shows that for the 3 year period 2018-20, there were 86 deaths which represents a rate of 22.1 per 100,000 population. This is an increase compared with the previous period (2017-19) and compared with the North West rate (7.1 per 100,000 population) and England rate (5.0 per 100,000 population). Due to the time lag in ONS data being published for

this indicator, local data on suspected drug related deaths will be included in the end of year Council Plan report to give a more up to date picture.

- Quarter 1 data for the number of referrals to the Psychological Therapies Service (IAPT) is not yet available as we are awaiting data for June 2021. The data for April and May 2021 shows that 939 referrals were received which is an increase on the same period in 2020/21 (+355) and 2019/20 (+153). The number of people starting treatment during this period was 795, which again is an increase on the same periods in 2020/21 and 2019/20.

Communities in which people feel safe and secure in their immediate environment

- *Data for the following headline KPIs will be reported in the year end Council Plan performance report if the Resident's Survey is undertaken in 2021:*
 - *Proportion of residents who feel safe when outside in their local area during the day.*
 - *Proportion of residents who feel safe when outside in their local area at night.*

People who need social care in Blackpool will receive an assessment in good time, have access to support from a range of good quality providers and they will have a regular review of their needs

- *Data for delayed transfers of care from hospital attributable to social care is currently unavailable and therefore cannot be included in this report. Publication of this data ceased in February 2020 and we are awaiting confirmation of when publication will recommence.*
- The number of services in Blackpool which are registered with CQC and rated good or better in Quarter 1 was 90.6%, which is a reduction compared to the same period in 2020/21 (97.7%) and the position at the end of last quarter (94.2%).
- In Quarter 1, the proportion of clients in receipt of long-term services with an annual review was 91.6%. This is an improvement when compared to the same period in 2020/21 (86.9%).
- *The Adult Social Care Survey will be undertaken in 2021 and data for the overall satisfaction of people with the care and support services they receive will be included in the end of year Council Plan performance report.*

Organisational Resilience

Finance

- *An update on the financial position for this period will be presented to CLT in August.*
- In Quarter 1 2021/22, the Council Tax collection rate was 25.09% which is an increase compared with the same period last year (24.46%), however there was reduced recovery in 2020/21 due to the pandemic. The Business Rates collection rate was 16.49%, which is lower than the same period last year due to the continued impact of COVID restrictions on many businesses.
- Performance in relation to paying invoices in time to support businesses, particularly local businesses, has increased this quarter to 99.27%. This is an improvement on the same period in 2020/21 and is above the target of 95%.

Workforce

- The average number of working days lost due to sickness absence for the period 1st July 2020 – 30th June 2021 increased to 10.29 days per FTE (current staff only) compared to a year end position of 7.77 days. Stress, depression and anxiety was the biggest cause of sickness absence amongst employees (34%) with COVID-19 accounting for 2.39%. During this period, 50.48% of sickness absence was long-term (more than 4 weeks).

- Staff turnover was 8.48% which is an increase on the year-end position but is in line with the same period in 2020/21.
- The definition for the average completion rate of mandatory training KPI has now changed to include casual staff as well as permanent staff. The average completion rate this quarter was 90%.
- *The deadline for the completion of IPAs has been extended this year to October for some services affected by the pandemic. Therefore performance will be reported in the Quarter 3 Council Plan performance report.*

Quality Services

- As can be expected due to lockdown restrictions, the percentage of service requests and applications made online increased considerably during 2020/21 and this trend has continued into Quarter 1 2021/22 (68.8% compared with 58.1% during the same period last year). Channel shift projects include residential waste, bulky waste collections, missed bin reports, fly tipping reports, highway issue reporting, waste permits, dog issue reporting, environmental protection complaints, NEAT inspections, anti-social behaviour complaints, copy certificate requests and alley gate key requests.
- 89.4% of customers were satisfied with the service received from Customer First in Quarter 1 2021/22. Performance has remained consistent compared with the previous quarter (89.43%) but has improved compared with the same period in 2020 (89.2%).
- In 2020/21 there were 2 complaints upheld by the Local Government Ombudsman (29% of complaints progressing to the investigation stage). These complaints related to Children's Services and Benefits. This is a considerable reduction compared with 2019/20 where 67% of complaints were upheld and also compares favourably with similar local authorities where on average 63% of complaints were upheld in 2020/21. The LGO did not accept new complaints between March and June 2020 due to the pandemic, which has impacted on the number of complaints investigated. However the number of complaints progressing to the investigation stage for Blackpool Council was not too dissimilar to the previous year (7 in 2020/21 compared with 9 in 2019/20).
- *Data for the following headline KPI will be reported in the year end Council Plan performance report if the Resident's Survey is undertaken in 2021:*
 - *Proportion of residents who are satisfied with the way the Council runs things.*

Environment

- *The Carbon Trust is currently undertaking a piece of work to establish a baseline for total emissions for the Council. Data will be included in the end of year Council Plan performance report.*

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KEY - Direction of Travel Icons:

↑✓	Performance is improving or on target
↓✓	Performance is improving or on target
↑	Small deterioration in performance / slightly off target
↓	
↔	No change
↑✘	Performance is deteriorating or off target
↓✘	

Priority 1: The Economy - Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		
Number 1 tourist destination	Visitor numbers	18.13m (2019)	A		18.25m (2021 season)	Data reported in Q2 is for the 2020 season and is derived from STEAM.
	Overall value of the visitor economy	£1.6bn (2019)	A		£1.55bn (2021 season)	Data reported in Q2 is for the 2020 season and is derived from STEAM.
	Tram ridership	1,129,862	631,008	N/A	No target set	Cannot compare performance with the same period in 2020/21 due to closure of the tramway from 1st April 2020 – 18th July 2020 inclusive. 50% reduction in ridership compared with Q1 2019/20.
	Total inbound car movements at the 6 major car parks	1,758,811	721,609	↑✓	Monitoring purposes only	Increase in Q1 compared with the same period in 2020/21 (172,048) and same period in 2019/20 (571,660). Data relates to the following car parks - Chapel Street, Bonny Street, Central, West Street, Talbot Road and South Beach.

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		
Range of employment options	Out of work benefits claimant rate	12.3%	10.4%	↓✓	Monitoring purposes only	Data derived from Nomis. The claimant count has decreased compared with the same period in 2020 (12.2%) but is still higher than the regional (6.2%) and national (5.6%) counts.
	Number of people supported into employment across all employment programmes delivered by Positive Steps into Work	160	123	N/A	990	Performance in Q1 21/22 is slightly below the quarterly target of 129. Cannot compare performance with previous years due to changes in programmes delivered / cohort of job seekers.
	Jobs created / safeguarded by Council projects	Awaiting data	Awaiting data	N/A	Monitoring purposes only	Outstanding data will be included in Q2 report.

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		
Business support	Total number of new start businesses assisted by the Council	21	12	↑✓	45	Performance in Q1 has exceeded the quarterly target of 10 new start businesses supported.
	Enterprise Zone - jobs created	138	58	↑✓	175	Performance in Q1 has exceeded the quarterly target of 35 jobs.
	Enterprise Zone - retained rates for Blackpool	-£85,000	A	N/A	£50,000	Replaces growth in retainable rates per annum. Reported as part of the NNDR3 return.
	% of expenditure with third party suppliers that are locally based	44%	48%	↑✓	40%	Performance in Q1 is above target and has improved compared with the same period in 2020/21 (43%).

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		
Strong and vibrant town centre	Town centre footfall	15,931,514	5,784,120	↑✓	No target set	159.9% increase (+ 3,558,298) in footfall compared with Q1 20/21.
	Town centre vacancy rates - principal retail core	N/A	25.5%	N/A	1% reduction	Data derived from survey conducted in February, May, August and November each year. No end of year position for 2020/21 as November 2020 survey was cancelled due to COVID. Therefore target is based on 1% reduction against May 2021 position of 25.5%.
	Overall satisfaction of residents with the town centre	New PI	See note	N/A	N/A	Previously collected as part of the Resident's Survey. To be collected as part of Infusion rolling survey going forward once survey activity recommences.

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		
Good quality affordable housing	Number of new build homes completed	93	A	N/A	185 (estimate)	Outturn includes new builds and new build windfall.
	Number of units developed within the year by Blackpool Housing Company	474	14	↑✓	556	14 units were developed this quarter compared with 5 during the same period last year. This brings the total number of units in the portfolio to 488.
	Satisfaction of BCH tenants with repairs	98.72%	98.04%	↓	98%	Annual proxy measure for satisfaction of BCH tenants with the quality of their home. Performance is lower than the same period in 2020/21 (100%) but remains above target.

Priority 2: Our Communities - Creating strong communities and increasing resilience

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		
Supporting families to provide stable home lives	Number/rate of Children Looked After per 10,000 population	No. 609 Rate 208.5	No. 592 Rate 203.4	↓✓	Monitoring purposes only	Decrease when compared with the same period in 2020/21 (227 per 10,000 population).
	Number / % of children placed in foster care	438 (71.9%)	422 (71.2%)	↔	Monitoring purposes only	The proportion of children placed in foster care this quarter remains in line with the previous quarter and the same period in 2020/21 (71.7%).
	Number of statutory assessments undertaken	3,447	919	N/A	Monitoring purposes only	The number of assessments undertaken has reduced compared with the same period in 2020/21 (980).
	Number of Education, Health and Care Plans issued	169	36	N/A	Monitoring purposes only	A decrease in the number of plans issued compared with the same period in 2020/21 (63). 88.9% of the 36 plans issued this quarter were issued within the 20 week timescale which is an improvement on the same period in 2020/21 (87.3%).
	Number of referrals to Blackpool CAMHS, Youththerapy and CASHER	New PI	Awaiting June data		Monitoring purposes only	
	% of children in receipt of free school meals	38.6%	A	N/A	Monitoring purposes only	

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		
Good quality education provision	Proportion of schools in Blackpool that are rated as "good" or better by OFSTED	88%	A	N/A	100% by 2030	Annual outturn is position as at 31st August 2021. Includes primary, secondary, all through and special schools. Results exclude schools for which an Ofsted rating is not available.
	% of pupils who achieved a 9-4 pass in GCSE English and maths	Data unavailable	A	N/A	N/A	Data to be included in Q2 Council Plan performance report.
	% of pupils who achieved a 9-5 pass in GCSE English and maths	Data unavailable	A	N/A	N/A	Data to be included in Q2 Council Plan performance report.
	Progress made by pupils across 8 GCSE subjects at KS4, relative to others with similar prior attainment	Data unavailable	A	N/A	N/A	Data to be included in Q2 Council Plan performance report.
	Percentage of 16-17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training	4.4%	A	N/A	No target set	Latest verified data (June 2021) shows NEET is 4.5%.

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		
Improving health outcomes	Cumulative number of COVID-19 deaths	470	473	N/A	Monitoring purposes only	Cumulative number of Blackpool residents with COVID-19 recorded on their death certificate. Data reported in Q1 2021/22 is for the period up to 3rd July 2021.
	Cumulative number of confirmed COVID-19 cases	9,147	10,984	N/A	Monitoring purposes only	Cumulative number of people with at least one positive COVID-19 test result, either lab-reported or rapid lateral flow test, since the start of the pandemic. Data is for the period up to 30th June 2021.
	Deaths related to drug misuse	N/A	22.1 per 100,000 pop.	↑*	Monitoring purposes only	Data published by ONS and relates to the period 2018-20. 86 deaths related to drug misuse were recorded during this period.
	Number of referrals to the Psychological Therapies Service (IAPT)	4,679	Awaiting June data		Monitoring purposes only	Data for June 2021 is currently unavailable. Latest available data shows that 939 referrals were received during April - May 2021.

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		
Safe and secure communities	Proportion of residents who feel safe when outside in their local area (during the day)	N/A	A	N/A	No target set	Data will be derived from the Resident's Survey if undertaken in 2021
	Proportion of residents who feel safe when outside in their local area (after dark)	N/A	A	N/A	No target set	Data will be derived from the Resident's Survey if undertaken in 2021

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		
Availability of support for social care needs	Delayed Transfers of Care - delays which are attributable to Adult Social Care (only)	Data unavailable	See note	N/A	N/A	Average number of delayed transfers of care each day reported as a rate per 100,000 population (18+). No outturn for 2019/20 as publication of this data ceased in February 2020. Awaiting confirmation of when data collection will recommence
	Proportion of providers registered with CQC in Blackpool rated "Good" or better	94.2%	90.6%	↓*	90%	CQC inspections on existing and newly registered providers - both residential and domiciliary.
	Percentage of long-term service users with an annual review	92.3%	91.6%	↑✓	TBC	Performance has improved compared with the same period in 2020/21 (86.9%).
	Overall satisfaction of people with the care and support services they receive	N/A	A	N/A	70% (tbc)	Proportion of people who were extremely or very satisfied. No data for 2020/21 as survey was not undertaken due to COVID.

Organisational Resilience

Theme	Indicator	Outturn 2020/21	Q1 21/22	DoT	Target	Notes
				Against 2020/21		

Finance	Forecast level of year end General Fund Working Balances	£6.293m	(£261,000)	N/A	> or equal to £6m	Covered in Month 3 finance report presented to CLT.
	Level of earmarked reserves	£70.124m	£47,524,000	N/A	Monitoring purposes only	
	Value of budget reductions delivered	£19,649,000	£16,251,000	N/A	£20,285,000	
	% of Council Tax in year collection	87.76%	25.09%	↑✓	93%	Increased collection rate compared to the same period last year (24.46%), however 2020/21 was reduced recovery due to COVID.
	% of Business Rates in year collection	85.77%	16.49%	↓✘	95%	Collection rate is lower than the same period in 2020/21 (22.37%) due to the impact of COVID on businesses.
	% of undisputed invoices for commercial goods and services that are paid within 30 days of such invoices being received	99.01%	99.27%	↑✓	95%	Percentage in Q1 has increased compared with the same period in 2020/21 (98.98%).
	Net return from property portfolio	Awaiting data	A	N/A	8%	
Workforce	Average number of working days lost due to sickness absence per FTE (current staff only)	7.77 days per FTE	10.29 days per FTE	↑✘	Monitoring purposes only	Average days lost due to sickness has increased this quarter and is higher than the same period in 2020/21 (7.83 days).
	% staff turnover (Council - permanent excluding death, Tupe, redundancy)	7.04%	8.48%	↑	Monitoring purposes only	Turnover has increased compared with the year end position but is in line with the same period last year (8.21%).
	% of staff who say they are proud to work for the Council	N/A	A	N/A	N/A	
	% of IPAs on the HR system	Awaiting data	A	N/A	No target set	Deadline for completion extended for some services due to pandemic therefore outturn will be reported in Q3 21/22.
	Average completion rate of mandatory training	92%	90%	↑✓	No target set	KPI definition has changed to include casual as well as permanent staff. Taking this change into account, performance in Q1 21/22 has improved compared with the year end position (87% including casual staff).
	Gender pay gap	Median -5.4% Mean -0.77%	A	N/A	Monitoring purposes only	Defined as the difference in the average earnings of men and women over a standard period of time, regardless of their role seniority. A positive pay gap indicates that men are paid more; a negative pay gap indicates that women are paid more. Based on a snapshot on 31/03/22.
Quality Services	Number of incidents of unplanned downtime of systems that impact more than 50 users for > 1 hour	4	1	↔	<10	1 incident reported this quarter which is the same as Q1 in the previous year.
	Channel Shift - % of online transactions versus traditional methods	62.6%	68.8%	↑✓	No target set	Channel shift projects include residential waste, bulky waste collections, missed bin reports, fly tipping reports, highway issue reporting, waste permits, dog issue reporting, environmental protection complaints, NEAT inspections, anti-social behaviour complaints, copy certificate requests and alley gate key requests.
	% of customers satisfied with the service received from Customer First	88.77%	89.4%	↑✓	90%	Performance has remained consistent compared with the previous quarter (89.43%) and has improved compared with the same period in 2020 (89.2%).
	Number of complaints upheld by the Local Government Ombudsman	6	2	↓✓	Reduction on previous year	Data relates to the period 1st April 2020 - 31st March 2021. Only 2 out of the 7 complaints investigated by the LGO were upheld (29%).
	Proportion of residents who are satisfied with the way the Council runs things	N/A	A	N/A	No target set	Data will be derived from the Resident's Survey if undertaken in 2021
Environment	Total CO2 emissions by the Council (tonnes)	N/A	A	N/A	Baseline year	Carbon Trust currently undertaking work to establish a baseline for total Council emissions.

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Report to:	SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD
Relevant Officer:	Mrs Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Date of Meeting:	16 September 2021

SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD WORKPLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the workplan of the Scrutiny Leadership Board and identify any further areas requiring scrutiny.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the Scrutiny Leadership Board's workplan adding or amending any items as required.

2.2 To consider an update from each of the Scrutiny Chairs on the workplans of the three scrutiny committees, identifying any comments on their contents for further consideration.

2.3 To request and consider a verbal report from the Audit Committee Chairman regarding areas of work identified for scrutiny consideration.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure the Board carries out its role in monitoring the work of the whole scrutiny function.

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

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

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 None.

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priorities are:

- The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool

- Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.

6.0 Background information

6.1 Scrutiny Leadership Board Workplan

The revised workplan of the Scrutiny Leadership Board is attached at Appendix 5(a) for Members' consideration.

6.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 Appendix 5(a): Scrutiny Leadership Board Workplan

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 None specific to this report.

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 None specific to this report.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None specific to this report.

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 None specific to this report.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None specific to this report.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 None specific to this report.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

Scrutiny Leadership Board Workplan 2021/2022

16 September 2021 Formal Committee meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corporate Financial Performance Monitoring 2. Corporate Performance Indicator data (Q1)
3 November 2021 Informal meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Engagement Strategy 2. Finance/Budget 2022/2023 update, discussion of priorities
19 January 2022 Informal meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capital and Revenue budgets/budget scrutiny
2 March 2022 Formal Committee meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corporate Financial Performance Monitoring 2. Corporate Performance Indicator data (Q3) 3. Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy Implementation Update
27 April 2022 Informal meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scrutiny Annual Report 2. Scrutiny Annual Self-Assessment
Tbc 13 July 2022 Formal Committee meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corporate Performance Indicator data (End of Year) 2. Provisional Revenue Outturn Report 3. Capital Strategy
Channel Shift Scrutiny Review	Ongoing.

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