

# Public Document Pack

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## Blackpool Council

4 October 2022

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

The above members are requested to attend the:

### **SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD**

Wednesday, 12 October 2022 at 6.00 pm  
in Committee Room A, Town Hall, Blackpool FY1 1GB

### **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 2022**

(Pages 1 - 6)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 13 July 2022 as a true and correct record.

**3 GREEN AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT** (Pages 7 - 16)

To review progress on the implementation of the Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) Strategy and associated action plan in the period between March 2022 and October 2022.

**4 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE UPDATE** (Pages 17 - 44)

To provide an update on the action taken as a result of feedback from the Scrutiny Leadership Board on Council Plan performance 2021/22.

**5 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2022/23 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023/24 - 2026/27** (Pages 45 - 112)

To report the level of spending and exposure against the Council's Revenue budgets and reserves and balances for the first 4 months to 31 July 2022. The report also includes an update on the Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 – 2026/27 for scrutiny.

**6 SCRUTINY WORKPLANS** (Pages 113 - 122)

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

**7 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

To note the date and time of the next meeting as 7 March 2023, commencing at 6.00pm.

**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](mailto: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](http://www.blackpool.gov.uk).

### Present:

Councillor Mrs Callow JP (in the Chair)

Councillors

Burdess  
Critchley

Galley  
Mrs Scott

Stansfield  
Walsh

### In Attendance:

Mr Scott Butterfield, Strategy, Policy and Research Manager

Ms Louise Jones, Head of Revenues, Benefits and Customer Services

Mr David Fish, Finance Manager, Capital and Regeneration Finance

Mr Steve Maher, Finance Manager, Strategic and Technical Finance

Mrs Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager

Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council

Councillor Neal Brookes, Cabinet Member for Enforcement, Public Safety, Highways and Transport

### 1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

### 2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 2 MARCH 2022

The Scrutiny Leadership Board agreed that the minutes of the last meeting held on 2 March 2022 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

### 3 PROVISIONAL OUTTURN 2021/2022

Mr Steve Maher, Finance Manager, Strategic and Technical Finance and Mr David Fish, Finance Manager, Capital and Regeneration Finance presented the provisional outturn for 2021/2022 to the Board and highlighted that it had been one of the most challenging years for the Council financially. It was reported that the overall position for the year had been a small overspend but that considering the challenges this was an achievement and the overspend represented a very small percentage of the Council's overall budget.

It was reported that the overspend of Children's Services was considerable at £4.4 million despite an additional £8.2 million included in the budget for the service. This was largely due to the cost of placements which continued to escalate. It was noted that a refresh of the Medium Term Financial Strategy for Children's Services would be undertaken to try to identify a way forward. The Board raised concern that the overspend in Children's Services was an ongoing issue that had not yet been successfully addressed and it was noted that this was something that was regularly considered by the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee.

## MINUTES OF SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 13 JULY 2022

Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council noted that the management team within Children's Services was now complete and positive feedback continued to be received from Ofsted. She noted that large families was a particular issue unique to Blackpool and that the budget was kept in sharp focus through regular monitoring meetings. She advised that improvements were on the horizon but that some aspects were out of the Council's control.

The Board noted that there had also been an overspend in Children's legal services and queried what this related to. It was noted that more cases had been required to go to court than expected and that it was a consequence of the high levels of work by Children's Social Care and was all related to the same key challenges within the service.

Mr Maher highlighted a number of other key areas of overspend and underspend including a £300k overspend within the Governance and Partnerships Directorate which had been offset by a staffing underspend in resources.

It was reported that the Council had maintained working balances of £6.1 million and that no overspends or underspends were being rolled forward in 2022/2023 other than the underspend in ward funding. In response to a question, it was reported that the new financial year was expected to be challenging enough without services also needing to account for previous areas of overspend with significant financial challenges expected to include inflation, increasing utilities costs, staff pay award alongside the continuing challenges to Children's Services and growing demand and pressures in Adult Social Care.

With regards to the capital outturn position, Mr Fish advised that large investment had continued into a number of regeneration schemes with many funded by prudential borrowing alongside significant levels of grant funding.

In response to a question, Mr Maher noted that there was a working group that met regularly to refresh and revisit the Medium Term Financial Strategy. It was noted that there were significant and ongoing financial concerns which made predicting the future financial position particularly difficult. In relation to loans, Mr Fish advised that although the interest rate was expected to rise, it was expected that there would be time to consider rates when granting new loans. In addition, Mr Maher reported that the Treasury Management Panel reviewed the Council's portfolio regularly and that all loans were considered individually to determine the best option with regards to term and rate.

In relation to the Town Centre Deal, it was noted that some funds had already been allocated and spent. A specific query was raised in relation to the spend related to Topping Street which had been recorded as zero and Mr Fish agreed to investigate this issue and report back in writing following the meeting.

To conclude, Members discussed the spending of ward funding in detail and noted the length of time of the process and what could be done to encourage Councillors to spend their allocation. It was considered that it would be useful to know how much of the £71k underspend had already been committed to projects and just not drawn down.

The Board agreed:

1. That Mr Fish report back on the spend on Topping Street in writing following the meeting.

2. To find out whether any of the £71k underspend in ward funding had been already committed to projects.

#### **4 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE**

Mr Scott Butterfield, Strategy, Policy and Research Manager advised that following comments made at the last meeting of the Scrutiny Leadership Board, resident satisfaction with the town centre would be included in the resident survey. In relation to the collection of data round delayed transfers of care, it was noted that the data was no longer collected nationally and it was therefore difficult to acquire data on this indicator.

It was noted that the adult social care satisfaction survey had been recently carried out and the results of overall satisfaction had declined from 82.2% to 76.2% at the end of 2021. At this time there was no national comparator data available.

Members raised concern that Blackpool had the highest number of out of work benefit claimants and queried what could be done to encourage those able to work back into work. In addition to this it was noted that the number of job opportunities appeared to be high with many unfilled vacancies. In response, Mr Butterfield advised that he would explore this issue further with the appropriate officers and report back to Members.

In response to a question, Mr Butterfield advised that the resident survey would be carried out over the summer with the results expected soon after when the outcomes could be reported to the Board.

In relation to the town centre, Members noted the importance of quality retail providers and noted the developing Town Centre Strategy. Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council advised that town centre shopping habits had changed prior to the pandemic and that leisure services tended to draw people into the town centre such as a good restaurant offer. Members further requested that a detailed report on the number of empty retail premises including whether they were of a temporary nature and their quality be included within the next performance report.

Members also queried the number of children waiting longer than 20 weeks for an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) noting that the number was very high and requested further detail of the reasons for the delays. Mr Butterfield agreed to seek a response to this question in writing following the meeting.

The Scrutiny Leadership Board agreed:

1. That Mr Butterfield explore the issue of unemployment and vacancies with the relevant officers and report back in writing following the meeting.
2. To receive the outcomes of the resident survey in due course.
3. To include a detailed report on the number of empty retail premises including whether they were of a temporary nature and their quality be included within the next performance report.
4. That Mr Butterfield explore the reasons for the delays for Education, Health and Care Plans and report back to the Board in writing following the meeting.

## **5 FINANCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY**

Mr Scott Butterfield, Strategy, Policy and Research Manager and Ms Louise Jones, Head of Revenues, Benefits and Customer Services presented the draft Financial Inclusion Strategy to the Board and outlined the process to date utilised in developing the Strategy. A public consultation had been undertaken with input also sought from partners across the town.

Key comments raised on the draft Strategy by the Scrutiny Leadership Board were as follows:

- That it did not include reference to low paid single workers who were unlikely to qualify for any additional help or benefits and what could be done to support this cohort.
- The importance of digital inclusion for all residents and ensuring a wide range of publicity was utilised.
- The extra pressure placed on private tenants required to purchase electric cards off landlords or from local shops and those with coin-operated meters which could often have a mark-up making prices even higher.
- The importance of education and ensuring that Blackpool residents could upskill themselves. It was considered that the value of education should be promoted through the Strategy. This should also include financial education.
- Concern was also expressed regarding the risks attached to the informal economy, for example, pyramid schemes and sales on ebay and it was considered that the Strategy should include reference to this in addition to information on lower risk generation of wealth and the opportunities available.

The Board considered that the Strategy was of importance and noted the current pressures related to the cost of living. Councillor Neal Brookes, Cabinet Member for Enforcement, Public Safety, Highways and Transport noted that the Strategy was one of a number of tools designed to build financial resilience. He advised that the draft strategy had been presented to the Scrutiny Leadership Board for comments and these would be fed into the development of the strategy as appropriate.

## **6 CHANNEL SHIFT SCRUTINY REVIEW FINAL REPORT**

Councillor Paul Galley, Chair of the Channel Shift Scrutiny Review presented the final report of the panel to the Board. The importance of involving residents in decisions taken and inclusion was highlighted. The important contribution from officers and Members to the review was noted with thanks given for the time and effort of all of those involved.

The Scrutiny Leadership Board approved the report for consideration by the Executive.

## **7 SCRUTINY WORKPLANS**

The Scrutiny Leadership Board considered its workplan and the recently updated workplans of the Scrutiny Committees with the Chairs of each Committee invited to provide an update. It was noted that the reviews into Temporary Holiday Accommodation and the mental health of young men aged 16-25 years old had commenced.

**8 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The Scrutiny Leadership Board agreed the date and time of the next meeting as Wednesday 12 October 2022, commencing at 6pm.

**Chairman**

(The meeting ended at 7.51 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:

Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager

Tel: 01253 477213

E-mail: [sharon.davis@blackpool.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.davis@blackpool.gov.uk)

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<b>Report to:</b>	<b>SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Lisa Arnold, Strategic Head of Service of Community and Wellbeing
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	12 October 2022

## GREEN AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To review progress on the implementation of the Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) Strategy and associated action plan in the period between March 2022 and October 2022.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To consider the progress of the GBI Strategy and Action Plan and to identify any further areas for scrutiny as appropriate.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure effective scrutiny of the GBI Strategy and progress on the associated Action 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 None

### 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 This report provides an update on the performance of the Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) Strategy and associated Action Plan adopted on 25 February 2019.

6.2 Throughout this report, references are made to Green and Blue Infrastructure or GBI, which is defined within the strategy as:

*“a network of multifunctional green space, which delivers a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities... As a network it includes parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands, but also street trees, allotments and private gardens. It can also include streams, the sea and other water bodies and features such as green roofs and walls.”*

6.3 Blackpool’s GBI strategy is being delivered by Blackpool Council in partnership amongst internal directorates, private developers, landowners, schools, healthcare providers, infrastructure managers and the local community.

6.4 Blackpool’s GBI Strategy has identified 6 strategic goals and implementation priorities:

- Engaging People in Health and Well-being
- Enhancing the Visitor Experience
- Greener Housing and Infrastructure
- Enabling Productive Green Business and Workers
- Promoting a Green Image and Culture
- Improving Habitats and Benefitting Pollinators

6.5 In order to deliver the GBI strategy an Action Plan has been developed with 4 objectives:

- Protect and Enhance GBI
- Create and Restore GBI
- Connect and Link GBI
- Promote GBI

## **7.0 Progress on GBI Strategy**

### **7.1 GBI reporting**

This report focuses on the time period between March 2022 and October 2022 following the annual report presented on 2 March 2022.

7.2 The delivery of the GBI strategy and associated Action Plan undertook an internal audit in September 2022. The audit found no High Risk recommendations and highlighted recommendations regarding the detail of reporting and measuring of the Strategy’s progress.

7.3 The Audit recommendations which highlight actions to the reporting structure will be implemented ahead of and reported on at the annual report to the Scrutiny Leadership Board in March 2023.

#### 7.4 Previous Report to Scrutiny Leadership Board March 2022

A progress report presented to Scrutiny committee on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 highlighted the following future priorities for the next 12months.

- Town Centre Strategy
- Developing a Stanley Park Masterplan
- Growing green space volunteering
- Ecological review and Management Plan for Marton Mere Local Nature Reserve
- Tree Planting
- Website creation
- Strengthening links with the Climate agenda

#### 7.5 Town Centre Strategy

The update of the Town Centre Strategy has been completed by consultants CBRE, and the associated Action Plan is now subject to additional engagement activity in order to identify clear actions, of which GBI improvement opportunities will be included. During the initial engagement for the Town Centre Strategy, the need for more GBI in the town centre came through strongly and this has been reflected by CBRE when drafting the Strategy. (*Action 2.1*)

#### 7.6 Developing a Stanley Park Masterplan

A draft Masterplan is currently in progress involving consultation with stakeholders and the Friends of Stanley Park. In addition work has been undertaken to improve park infrastructure including the Cocker Clock Tower, Play area, toilets and fountain. (*Action 1.1.2*)

#### 7.7 Growing green space volunteering

Blackpool Council led volunteering has expanded on Blackpool's open spaces with regular activity at Marton Mere, Revoe Community Garden and various play areas across the town. A new Friends Group has been established at Bridgehouse Recreation Area and partnership working with groups such as ROC and the Windmill Group has increased involvement in caring for open spaces. (*Action 4.1.4*)

#### 7.8 Ecological review and Management Plan for Marton Mere Local Nature Reserve

A stakeholder group has been set up to discuss the management objectives of Marton Mere and establish the scope of the programme. The group is pulling together a brief for writing the management plan based on the eight step process highlighted in appendix A. (*Action 1.5.2*)

## 7.9 Tree Planting

The tree planting season is October to March and therefore funded planting projects have been programmed in for this period in various locations across the town including the replacement of growing Christmas Trees in those locations required. (Action 2.2.1)

## 7.10 Website creation

New webpages are being developed with the Communications Team for Blackpool's Parks and Open spaces, including pages on greening and GBI. The website functionality has been built and the teams involved are currently populating them with text and images. (Action 4.1.9)

Sections include:

- Park information
- Events
- Volunteering opportunities
- GBI strategy news and stories

## 7.11 Strengthening links with the Climate agenda

The GBI Development Manager plays a key role on the Climate Emergency Steering Group to identify opportunities and ensure collaboration.

Identified within the Climate Action Plan is the action to "Consider declaring an Ecological Emergency"

In order to progress this action a working group has been set up to scope what this will involve. The GBI strategy and associated Action Plan will be a key element of this declaration process.

In addition, the GBI Development Manager now chairs the Staff Sustainability Group to improve Climate actions and awareness amongst Council Employees promoting a positive environmental culture in the organisation.

## 8.0 Action Plan Update

8.1 In addition to the priorities identified for 2022, there has been additional progress on many other Actions within the Action Plan. A full Action Plan update will be provided in the annual Spring report, however the information below highlights a few key updates on programmes since March 2022.

## 8.2 Park Development Plans

Park Development plans have been created for 3 parks, Anchorsholme, Watson Road and Devonshire Road Rock Gardens to highlight projects and improvements required. This will enable these parks to be submitted for Green flag in 2023. (*Action 1.3.1*)

### 8.3 Greening Blackpool Supplementary Planning Document

On 16 May 2022, The Greening Blackpool Supplementary Planning Document was adopted. The Greening Blackpool SPD provides direction on the importance for new development to fully consider landscaping and green infrastructure, including open space, sports and play facilities, amenity greenspace, public art, biodiversity and trees. Once adopted the document will be a material consideration when assessing relevant planning applications. (*Action 1.7.6*)

### 8.4 Shared Prosperity Fund Programmes

Shared Prosperity Funding (SPF) has been identified for two projects associated with Green Infrastructure. Officers are working collaboratively to ensure there is high quality GI included within these projects and the addition of GI enhances each programmes aims and objectives which are highlighted below. (*Action 1.7*)

Town Centre Improvements - Funding has been identified for Interventions in line with the refreshed Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan, including coverage of Priority Theme 1A: Streetscape, which covers street furniture and planting, and Priority Theme 1B: Environment, which includes green infrastructure.

Flood resilience- This project aims to protect communities from the increasing risk of surface level flood caused by climate change and increasing severity storms.

The project will reduce the risk of flooding, have a measurable amount of properties better protected, work in communities at risk and improve community green space.

### 8.5 Site Improvements

Pathways have now been installed at Bridgehouse Farm recreation ground, trees planted and additional maintenance undertaken to improve the site's usage. A Friends Groups has been established and is working alongside the Parks Development Team to further improve the site. The local community have been very positive about the improvements and wheelchairs and prams are now regularly using the space. (*Action 2.7.2*)

Stanley Park toilets will be undergoing restoration and plans have been submitted to Planning for consideration. The renovations feature a green roof and improvements to the flower beds through the addition of planting lavenders and cheery trees.

### 8.6 Promoting GBI

Blackpool Park Rangers have continued to undertake engagement activities on with young

children through the BetterStart funded programme. In addition activities have been able to expand to Kingscote Park and Anchorsholme Park through alternative funding models. The Park Rangers are also extending their programme to include Beach Schools, which promotes and encourages imaginative play on the beach. (Action 4.3.1)

## **9.0 Future priorities for next 6 months**

The main GBI focus of the next 6 months will be on ensuring tree planting programmes are undertaken during the winter planting season.

Progress will continue to be focused at the above priorities and work programmes, with the addition of scoping works to include the dredging of Stanley Park Lake. Discussions are in progress with partners to establish costs and disposal options for 10,000m<sup>3</sup> of silt.

Actions recommendations from the Internal Audit report will be undertaken to collect additional KPI's a reporting for the annual spring Scrutiny Leadership Board report.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

### **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 3(a): Marton Mere Management Plan development process

## **10.0 Financial considerations:**

10.1 The Action plan will be reviewed on an annual basis and is dependent on being able to direct revenue funding to the plan and also achieving external funding from partners and various funding streams available.

## **11.0 Legal considerations:**

11.1 Legal considerations will be dealt with as they arise.

## **12.0 Risk management considerations:**

12.1 The key risk relates to Green and Blue not being a part of 'Making Blackpool Better' in relation to inclusion in all our major capital schemes and developments.

A further risk is not being able to release revenue funding to support the plan and achieve capital funding.

## **13.0 Equalities considerations:**

13.1 This strategy aims to reduce inequalities and promote community cohesion in line with the Council's

ethical policy.

**14.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:**

**14.1** The GBI Strategy is a key document for improving Blackpool’s sustainability and climate reduction ambitions. The increase in quality GBI in the town will aid climate adaptation, improve biodiversity and bring positive environmental changes.

**15.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:**

15.1 During the development of the Strategy, consultation was undertaken with:

1. Interdepartmental steering group
2. Focus groups and 1 to 1 interviews with key individuals
3. Councillor information sessions
4. Attendance at all Scrutiny Committees and special scrutiny committee organised
5. Attendance at Health and wellbeing Board
6. Public consultation
7. Consultation through Open Spaces Network
8. Local Business Forum
9. Schools Forum.

**16.0 Background papers:**

16.1 Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy

[Blackpool's Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy 2019 - 2029](#)

Green and Blue Infrastructure Action Plan

[Blackpool's Green and Blue Infrastructure Action Plan 2019 - 2029](#)

Greening Blackpool SPD

[Greening Blackpool SPD adopted May 2022](#)

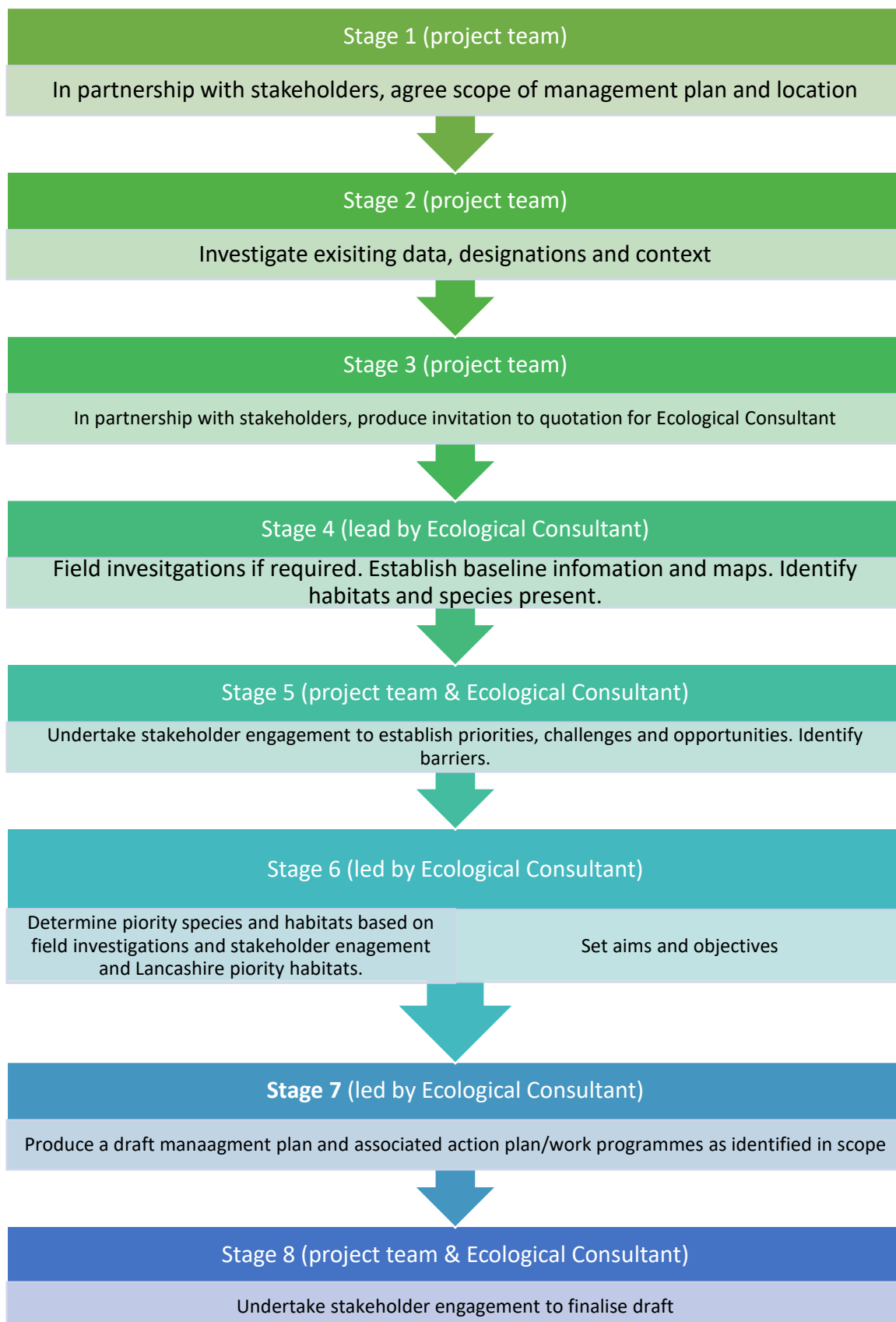
Blackpool Tree Strategy

[Tree Strategy 2021-2031 \(blackpool.gov.uk\)](#)

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## Marton Mere Management Plan Development



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<b>Report to:</b>	<b>SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Antony Lockley, Director of Strategy and Assistant Chief Executive
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	12 October 2022

## COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE – FEEDBACK FROM END OF YEAR REPORT

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To provide an update on the action taken as a result of feedback from Scrutiny Leadership Board on Council Plan performance 2021/22.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 Scrutiny Leadership Board is asked to consider 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 The end of year performance against the Council Plan was reported to Scrutiny Leadership Board on 13th July 2022. Below is an update on the action taken by the Corporate Delivery Unit as a result

of the queries raised by the Committee:

6.2 ***1. Explore the issue of unemployment and vacancies with the relevant officers and report back in writing following the meeting.***

Blackpool's context is particularly challenging when trying to support people into work. A [study by Sheffield Hallam University](#) highlights that we have a high proportion of people of working age who are unavailable for work. Those who are jobless who suffer from health problems or disabilities generally claim incapacity benefit instead of unemployment benefits, leading to the report estimating Blackpool's "real" unemployment level at 14.7%, the highest in the country. Generational worklessness is an issue.

The government has various measures in place as part of the Plan for Jobs (further information can be found on the [LGA website](#)). We deliver some of these programmes on behalf of the government department, generally without the use of any additional funding from the Council, but relatively speaking we are a small provider compared to other organisations such as G4S. This can also mean that we are unable to apply for and run projects which would directly target some of the biggest needs in Blackpool, for example supporting those with mild/moderate health issues. Other than Adult and Community Learning, which delivered basic skills support to 1,200 people last year, Council teams do not deliver skills training, with provision of traineeships, apprenticeships and further/higher education being undertaken by organisations such as Blackpool and the Fylde College.

The programmes delivered by the Council provided 641 people with employment support in 2021-22, 405 of whom were helped into work. 178 of these were via the Kickstart programme. Subject to government approval we will shortly have secured funding for the Platform job and training service to support 16-24 year olds until 2025. Other more targeted work with Horizon (drug and alcohol rehabilitation) and Lancashire Care NHS Trust (severe mental health) aims to support people with more intensive needs.

6.3 ***2. To receive the outcomes of the resident survey in due course.***

The contract for delivery of the resident's survey has now been awarded. Survey work will take place throughout October 2022 with a view to receiving the final survey findings in mid-November 2022. A report on the survey findings will be presented to this Committee in December 2022.

6.4 ***3. To include a detailed report on the number of empty retail premises including whether they were of a temporary nature and their quality be included within the next performance report.***

Further analysis of available data has been undertaken, the results of which will be presented at this meeting. A report is attached at Appendix 4(a).

6.5 **4. Explore the reasons for the delays for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) and report back to the Board in writing following the meeting.**

The poor performance referenced in the end of year report is a result of the pandemic affecting the rate. Greater quality assurance was required in the current year to ensure that standards stayed high, which reduced the percentage of EHCP's that met the 20 week time scale.

Further detailed data analysis reveals that as at the end of September 2022, the proportion of new EHCP's issued within 20 weeks in the previous 12 months was 70%, however this has increased to 78% in the last 6 months.

Nationally, we compare well to the national picture. In 2021, 72% EHCP's were issued within 20 weeks, compared to 60% nationally.

6.6 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

**7.0 List of Appendices:**

7.1 Appendix 4(a): Town Centre Unit Vacancies  
Appendix 4(b): Business list

**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 N/A

**13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:**

13.1 N/A

**14.0 Background papers:**

14.1 N/A

## TOWN CENTRE VACANCIES

- 1.1 At SLB July 2022, Members noted the importance of quality retail providers and noted the developing Town Centre Strategy. Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council advised that town centre shopping habits had changed prior to the pandemic and that leisure services tended to draw people into the town centre such as a good restaurant offer. Members further requested that a detailed report on the number of empty retail premises including whether they were of a temporary nature and their quality be included within the next performance report.
- 1.2 Inclusion of this information in the quarterly performance report would be disproportionate to the rest of the performance report content, so a standalone report has been produced. The information is sourced by the Retail and Vacancy Survey which is conducted quarterly and dates back to August 2011.
- 1.3 The Retail and Vacancy Survey demarcates 3 overlapping zones in the town centre. The outermost zone is classified as Periphery Town Centre, the middle zone is classified as Core Retail Area and the central zone is classified as Principal Retail Core. The August 2022 Retail and Vacancy Survey identified 618 units across the 3 zones. Demolitions and regeneration work since 2019 has resulted in a consolidation of 75% of units included in the surveys being located in the Core and Principal Retail zones. Where existing businesses have relocated to a different unit in a different zone since 2019, it has been a move from the Periphery Town Centre into the central retail zone, no existing businesses chose to relocate to the Principal Retail Core since 2019.
- 1.4 **Headlines**  
 52% of total units in the town centre have been in business consistently since February 2019.  
 16% of the units consistently in business are restaurants and/or leisure units.  
 This increases to 28% when pubs and clubs are included  
 This increases to 38% when fast food and drink outlets are included.
- Investigations into the changes in businesses in the 3 zones since February 2019 resulted in 4 groupings of the currently vacant units. (Appendix A)
- Short term business before becoming vacant
  - Recently vacant units
  - Long-term vacant units
  - Lockdown vacant units
- 1.5 The vacancy rate since February 2019 has increased in the Principal Retail Core.  
 19 units in this zone have been vacant more than 50% of the time since February 2019.
- 1.6 Investigations into the changes in use in the Principal Retail Core highlight 7 units which have had a series of temporary businesses since 2019. The majority of the temporary businesses were fast fashion and accessories. 2 of the units have had 3 or more changes of business use since February 2019 as well as periods of vacancy.

- 1.7 In the Principal Retail Core, where businesses have opened in a unit after a period of vacancy the business offer was mixed, but there is a clear reduction in presence from high street brand names, which mirrors the national picture. New businesses in the area remained open for 12 months on average with several units experiencing periods of vacancy.
- 1.8 Where there are well known brands; Lids the new store in Houndshill is the first store in the UK branded retailer. Build-A-Bear Workshop is the full non city based store location in the North West.
- 1.9 The vacancy rate in the Core Retail Area has decreased by 1.1% since February 2019. 56 units in this zone have been vacant more 50% of the time since Feb 2019.
- 1.10 Investigations into the changes in use in the Core Retail Area highlight 18 units which have had a series of temporary businesses since 2019. There is a pattern in their business uses which included fast fashion, cafes, fast food as well as brow and nail bars.
- 6 businesses have relocated to another unit in the zone. Most businesses relocate to a unit in the same zone.
- 1.11 In the Core Retail Area, where new businesses opened in a unit after a period of vacancy the businesses tended to include; cafes, takeaways, bars and coffee shops and convenience stores. New businesses in the area remained open for 15 months on average. The businesses which remained open for less than 6 months included convenience stores and takeaways.
- 1.12 The vacancy rate in Periphery Town Centre has reduced slightly by 0.2%. However number of sites included in this zone has reduced by 22 units since 2019. When looking at the outermost zone in isolation, the proportion of vacant units has remained unchanged at more than 1 in every 4 units being vacant with most of the units vacant since before February 2019.
- 1.13 Investigations into the changes of use in the Periphery Town Centre highlight 7 units which have had a series of temporary businesses since 2019. There is no clear pattern in their business uses which have fluctuated between music shops, cafés, bars, information centres and home goods.
- 1.14 In the Periphery Town Centre, where businesses have opened in a unit after a period of vacancy the businesses offer was mixed. New businesses in the area remained open for 12 months on average. There is a clear split between short term and longer tem businesses; businesses that remained open for less than 6 months included gift, ice-cream and joke shops, businesses that remained open longer included bars, restaurants and off licences located on or in close proximity to the prom.
- 1.15 In August 22, 15 new businesses have occupied previously vacant units:
- Lids – Houndshill.
  - Victoria Street Market, Perfect Nails & Beauty - Victoria Street.
  - Love Bargains, Smart Menswear, Blackpool Market, Bar 137, Records & Relics - Church Street.
  - Neighbourhood Sub - Birley Street.
  - Precious Gifts Shop - Clifton Street.
  - Stays in Blackpool - Queen Street.
  - Moments in Time, Melissa Louise, Blackpool Inspirations - Topping Street.
  - NHS Lancashire Oral Surgery Clinic - Cookson Street.



- 1.16 Appendix 4(b) includes a list of the previous businesses listed in the vacant units. These have been categorised based on their type of vacant status and have been listed to demonstrate the qualities of businesses that have preceded the currently vacant units.
- 1.17 Appendix 4(b) includes a footfall counts from Visitor Insights which acts as a proxy for assessing the potential customer base in each zone.

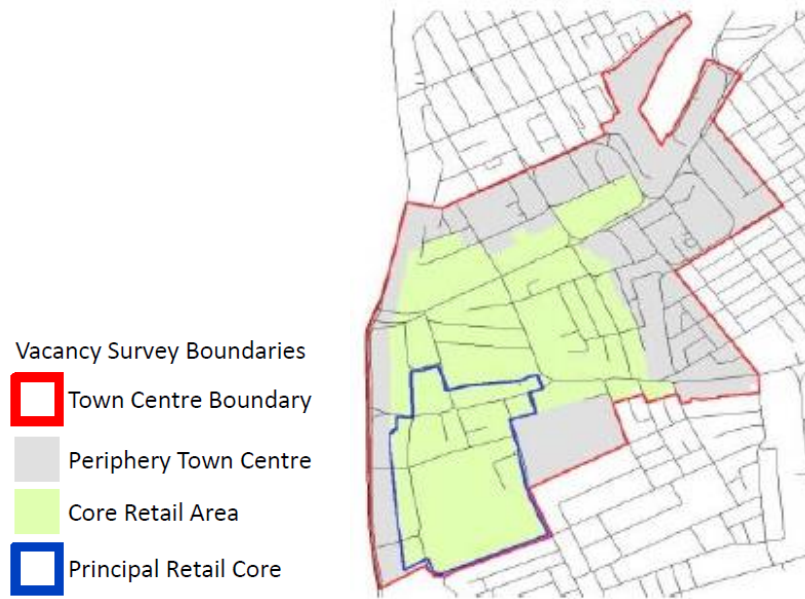
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### **Appendix 4(b):** Town Centre Vacancies Business List.

The information for this report is sourced from the Retail and Vacancy Survey which is conducted quarterly and dates back to August 2011 by the Growth and Prosperity Team.

The Retail and Vacancy Survey demarcates 3 overlapping zones in the town centre. The outermost zone is classified as Periphery Town Centre, the middle zone is classified as Core Retail Area and the central zone is classified as Principal Retail Core.

The August 2022 Retail and Vacancy Survey identified 618 units across the 3 zones. 129 of these are vacant. A map of each zone is below.



The vacancy rate in each zone is calculated as a percentage of total units in that zone. (Polarity: low % = good)

Please note, the way this data has been collected historically includes changes to the zone boundaries, as a result, there is an overlap between the Principal Retail Core and the Core Retail Area. This means the 27 vacant units in the Principal Retail Core make up 27 of the 89 total vacant units recorded in the Core Retail Area. (double counted).

	Town Centre Boundary			Principal Retail Core			Core Retail Area			Periphery Town Centre		
	Total Units	Total Vacant Units	Vacancy Rate	Total Units	Total Vacant Units	Vacancy Rate	Total Units	Total Vacant Units	Vacancy Rate	Total Units	Total Vacant Units	Vacancy Rate
<b>Aug-22</b>	618	129	20.9%	160	27	16.9%	463	89	19.2%	155	40	25.8%
<b>Vacancy Rate Change Since Feb 2019</b>	-1%			+4.5%			-0.9%			-0.2%		

**What proportions of the total town centre footfall move across the 3 zones?**

Using Visitor Insights, which is a system that used mobile phone data to calculate number of visits into different zones; almost all people visiting the town centre visit the Core Retail Area. However, since 2019, both the proportion and the total count of visits to the Principal Retail Core has decreased. This same pattern is seen for visits to Houndshill. (HH)

Aug 19 Visits			August 22 Visits		
Zone	Visits	%	Zone	Visits	%
PTC	2856460	100%	PTC	2560981	100%
CRA	2856460	100%	CRA	2524053	99%
PRC	1599083	59%	PRC	1067098	42%
HH	698127	26%	HH	479075	19%

- Vacancy Survey Boundaries
- Town Centre Boundary
  - Periphery Town Centre
  - Core Retail Area
  - Principal Retail Core



***Out of the occupied units, what is the quality of the offer?***

319 units (52% of total units) have been in business constantly since February 2019.

The list below is a full breakdown of the business names and classifications.

This list highlights that the restaurant and leisure offer in the town before and after the lockdowns account for 16% of the consistent business units and this increases to 28% when including pubs and clubs.

Kwizeen	Cafés & Restaurants
Amaro	Cafés & Restaurants
Quilligans	Cafés & Restaurants
The Sea	Cafés & Restaurants
The Chinese Buffet	Cafés & Restaurants
Hive	Cafés & Restaurants
Costa Coffee	Cafés & Restaurants
The Bank	Cafés & Restaurants
The Coffee Pot	Cafés & Restaurants
JK's Steakhouse	Cafés & Restaurants
Compass Café Bar	Cafés & Restaurants
Scream and Shake Café	Cafés & Restaurants
Peppermill	Cafés & Restaurants
Emily Janes Café & Bistro	Cafés & Restaurants
Mandarin	Cafés & Restaurants
La Fontana	Cafés & Restaurants
Sapori	Cafés & Restaurants
Shalimar Gardens	Cafés & Restaurants
Hauze	Cafés & Restaurants
Il Nanno's	Cafés & Restaurants
R&B Kitchen	Cafés & Restaurants
Al Amin	Cafés & Restaurants

Pickwick Café	Cafés & Restaurants
Deansgate Kitchen	Cafés & Restaurants
Ziggy's	Cafés & Restaurants
No. Five	Cafés & Restaurants
Stefani's Pizzeria	Cafés & Restaurants
Pastels	Cafés & Restaurants
Café Continental	Cafés & Restaurants
Boonnak Thai Taste	Cafés & Restaurants
Mamma's Ristorante	Cafés & Restaurants
The Right Bite	Cafés & Restaurants
Cookies	Cafés & Restaurants
Nandos	Cafés & Restaurants
Pizza Hut	Cafés & Restaurants
Cream Gelato	Cafés & Restaurants
Café Nero	Cafés & Restaurants
Costa Coffee	Cafés & Restaurants
Harry Ramsden	Cafés & Restaurants
Vegas Diner	Cafés & Restaurants
Wok Inn	Cafés & Restaurants
Easy East	Cafés & Restaurants
Mr Basrai's	Cafés & Restaurants
British Heart Foundation	Charity Shop
Life	Charity Shop
Barnado's	Charity Shop
Easterleigh Animal Sanctuary	Charity Shop
PDSA	Charity Shop
The Repository	Charity Shop
Samaritans	Charity Shop
Blackpool Royal British Legion Club	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
The Brew Room	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs

Scruffy Murphy's Bar	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Rose & Crown	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Hogarth's Gin Palace	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Galleon Bar	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Molloy's	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Little Black Pug	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Home & HQ (Trilogy)	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
PopWorld	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
The Counting House	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Whittle Springs	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Ma Kelly's	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
The Imperial (The Garland)	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
The Townsman	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Champs Sports Bar	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Churchill's	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
The Washington	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Yates	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Weatherspoon's (Layton Rakes)	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Brannigans / Hush	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Revolution	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
The Albert and The Lion	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
The Mitre	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Knobby's Karaoke	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Shenanigans	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Soul Suite	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Nellie Deans	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Walkabout	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Crazy Horse	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Bar 19	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Buckingham's Bar	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs



Blackpool Catholic Club	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Oscars (Bar B)	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Funny Girls	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Kaos Nightclub	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Flamingo Nightclub	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Ramsden Arms Hotel	Drinking Establishments & Nightclubs
Stewarts Radio	Electronics & Home Entertainment
Records & Relics	Electronics & Home Entertainment
Phone Gallery	Electronics & Home Entertainment
Vodafone	Electronics & Home Entertainment
Phones Hut	Electronics & Home Entertainment
Phones Inn	Electronics & Home Entertainment
EE	Electronics & Home Entertainment
O2 Shop	Electronics & Home Entertainment
3 Store	Electronics & Home Entertainment
CEX	Electronics & Home Entertainment
HMV	Electronics & Home Entertainment
Lingerie Lounge	Fashion & Accessories
Hermosa Boutique	Fashion & Accessories
Mankind	Fashion & Accessories
Pink Poison	Fashion & Accessories
Beau Belle	Fashion & Accessories
Extacy	Fashion & Accessories
Zilch	Fashion & Accessories
Showstoppers	Fashion & Accessories
Candi	Fashion & Accessories
Claire's	Fashion & Accessories
Ann Summers	Fashion & Accessories
Roman	Fashion & Accessories
Amparo	Fashion & Accessories

John Nelson	Fashion & Accessories
JD Sports	Fashion & Accessories
Next	Fashion & Accessories
New Look	Fashion & Accessories
Jack Jones	Fashion & Accessories
Tessuti Scott's	Fashion & Accessories
Yours Retail	Fashion & Accessories
Deichman Shoes	Fashion & Accessories
Bang	Fashion & Accessories
Shoe Zone	Fashion & Accessories
The Throne London	Fashion & Accessories
Primark	Fashion & Accessories
Sports Direct (1st floor)	Fashion & Accessories
Wigwam	Fashion & Accessories
Bon Marche	Fashion & Accessories
Marigolds (Popeye's)	Fast Food & Take Away
Subway	Fast Food & Take Away
Greggs	Fast Food & Take Away
Pound Bakery/Cafe	Fast Food & Take Away
Abingdon Barbecue	Fast Food & Take Away
Masala	Fast Food & Take Away
The Godfather	Fast Food & Take Away
Tasty	Fast Food & Take Away
Munch Time	Fast Food & Take Away
Hogan's	Fast Food & Take Away
Tower Fisheries	Fast Food & Take Away
Dixyland	Fast Food & Take Away
Yorkshire Fisheries Takeaway	Fast Food & Take Away
Yorkshire Fisheries	Fast Food & Take Away
Subway	Fast Food & Take Away

The Frying Squad	Fast Food & Take Away
Millies Cookies	Fast Food & Take Away
Greggs	Fast Food & Take Away
McDonalds	Fast Food & Take Away
Robert's Oyster Bar	Fast Food & Take Away
The Beach Fish & Chips	Fast Food & Take Away
Donuts	Fast Food & Take Away
Flames	Fast Food & Take Away
Kebab King	Fast Food & Take Away
Feastabout	Fast Food & Take Away
Hot Stuff (Eatabout)	Fast Food & Take Away
King Kebab	Fast Food & Take Away
Heatwave	Fast Food & Take Away
Pizza Luigi	Fast Food & Take Away
Kebab Hub	Fast Food & Take Away
Mario's	Fast Food & Take Away
Subway	Fast Food & Take Away
Kingswood Office Supplies	Financial & Business Services
Cash Converters	Financial & Business Services
Cash Converters	Financial & Business Services
Halifax	Financial & Business Services
Lloyds Bank	Financial & Business Services
NatWest Bank	Financial & Business Services
Barclays	Financial & Business Services
Yorkshire Building Society	Financial & Business Services
Cordant People	Financial & Business Services
TSB	Financial & Business Services
Clevr Money	Financial & Business Services
Euro Change (NM Money)	Financial & Business Services
Coastal Housing	Financial & Business Services

Nationwide	Financial & Business Services
Achieve Legal Services	Financial & Business Services
Blackhurst Budd	Financial & Business Services
Sign & Print	Financial & Business Services
Fylde Law	Financial & Business Services
Clarke & Co	Financial & Business Services
Options Mortgage Centre	Financial & Business Services
Duncan Raistrick	Financial & Business Services
The Mortgage Shop	Financial & Business Services
Entwistle Green	Financial & Business Services
Connexions	Financial & Business Services
Santander	Financial & Business Services
NM Money	Financial & Business Services
Money Traders	Financial & Business Services
Co-operative Food	Food
Heron Foods	Food
Asia's Finest Food stores	Food
Iceland	Food
The Salad Bowl	Food
Heron Foods	Food
Sainsburys	Food
Kamrans	Health & Beauty
Jadore Hair Salon	Health & Beauty
Alternative Look	Health & Beauty
Blues Hair Shop	Health & Beauty
Empire	Health & Beauty
Libra	Health & Beauty
Nail Emporium	Health & Beauty
Amplifon	Health & Beauty
Wonderland	Health & Beauty

Renaissance Tattoo	Health & Beauty
Gary Copeland (Fusion Tattoo Bar)	Health & Beauty
Lloyds Pharmacy	Health & Beauty
West Coast Tattoo	Health & Beauty
Sun seekers	Health & Beauty
RDS Hairdressing	Health & Beauty
Body Art Tatt2	Health & Beauty
London's Gents Barbers	Health & Beauty
Beauty Spot Warehouse	Health & Beauty
Boots	Health & Beauty
SpecSavers	Health & Beauty
Vision Express	Health & Beauty
The Body Shop	Health & Beauty
Holland & Barrett	Health & Beauty
Glamour Forever	Health & Beauty
Superdrug	Health & Beauty
Bodycare	Health & Beauty
Fragrance Shop	Health & Beauty
Perfume Shop	Health & Beauty
Blackpool Osteopathy Clinic	Health & Beauty
Forshaw's Hotel	Holiday Accommodation
New Venture Hotel	Holiday Accommodation
Christine's Hotel & R-Bar	Holiday Accommodation
McHalls Hotel	Holiday Accommodation
Northern Star	Holiday Accommodation
Springfield House Holiday Flats	Holiday Accommodation
Granby Lodge (No Name)	Holiday Accommodation
Streetly Hotel	Holiday Accommodation
Pride Lodge	Holiday Accommodation
Warwick's Amusements	Leisure Facilities

Winter Gardens	Leisure Facilities
Warwick's Amusements	Leisure Facilities
MFA Bowl	Leisure Facilities
Viva Blackpool	Leisure Facilities
Blackpool Tower	Leisure Facilities
The Gym Group	Leisure Facilities
Warwick's Amusements	Leisure Facilities
Beaverbrook's	National
Marks & Spencer	National
The Works	National
Warren James	National
Ryman	National
H Samuel	National
Clintons	National
Poundland	National
Millets	National
F. Hinds	National
Card Factory	National
Pandora	National
Menkind	National
Warren James	National
Smiggle	National
Build a Bear	National
Waterstones	National
TK Maxx	National
Home Bargains	National
B&M Bargains	National
Card Factory	National
FY Creatives	Offices
Blackpool & Fylde College	Offices

Blott Studio	Other Comparison
Patrick's Saleroom	Other Comparison
Chequers Gallery	Other Comparison
Nathan & Co	Other Comparison
Vapers' Choice	Other Comparison
Rock Jewellers	Other Comparison
Reagans The Jewellers	Other Comparison
A&B Christie	Other Comparison
Derbyshire's	Other Comparison
Toys Plus	Other Comparison
Leonard Dews	Other Comparison
Vape Luxe	Other Comparison
Cherish	Other Comparison
Sweet Memories	Other Comparison
Bentley's Jewellers	Other Comparison
The Vapour Corner	Other Comparison
Cardzone/Home & Fragrance	Other Comparison
Sugar Factory	Other Comparison
Rock & Gift Shop	Other Comparison
Robert's Rock & Ices	Other Comparison
The Grundy Art Gallery	Other Comparison
Smoke-Ingos	Other Comparison
Newsagents	Other Convenience
News & Booze	Other Convenience
Deansgate News	Other Convenience
Topping Street News	Other Convenience
Pound Zone	Other Convenience
Market St Store	Other Convenience
Pound Store	Other Convenience
AM News	Other Convenience

Amigos	Other Convenience
Digitav	Other Retail Service
C Cabs	Other Retail Service
E.D.C Electrical & Building Services	Other Retail Service
Reilly's Smoke and Vape	Other Retail Service
Blackpool Transport Customer Centre	Other Retail Service
Timpson's	Other Retail Service
10 King Street - Jasmines	Other Service
Wet Wet Wet Sauna	Other Service
No. 5 Charles Street	Other Service
Thai Paradise	Other Service
Natalie's Sauna	Other Service
William Hill	Other Service
Ladbrokes	Other Service
Bet Fred	Other Service
Acqua Sauna Club	Other Service
Customer First & Lancashire Constabulary	Social & Charity Services
The HealthWorks	Social & Charity Services
NHS Young Peoples Centre	Social & Charity Services
Samaritans	Social & Charity Services
Little Rainbow Day Nursery	Social & Charity Services
Ashley Foundation	Social & Charity Services



**How much footfall passed by the vacant units?**

Using Visitor Insights, it is possible to identify number of visits in close proximity to vacant units. In 2019 more than a third of visits in the principal were passed a vacant space on a busy thoroughfare, such as Victoria Street, Bank Hey Street and Church Street.

In 2022, a smaller percentage of visits are passing by vacant units. As a number of units have been vacant for some time, it is likely that empty units are altering footfall patterns through the town centre.

Location	Aug 19	Percentage of total visits in zone	Aug 22	Percentage of total visits in zone
PTC	116381	4%	68711	3%
CRA	222454	8%	99514	4%
PRC	585486	37%	168551	7%

**Out of currently vacant units, how many were of a temporary nature?**

The majority of the recently vacant units are in the Principal Retail Core.

11% have become <b>recently vacant</b> (in the last 12 months) after sustained periods of trading.
No CBN
Simply Iconic
Blackpool Bargains
Mobile Phone Repair Centre
Trespass
Coronation Rock
LC Wedding & Party
Petticoats & Tails
Moments in Time
Pets Paradise

Burgers & Shakes
Willow Tree House Hotel
Charabanc
The Fone Box

11% had <b>short term</b> periods of trading before becoming vacant
Sina Barbers   Planet Anime
Steals   Abingdon Street Market
Daisy's   K Dolls Boutique
Discount Signs and Prints   New Second Chance
Bali Wood Carvings   E&J Bargains
Electronic Convenience Shop (moved to another unit in the zone)
The Sweet Place
Misty Sandwich Bar
The Galley Café
Rheamzy's Snacks & Shakes
Shadow Queen
Closing Down Sale Pop up Shop
Retro Bars
House Clearance & Removal

56% are **long term vacant** (since at least November 2019)

Shoemarket
Orange/EE/T-Mobile
Phones 4 U
Shop for Heroes
Liquidation Stock Clearance
Utopia Womenswear
Baseline Creative Studio
Mob Phone Accessories
Happy Jack's
Thomas Cook
Toyland
Shaw's Café Bar
Royal Bank of Scotland
Blacks
Kats Café
Topping Street Local Shop
Forsyth Business Centre
Premiere People
HSBC
Skipton Building Society
SK Menswear
The Picnic Club
The Hideaway
Trinity Hospice
Co-Operative Bank

Santander
Royal Mail
Pizza Co
Starprint Clothing
Ayaan Cuisine
Pepe's   Buzz
Tai Pan
Cedar Tavern
Anime & Manga Store
Lazy Toad
The Card Market
The Card Market
Cool Trader
Asia's supermarket
Che Bar/Coco
Sun seekers
White Light North Ltd
William Hill
Beau Belle
Fashion Touch
Loans 2go
Leo's Take Away
Little Amsterdam
Carlton House Hotel
Continental Hotel

Job Centre
Los Gringos
Sofa King
Pit Bull West Coast
Cheap & Chic
Kings Tattoo
Nueva Vida
No. 14 Pizza & Kebab House
PJ Properties
Addiction Dependency Solutions
Home Again
Wings Alterations
Milbourne Motor Company
Tech Smart
Caritas Care
Blackpool Chiropractic Clinic
DY Property Group
Youth Offending Team
Tower Coffee Company

<b>22% became vacant with 2020/21 lockdowns</b>
Zig Zag Gallery
Surflife
Abingdon Street Market
Poundland

KFC
Game
BFC Community Trust
Debenhams
Clarks
Poundstrecher
Cash is King
Sisk Contractors Ltd (Site Offices)
Sleep Time
Toni & Guy
British Heart Foundation Charity Shop
Talbot Treatment Rooms
Ocean Palace
Phone Shop
Persian Tailors
Blueberries
The Man Cave
iSalud
Fresh Bite
Blackpool Second-hand Bookstore
Harcourt Leisure Services
George Cox Site Office
Funky Monkey

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	12 October 2022

## **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2022/23 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023/24 - 2026/27**

### **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 4 months to 31 July 2022. The report also includes an update on the Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 – 2026/27 for scrutiny.

### **2.0 Recommendation(s):**

2.1 To independently review the financial and operational performances of the services of the Council.

### **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 attached to this report.

6.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

**7.0 List of Appendices:**

Appendix 3(a): Executive Report  
Appendix 3(b): Director of Resources Report  
Appendix 1 - Revenue Summary  
Appendix 2a - Chief Executive  
Appendix 2b - Governance and Partnership Services  
Appendices 2b/c - Ward Budgets  
Appendix 2d - Resources  
Appendix 2e – Communications and Regeneration  
Appendix 2f - Strategic Leisure Assets  
Appendix 2g – Growth and Prosperity  
Appendix 2h - Community and Environmental Services  
Appendix 2i - Adult Services  
Appendix 2j - Children’s Services  
Appendix 2k - Public Health  
Appendix 2l - Budgets Outside the Cash Limit  
Appendix 2m – Wholly-owned companies  
Appendix 3 – Budget Savings performance  
Appendix 4 - Capital Monitoring  
Appendix 5 - Cash Flow Summary  
Appendix 6 - General Fund Balance Sheet Summary

**8.0 Financial considerations:**

8.1 See reports and appendices attached to the report.

**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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<b>Report to:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Steve Thompson, Director of Resources
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Lynn Williams, Leader of the Council
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	10 October 2022

## **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2022/23 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023/24 – 2026/27**

### **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 4 months to 31 July 2022. The report also includes an update on the Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 – 2026/27.

### **2.0 Recommendation(s):**

- 2.1 To note the report.
- 2.2 To require the respective directors and Director of Resources to continue to closely monitor and manage service financial and operational performances, specifically Children’s Services, Treasury Management and Growth and Prosperity.
- 2.3 To prompt the Scrutiny Leadership Board to continue to independently review the financial and operational performances of the services listed in 2.2.
- 2.4 To continue to lobby central government (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Department for Health and Social Care 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 burdens and demands presenting as a result of exceptional inflationary pressures and demographic demands upon statutory services.
- 2.5 To approve that the £135,000 funding gap for the Library/Grundy Art Gallery roof will be met by additional surplus top-slice funding.
- 2.6 To work towards increased target working balances of £8m from £6m with formal effect from the start of financial year 2023/24.

**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.

The Council's Revenue Budget for 2022/23 set a target level of General Fund working balances of around £6m. However, given the current economic climate it is recommended that this is increased to £8.0m from 2023/24 as part of the setting by the Council of the Revenue Budget for 2023/24 as this would represent of 5% of the net requirement.

- 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:**

Report  
 Appendix 1 - Revenue Summary  
 Appendix 2a - Chief Executive  
 Appendix 2b - Governance and Partnership Services  
 Appendices 2b/c - Ward Budgets  
 Appendix 2d - Resources  
 Appendix 2e – Communications and Regeneration  
 Appendix 2f - Strategic Leisure Assets  
 Appendix 2g – Growth and Prosperity

Appendix 2h - Community and Environmental Services  
Appendix 2i - Adult Services  
Appendix 2j - Children's Services  
Appendix 2k - Public Health  
Appendix 2l - Budgets Outside the Cash Limit  
Appendix 2m – Wholly-owned companies  
Appendix 3 – Budget Savings performance  
Appendix 4 - Capital Monitoring  
Appendix 5 - Cash Flow Summary  
Appendix 6 - 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.

**15.0 Key decision information:**

- 15.1 Is this a key decision? Yes
- 15.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 17/2022
- 15.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? N/A
- 15.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

**16.0 Call-in information:**

- 16.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No
- 16.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE****17.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):**

Date informed: 30 September 2022      Date approved: N/A

**18.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

18.1

**19.0 Summary of Discussion:**

19.1

**20.0 Executive decision:**

20.1

**21.0 Date of Decision:**

21.1

**22.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

22.1

**23.0 Date Decision published:**

23.1

**24.0 Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

24.1

**25.0 Executive Members present:**

25.1

**26.0 Call-in:**

26.1

**27.0 Notes:**

27.1

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**BLACKPOOL COUNCIL**  
**REPORT**  
**of the**  
**DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES**  
**to the**  
**EXECUTIVE**  
**10 OCTOBER 2022**

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**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING AS AT MONTH 4 2022/23 AND MEDIUM TERM  
FINANCIAL PLAN 2023/24 – 2026/27**

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**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Over the 12-year period 2011/12 – 2022/23 cumulative Revenue Budget savings amounting to £194.6m have been required to be made by Blackpool Council. This is greater than the Council's current annual Net Requirement Budget of £160m and even more starkly the compound effect over the same period amounts to nearly £1.4bn 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.
- 1.2 The principles of the Medium-Term Financial Sustainability Strategies 2016/17-21/22 and 2021/22-26/27 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 adult social care provision plus the rising costs of providing care are still creating a burden that current levels of local taxation and Government funding struggle to meet. In addition, the financial consequences of Covid have been immense (£3.16m in 2020/21 and £2.59m in 2021/22 both net of Government grants) with little prospect now of any further Government financial support.
- 1.3 The last 12 years has seen unprecedented volatility within local government finance: 9 years of successive central government funding cuts between 2011/12 – 19/20 were followed by the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union, 2 years of a global pandemic with ongoing consequences and now a war within the European continent. This has all conspired to produce a perfect storm of labour and supply shortages, pay demands and spiralling inflation and rising interest rates in an attempt to stem the pressure. During this period the Council has continued to i) deliver its annual budget in line with statutory requirements; ii) maintain its reserves and balances at stable and appropriate levels that reflect the risk environment; iii) consistently fund and deliver the ambitions of successive administrations; and iv) deliver for the people of Blackpool. However, here in the present, sector experts and economic commentators cannot agree how and when these key drivers of the economy will land, which makes medium-term financial planning and financial management extremely challenging.

## 2. Report Format

2.1 This report sets out the summary revenue budget position for the Council and its individual directorates for the first 4 months of 2022/23, i.e. the period to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022, 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. The report also includes an update on the Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 – 2026/27.

2.2 Separate reports have been prepared for each of the Council's core areas of responsibility:

- Appendix 2a - Chief Executive
- Appendix 2b - Governance and Partnership Services
- Appendix 2b/c - Ward Budgets
- Appendix 2d - Resources
- Appendix 2e - Communications and Regeneration
- Appendix 2f - Strategic Leisure Assets
- Appendix 2g - Growth and Prosperity
- Appendix 2h - Community and Environmental Services
- Appendix 2i - Adult Services
- Appendix 2j - Children's Services
- Appendix 2k - Public Health
- Appendix 2l - Budgets Outside the Cash Limit
- Appendix 2m - Wholly-owned Companies

These incorporate summary financial statements which continue to be prepared on a full accruals basis and focus on the forecast revenue outturns for 2022/23. 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.

2.3 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.

## 3. Budget Performance

3.1 The adverse full-year forecast budget variance as at the end of month 4 of 2022/23 is exceptionally high and can be summarised as follows, categorised as either locally-managed pressures which colleagues are working hard to mitigate or externally-imposed pressures which inevitably will require some central intervention to resolve:

	£m	£m	
Children's Social Care	4.4		} Locally- managed pressures
Education Transport	0.6		
Adults' Social Care	0.5		
Other Service Pressures	0.1		
		5.6	
Pay Award 2.5% budgeted -> 6.1% (net of Better Care Fund) based on National Pay Bargaining	3.0		} Externally- imposed pressures
Non-pay Inflation, in particular Energy & Utilities	1.2		
Impact of rising Interest Rates on Treasury Management	2.1		
		6.3	
		<b>11.9</b>	

The 53% that are externally-imposed pressures is mirrored without exception by the experiences of other peer unitary authorities that have been contacted recently via the Society of Unitary Treasurers. This has been further highlighted in the press and media in recent days by the Institute for Fiscal Studies, *The Municipal Journal* and *Public Finance*.

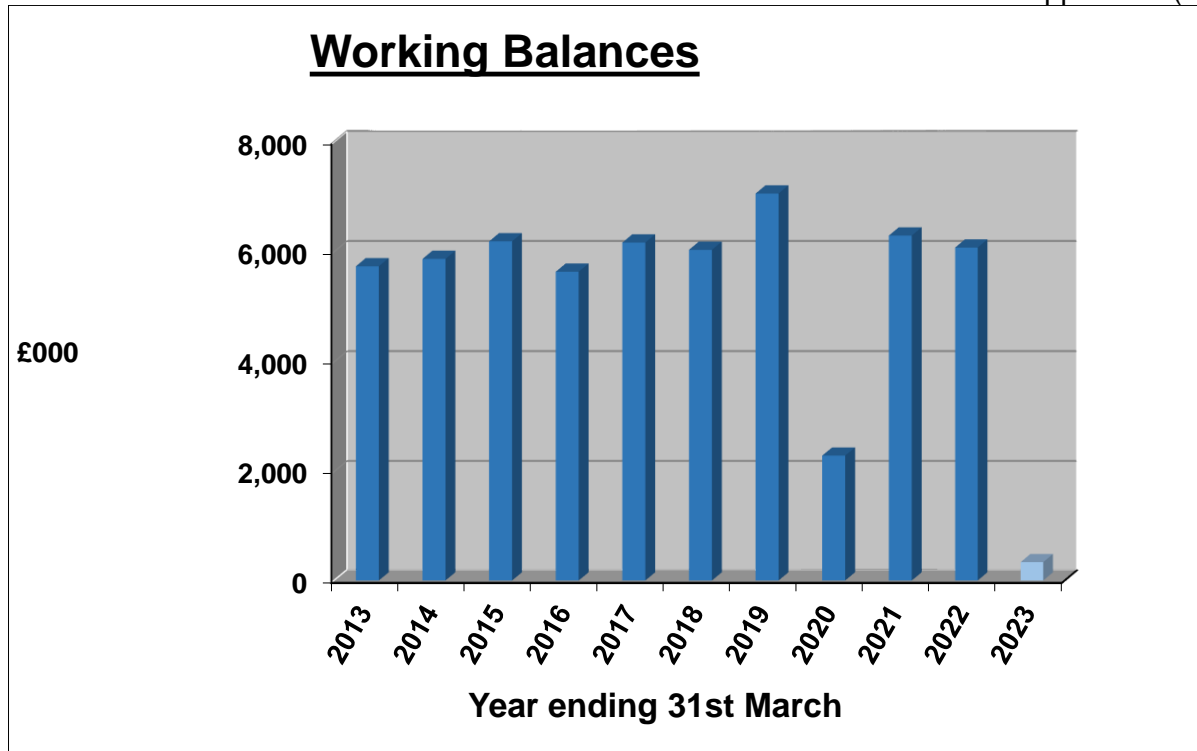
- 3.2 At its meeting on 8 November 2021 the Executive approved the Medium Term Financial Sustainability Strategy for 2021/22 to 2026/27. As part of the Strategy it was agreed that due to the current level of financial risk and volatility the roll forward of the service budget under and overspends is suspended in order that finances can be managed more strategically at corporate level. The exception to this is that the underspending of £71k in respect of the scheme commitments on Ward Budgets will be carried forward to 2022/23 in full and this will be reflected in Summary financial statements.
- 3.3 The full-year forecast position at this stage of 2022/23 shows a deterioration in the Council's financial standing when compared with the estimated draft unaudited position as at the close of 2021/22 which show working balances of £6,075k. Working balances are expected to fall to a surplus of £336k by the end of 2022/23 after taking account of the budgeted transfer of £6,138k to working balances. However, this is early in the financial year and plans are still being developed to address the 2022/23 savings targets and also the in-year pressures identified in this report.
- 3.4 The Council's Revenue Budget for 2022/23 set a target level of General Fund working balances of around £6m. It is deemed appropriate to maintain this target level of £6m for working balances for the medium term.
- 3.5 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 4 forecast overspend of **£11,877k** for 2022/23 are summarised below:-

Directorate	Service	Forecast Variance £000
Children's Services	An overspend of £4,988k is forecast. Children's Social Care is forecasting an overspend of £4,391k due to increased costs of external placements, agency staff and the demand for social care. By July 2022 LAC numbers stand at <b>603</b> which is a reduction of 13 compared to the previous month with early indications that this positive trajectory is set to continue. There is expected to be an overspend in Education of £641k. £566k of this is partly due to demand pressures in Transport Services and partly due to a historical savings target that was not achieved and other variances within the service of £75k relating to some one-off spend on a commissioning contract. Early Help for Children is expected to underspend by £47k due to vacant posts across the service.	4,988
Contingencies and Reserves	The original Contingencies approved Cash Limited Budget was £10,260k. Movements out of Contingencies since the beginning of the financial year have been reflected in Services Cash Limited Budgets and the remaining Contingency budget is now £3,601k. At month 4 there is a forecast pressure of £4,169k in Contingencies relating to an assumption that pay will increase by 6.1% (compared to the 2.5% currently allocated) at an additional cost of £2,971k (net of Better Care Fund) based on National Pay Bargaining and an early estimate that non-pay inflationary costs (covering gas, electricity and street lighting energy) will exceed the current allocation by £1,198k.	4,169
Budgets Outside the Cash Limit	An overspend of £2,108k is forecast. Treasury Management is forecasting an overspend of £2,114k including £742k savings target that will not be met in 2022/23. The Council is currently using temporary and long-term borrowing to finance prudentially-funded capital expenditure. With increasing borrowing rates the Treasury Management Panel has decided to fix £125m of temporary borrowing in order to mitigate the impacts of further interest rate rises. The Business Loans Fund has a savings target of £3,309k and is forecasting a pressure of £1,446k due to increases in interest rates and slippage in business loans awarded. Following a review of the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), which was approved by the Executive on 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2021, a total of £6.7m of saving has been forecast to be achieved in 2022/23. Parking Services is forecasting an overspend of £134k for 2022/23. This is as a consequence of lost parking spaces due to regeneration projects, with the effect reduced by an increase in charges. Concessionary Fares is forecasting an underspend of £40k based on paying the compensation rate as per Department for Transport (DFT)	2,108

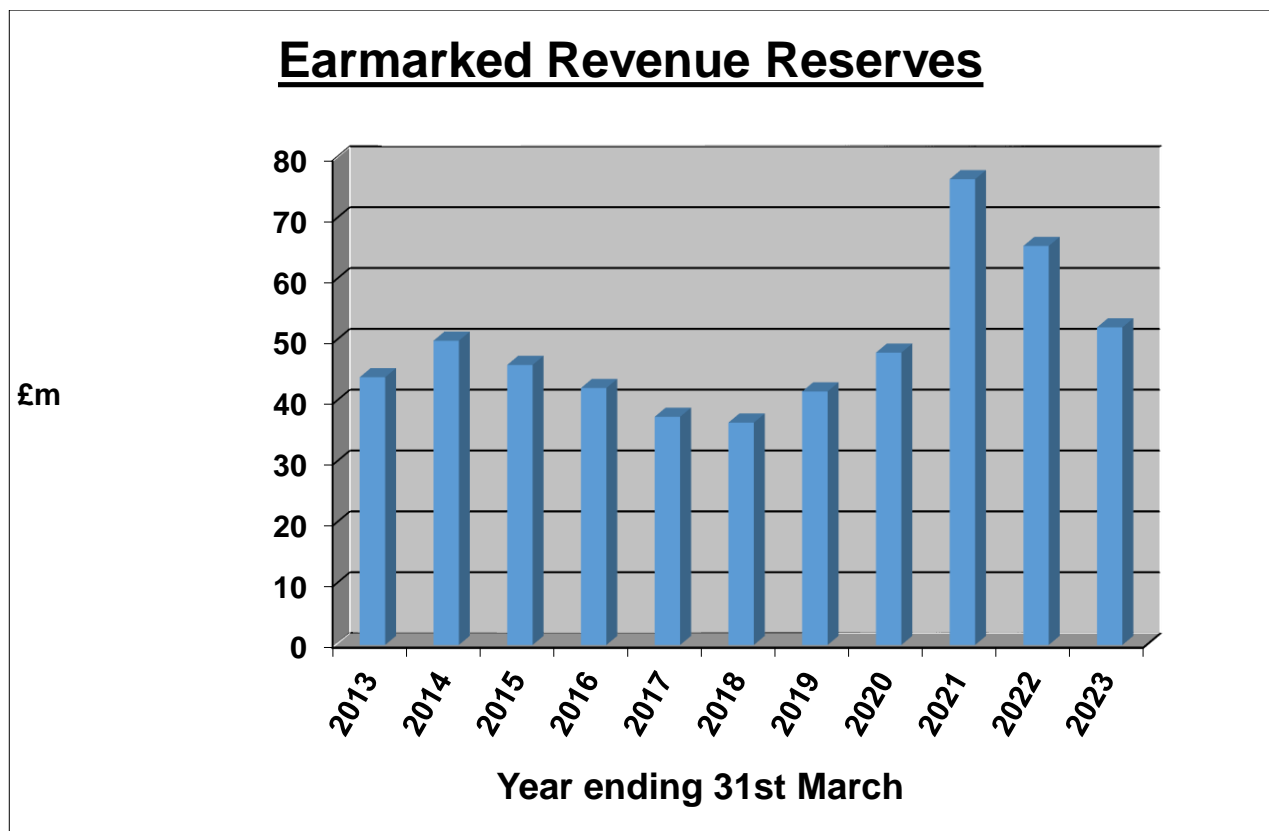
	guidance till March 2023.	
Adult Services	An overspend of £498k is forecast. Adult Commissioning Placements is forecasting a £466k overspend on a £50m gross expenditure budget. Forecasted pressures within Complex Cases, Residential placements and Nursing placements are being partly offset by Discharge to Assess (D2A) recharges to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) for the first 6 months of the year and savings on Homecare packages. Adults Safeguarding is forecasting an overspend of £32k due to pressures on the Deprivation of Liberties (DoLS) assessments.	498
Communications and Regeneration	An overspend of £198k is forecast. Visit Blackpool is expecting a pressure of £74k pressure relating to increased marketing costs for which there is not expected to be any increase in income. Economic Development and Cultural Services is currently forecasting an overspend of £124k relating to the 2% Directorate saving target towards which no savings have been identified.	198
Governance and Partnership Services	An overspend of £113k is forecast. Corporate Legal Services is expecting a £100k overspend in Children's Legal Services due to the large number of complex cases. A net pressure of £13k relates to legal costs offset by additional income and savings in staffing. Ward budgets are expected to break-even.	113
Growth and Prosperity	A break-even position is forecast. The Executive at its meeting on 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 agreed to the approach to transition out the Growth and Prosperity net revenue budget target over a 2-year period, 2022/23-23/24, with any proceeds subsequently realised from the existing work programme being directed to bolstering reserves and any new proceeds being retained by Growth and Prosperity for their re-investment.	Nil
Chief Executive	A break-even position is forecast.	Nil
Strategic Leisure Assets	Strategic Leisure Assets is forecasting a pressure of £104k relating to new approved developments since the budget process. In accordance with the original decision for this programme by the Executive on 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2011 the projected overspend on Strategic Leisure Assets of £104k (excluding Covid costs) will be carried forward and transferred to Earmarked Reserves. The forecast cumulative deficit as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023 is £10,822k after accounting adjustments in 2021/22. The Leisure Assets medium-term financial plan currently expects the service to break-even, in-year, in 2025/26.	Nil
Community and Environmental Services	A break-even position is forecast. The Leisure and Catering service is forecasting a pressure of £200k. Leisure Centres are reporting income pressures of £460k; this, however, is	Nil

	reduced by £260k due to savings of £220k within staffing and additional grant income of £40k. Highways and Traffic Management Services are forecasting an underspend of £45k due to staff vacancies. Waste Services are reporting an underspend of £75k as a result of Trade Waste forecasting increased income of £100k, partially offset by a forecast pressure of £25k within Public Conveniences relating to an inflationary uplift applied to the contract, which is not within the budget. Public Protection is currently forecasting a saving of £80k due to staff vacancies.	
Public Health	A break-even position is forecast. The Public Health team are supporting 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 £1,024k in 2022/23 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 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
Resources	An underspend of £197k is forecast. Property Services are forecasting an underspend of £167k against a gross budget of £12.18m. An improvement due to new lease agreements. £30k net savings relate to vacancy savings across services, a restructure in Accountancy and additional income generation.	(197)
<b>Total</b>		<b>11,877</b>

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



- 3.7 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 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, is shown below:



### 3.8 Earmarked Revenue Reserves (ERR)

#### Provisional Available Earmarked Reserves

	£m
Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	65.575
Less: Strategic Leisure Assets non-Covid element of overspend	(0.104)
Less: Recurrent Gap funding underwritten by ERR	(2.987)
Less: Transfers from ERR per budget book	(0.627)
Plus: Use of Reserves in 2021/22	0.205
Less: Use of Reserves in month 1, 2, 3 and 4	(6.545)
Add: Contingency Contribution to Insurance and NNDR reserve	<u>1.850</u>
Forecast Available Earmarked Revenue Reserves as at Month 4 2022/23	<u>57.367</u>
Forecast Available Earmarked Revenue Reserves as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023 (Estimate of movement in services reserves)	<u>52.200</u>

#### Provisional Other Earmarked Reserves

Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	8.400
Less: Use to fund NNDR deficit in 2022/23	<u>(8.400)</u>
Forecast Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	<u>Nil</u>

### 4.0 Covid-19

- 4.1 The current forecast effect on the Council's 2022/23 outturn due to the effects of Covid stands at £1,024k gross. It has been assumed that this will be met from the Contain Outbreak Management fund.

### 5.0 Budget Savings

- 5.1 Appendix 3 comprises a summary schedule showing the progress made by directorates in achieving their revenue budget savings targets for 2022/23 which total £8,629k. As at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022 49% of the 2022/23 savings target has already been delivered. The full-year forecast predicts that 91% will be achieved by the year-end. However, £1,003k of the saving is yet to be found recurrently from 2023/24 and this is being reviewed as part of the budget process. 92% of the non-recurrent saving has been delivered and it is expected that 100% of the non-recurrent saving will be achieved by the year-end.

The areas involved are as follows:–

Communications & Regeneration	61k	Prudential borrowing removal of service budget following end of schemes
Strategic Leisure Assets	200k	Marketing budget one-off contribution
Treasury Management	742k	Interest rate re-assessment



## 6.0 Collection Rates

### 6.1 Council Tax

At the end of month 4 the amount collected for Council Tax (excluding Police and Fire precepts) was £21.7m and the collection rate was **33.3%**. This compares to £20.9m and 33.3% at the same point in 2021/22. The amount collected has risen by £0.8m which is mainly due to increases in both the Council Tax rate and base.

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 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022 as part of the setting of the Council Tax Base for 2022/23.

### 6.2 Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)

The Council Tax Reduction Scheme was introduced on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013. It is approved annually to ensure that a local Council Tax Reduction Scheme is in place by the start of the following financial year thereby avoiding the financial risks associated with the Government imposed default Scheme. The 2022/23 scheme was approved by the Executive on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021. 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. In recent years the scheme has been amended so that certain vulnerable groups would have the 27.11% reduced to 13.56%. In addition, amendments have been made to provide additional support for certain low income groups of claimants or partners so that they would also have the 27.11% reduced to 13.56%. 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. These have the effect of reducing the amount to be collected.

At the end of month 4 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 £0.98m and the collection rate was **23.7%**. This compares to £1.14m and 25.1% at the same point in 2021/22.

The likely impact for 2022/23 is that the underlying rate of collection of Council Tax Reduction Scheme will be under greater pressure than 2021/22 due to accumulated arrears, limits on the amount that can be recovered from Attachment of Benefits, the impact of Covid and the ending of both furlough payments and the temporary £20 uplift to Universal Credit in 2021/22.

### 6.3 Business Rates

Prior to 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> 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 increased 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 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 the income relating to Blackpool is shared between central government (25%), the Council (73.5%) and the Fire Authority (1.5%).

From 1<sup>st</sup> 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 4 the amount collected for Business Rates was £15.0m and the collection rate was **34.9%**. This compares to £7.4m and 23.4% at the same point in 2021/22. 2021/22 excludes the significant s31 'Extended Retail/Nurseries etc.' relief provided by central government which provided 3 months' relief (April 2021 to June 2021) at 100% and 9 months' relief (July 2021 to March 2022) at 66%. This relief reduces to 50% in 2022/23. 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. 709 business rate summonses were issued in the 4 months to the end of July 2022.

Subject to audit, the Business Rate cumulative deficit as at 31<sup>st</sup> 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 has been 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 have been applied in 2021/22 to the Collection Fund. This caused Earmarked Revenue Reserves to be overstated at year-end.

Subject to audit, the Business Rate cumulative deficit as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 was £14,049k. The Council's share of this deficit is £6,884k (49% of deficit). The 2021/22 deficit will be offset by the s31 'Extended Retail/Nurseries etc.' relief provided by central government.

In 2021/22 s31 grants for Business Rate Reliefs totalling £8,400k were received which are to be applied in 2022/23 to the Collection Fund. This has been treated as a separate Earmarked Revenue Reserve in 2021/22.

## **7. Capital Monitoring Performance**

7.1 All active capital schemes have been included within Appendix 4. 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 2022.

The month 4 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 2022/23 capital programme.

- 7.3 As at month 4 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, had gone into administration, the Council worked with the appointed administrators, PwC, and partners to develop options for the completion of the Foxhall Village scheme. The reported overspend of £1.8m reflects the current optimistic estimate which is subject to ongoing negotiations with partners including Homes England. The £135k funding gap, as a result of inflation, for the Library/Grundy Art Galley roof will be met by additional surplus top-slice funding.
- 7.4 The current economic climate is the most challenging of recent times. High inflation, supply chain issues (particularly in relation to steel) and a lack of labour are leading to increased costs, primarily on capital schemes that are likely to span a number of years. A full review of capital schemes is therefore to be undertaken to establish any schemes where approved budgets may become insufficient, and potential overspends identified. Despite the pressures, all schemes are assumed to proceed.

## **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 5. This provides a comparison of the actual cash receipts and payments compared to forecast for 2022/23.
- 8.2 During the first 4 months of the year the Council's net cashflow has resulted in a decrease in short-term net investment/borrowing balances due to the receipt of up-front grant income in the new financial year. The Council has been predominantly using temporary borrowing to finance prudentially-funded capital expenditure and in order to mitigate the impacts of any future base rate rises is fixing £125m of temporary borrowing in August 2022.

## **9. Summary Balance Sheet**

- 9.1 In order to provide a complete picture of the Council's financial performance Appendix 6 provides a snapshot of the General Fund balance sheet as at the end of month 4. 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 There is currently a consultation underway regarding the accounting treatment of infrastructure assets which has meant that the 2020/21 accounts have still not been signed off by the Council's external auditors. As soon as the consultation is complete the 2020/21 accounts will require amendment which will in turn affect the 2021/22 and 2022/23 balance sheet, therefore the figures should be treated as draft and will be subject to change.
- 9.3 Over the 4-month period there has been an increase in Property, Plant and Equipment of £13.4m due to capital expenditure which is in line with the Council's approved capital programme for 2022/23. There has been a decrease in Temporary Borrowing of £45.1m

and a decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents of £31.6m due to the timing of capital and revenue grants.

## 10. Medium Term Financial Plan Update and Earmarked Reserves Forecast

- 10.1 The 6-year Medium Term Financial Sustainability Strategy (MTFSS) covering 2021/22 – 2026/27 was approved by the Executive on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and whilst the principles still stand the current economic climate has had a significant impact on the supporting Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).
- 10.2 The continuing impact of Covid-19 on Council services through additional expenditure and reducing income, alongside inflationary pressures on both pay and prices not seen since the 1970s due at least in part to the war in Ukraine, and the effect of the cost of living crisis on demand for Council services have now altered the outlook for the worse, and created a great deal of additional uncertainty. Recent years have also seen a significant growth in demand for Children’s Social Care nationally which has also been experienced in Blackpool. Challenges in recruitment and retention, and pressures in adult social care are also contributing to a situation in which Council finances are under considerable strain.
- 10.3 Following a detailed refresh of the MTFP the table below illustrates the impact the current conditions have had on the annual forecast budget gaps:

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	£m	£m	£m	£m
MTFP - Oct 2021	11.29	4.08	2.89	5.79
<b>MTFP - Sep 2022</b>	<b>33.49</b>	<b>7.44</b>	<b>6.35</b>	<b>7.30</b>
Variance	22.20	3.36	3.46	1.51
Treasury Management	8.81	1.22	1.12	1.08
Pay	3.18	(0.29)	0.04	0.16
Non-Pay Inflation	1.00	(1.83)	(0.05)	0.01
Externally-Imposed Pressures	12.99	(0.90)	1.11	1.25
Children's Social Care	7.85	5.10	2.61	0.52
Adults Social Care	6.92	1.12	1.67	1.77
Funding Assumptions	(5.90)	(1.91)	(1.93)	(2.03)
Other	0.34	(0.05)	0.00	0.00
Locally-Managed Pressures	9.21	4.26	2.35	0.26
Total	22.20	3.36	3.46	1.51

- 10.4 These financial pressures are compounded by repeated delays to Government reforms of Local Government finance such as **Page 66** business rates reset, and Fair Funding formula review implementation, which are expected to result in additional funding for Blackpool. Failure

to implement these measures has resulted in further financial pressures above those that would otherwise have been the case.

- 10.5 Despite consistently delivering a balanced budget in previous years, the factors outlined within this report have created a forecast budget gap that the Council will struggle to address without significant funding.
- 10.6 The revised MTFP identifies for planning purposes a financial gap of c£33m in 2023/24m reducing to c£7m in 2024/25, c£6m in 2025/26 and £7m in 2026/27. Given the level of uncertainty, a number of assumptions have had to be made, and these will need to be revised throughout the budget planning process, and in advance of setting the budget at Council in February 2023.
- 10.7 As part of this budget planning process a detailed exercise has also been undertaken on Earmarked Revenue Reserves to check the validity of amounts held and a forecast of when funds will be drawn down covering the same period as the latest MTFSS. A summary table is shown below:

Earmarked Revenue Reserves Summary						
	Draft 31/03/22	Est Balance 31/3/23	Est Balance 31/3/24	Est Balance 31/3/25	Est Balance 31/3/26	Est Balance 31/3/27
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>Total</b>	(65.5)	(52.2)	(44.7)	(42.5)	(42.0)	(41.4)

## 11. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 11.1 The Council's Revenue Budget for 2022/23 set a target level of General Fund working balances of around £6m. However, given the current economic climate it is recommended that this is increased to £8.0m from 2023/24 being 5% of the net requirement. Earmarked revenue reserves at the start of the financial year stood at £65.6m, though with known in-year commitments against this the balance will fall to an estimated £52.2m by the end of the year. This is still 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 2m).
- 11.2 If the 2022/23 forecast position became the actual outturn, then in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules within its Constitution the forecast revenue outturn 2022/23 within this report contravenes both of the two specific conditions that excess spending does not:
1. exceed 1% (= £5m) of the authority's total gross revenue expenditure; or
  2. have the effect of reducing the authority's Working Balances below 50% of their normal target level (= £3m).

However, these are still unprecedented times for the whole of the local government sector and in the context of relatively healthy levels of Earmarked Revenue Reserves per CIPFA's Financial Resilience Index and with 8 months of the financial year still remaining officers are working continuously to improve the position - revised service and financial plans are being developed including the review of technical accounting treatments, freezing of non-essential spend, delays to filling non-time vacancies and the prospective redesignation of earmarked reserves should they need to be used.

11.3 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 Children's Services, Treasury Management and Growth and Prosperity.
3. To prompt the Scrutiny Leadership Board to continue to independently review the financial and operational performances of the services listed in 2.2.
4. To continue to lobby central government (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Department for Health and Social Care 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 burdens and demands presenting as a result of exceptional inflationary pressures and demographic demands upon statutory services.
5. To approve that the £135,000 funding gap for the Library/Grundy Art Gallery roof will be met by additional surplus top-slice funding.
6. To work towards increased target working balances of £8m from £6m with formal effect from the start of financial year 2023/24.

Steve Thompson  
Director of Resources  
29<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## Blackpool Council

## Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

BLACKPOOL COUNCIL														
FORECAST GENERAL FUND POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2023														
SUMMARY														
APP.	GENERAL FUND NET REQUIREMENTS	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE						
		ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	2022/23 PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID £000	GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	COVID-19 CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	NET £000	
2(a)	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	1,593	(1,456)	3,049	1,593	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(b)	GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	1,883	427	1,569	1,996	113	-	113	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(b/c)	WARD BUDGETS	361	(22)	383	361	-	(71)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(d)	RESOURCES	1,903	(8,587)	10,293	1,706	(197)	-	(197)	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(e)	COMMUNICATIONS AND REGENERATION	3,508	1,696	2,010	3,706	198	-	198	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(f)	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS	1,992	331	1,765	2,096	104	-	104	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(g)	STRATEGIC LEISURE ASSETS - TRANSFER FROM RESERVES	-	-	(104)	(104)	(104)	-	(104)	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(g)	GROWTH & PROSPERITY	(6,007)	(243)	(5,764)	(6,007)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(g)	GROWTH & PROSPERITY - TRANSFER FROM RESERVES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(h)	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	45,818	7,002	38,816	45,818	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(i)	ADULT SERVICES	66,033	21,091	45,440	66,531	498	-	498	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(j)	CHILDREN'S SERVICES	63,941	16,149	52,780	68,929	4,988	-	4,988	-	-	-	-	-	-
2(k)	PUBLIC HEALTH	6	(27,508)	27,514	6	-	-	1,024	(1,024)	-	-	-	-	-
2(l)	BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT	1,923	84	3,947	4,031	2,108	-	2,108	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CAPITAL CHARGES	(29,589)	(9,863)	(19,726)	(29,589)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NET COST OF SERVICES:	153,365	(899)	161,972	161,073	7,708	(71)	7,708	1,024	(1,024)	-	-	-	-
	CONTRIBUTIONS:													
	- TO / (FROM) RESERVES	(3,614)	-	(3,614)	(3,614)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	- 2021/22 SERVICE OVER/(UNDERSPENDS)	(71)	-	(71)	(71)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	- REVENUE CONSEQUENCES OF CAPITAL OUTLAY	400	-	400	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	- CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	- SALES, FEES & CHARGES - COVID COMPENSATION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CONTINGENCIES	3,601	-	7,770	7,770	4,169	-	4,169	-	-	-	-	-	-
	LEVIES	457	-	457	457	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CONTRIBUTIONS, etc.	773	-	4,942	4,942	4,169	-	4,169	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE TO BE MET FROM PUBLIC FUNDS	154,138	(899)	166,914	166,015	11,877	-	11,877	1,024	(1,024)	-	-	-	-
	ADDED TO/(TAKEN FROM) BALANCES	6,138	-	(5,739)	(5,739)	(11,877)	-	(11,877)	(1,024)	1,024	-	-	-	-
	NET REQUIREMENT AFTER WORKING BALANCES	160,276	(899)	161,175	160,276	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	GENERAL BALANCES AS AT 1st APRIL 2022 PER UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2021/22						6,075	6,075	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Budgeted In-year (reduction in) / addition to General Fund Working Balances						6,138	6,138	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Forecast In-year (reduction in) / addition to General Fund Working Balances						(11,877)	(11,877)	(1,024)	1,024	-	-	-	-
	ESTIMATED UNEARMARKED WORKING BALANCES AS AT 31st MARCH 2023						336	336	(1,024)	1,024	-	-	-	-

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## Blackpool Council - Chief Executive

### Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR-JUL £000	2022/23		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
CHIEF EXECUTIVE												
NET EXPENDITURE												
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	647	283	364	647	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HUMAN RESOURCES, ORGANISATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	65	(912)	977	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHIEF EXECUTIVE TOTAL	712	(629)	1,341	712	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CORPORATE DELIVERY UNIT	176	(1,306)	1,482	176	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HOUSING	705	479	226	705	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE	881	(827)	1,708	881	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1,593	(1,456)	3,049	1,593	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

### 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 4 months of 2022/23 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 currently forecasting a break-even position.

#### Corporate Delivery Unit

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

#### Housing

This service is currently forecasting a break even position.

#### Budget Holder – Mr N Jack, Chief Executive

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## Blackpool Council – Governance and Partnership Services

### Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE				
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR-JUL £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000	FORECAST OUTTURN £000	F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000		NON-COVID	COVID-19			
							GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	NET £000
GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES											
NET EXPENDITURE											
DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE	2,192	1,511	681	2,192	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CORPORATE LEGAL SERVICES	46	(1,051)	1,197	146	100	-	100	-	-	-	-
INFORMATION GOVERNANCE	21	(161)	175	14	(7)	-	(7)	-	-	-	-
LIFE EVENTS & CUSTOMER CARE	(376)	128	(484)	(356)	20	-	20	-	-	-	-
GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIP SERVICES	1,883	427	1,569	1,996	113	-	113	-	-	-	-
WARDS	361	(22)	383	361	-	(71)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2,244	405	1,952	2,357	113	(71)	113	-	-	-	-

### 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 4 months of 2022/23 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.

#### Democratic Governance Service

The Democratic Governance Service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

#### Corporate Legal Services

This service is forecasting an overspend of £100k. This 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 an underspend of £7k due to some additional income and savings in staffing.

#### Life Events & Customer Care

This service is forecasting a £20k overspend. This is due to legal costs.

#### Ward Budgets

The underspend from 2021/22 of £71k has been brought forward as per the Executive decision of the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Ward budgets are expected to break-even in 2022/23.

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

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**Blackpool Council**  
**Ward Budgets**  
**2022/23**  
**Month 4**

## Wards

Ward	Councillors	Total No. of Requisitions Submitted	No. of Requisitions Approved	No. Awaiting Approval	Total No. of Requisitions Completed	Total 2022-23 Budget	2022-23 Budget Committed to Approved Schemes	Remaining 2022-23 Budget
Anchorsholme Ward BC1001/BC1101	Cllr. Galley Cllr. A Williams	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£10,000.00 £9,999.99	£0.00 £0.00	£10,000.00 £9,999.99
Bispham Ward BC1002/BC1102	Cllr. Clapham Cllr. Wilshaw	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	£7,538.38 £7,538.38	£100.00 £100.00	£7,438.38 £7,438.38
Bloomfield Ward BC1003/BC1103	Cllr. Cain Cllr. Hobson	1 7	1 7	0 0	0 0	£9,102.68 £10,000.00	£395.00 £1,810.00	£8,707.68 £8,190.00
Brunswick Ward BC1004/BC1104	Cllr. Blackburn Cllr. G Coleman	2 1	2 1	0 0	0 0	£10,000.00 £10,000.00	£9,923.85 £1,650.00	£76.15 £8,350.00
Claremont Ward BC1005/BC1105	Cllr. Taylor Cllr. L Williams	4 4	4 4	0 0	0 0	£8,503.80 £9,483.81	£946.25 £946.25	£7,557.55 £8,537.56
Clifton Ward BC1006/BC1106	Cllr. Burdess Cllr. Hutton	4 1	4 1	0 0	0 0	£7,856.75 £9,056.76	£2,587.50 £1,000.00	£5,269.25 £8,056.76
Greenlands Ward BC1007/BC1107	Cllr. R Scott	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	£8,338.68 £8,338.69	£494.33 £494.33	£7,844.35 £7,844.36
Hawes Side Ward BC1008/BC1108	Cllr. Brookes Cllr. Critchley	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	£7,985.04 £9,570.05	£2,769.60 £2,769.60	£5,215.44 £6,800.45
Highfield Ward BC1009/BC1109	Cllr. Hunter Cllr. B Mitchell	1 0	1 0	0 0	0 0	£9,720.93 £10,000.00	£200.00 £0.00	£9,520.93 £10,000.00
Ingthorpe Ward BC1010/BC1110	Cllr. Cross Cllr. Farrell	0 1	0 1	0 0	0 0	£9,690.97 £9,500.87	£0.00 £237.51	£9,690.97 £9,263.36
Layton Ward BC1011/BC1111	Cllr. Mrs Benson Cllr. M Mitchell	4 2	4 2	0 0	0 0	£9,271.36 £7,741.36	£1,430.00 £500.00	£7,841.36 £7,241.36
Marton Ward BC1012/BC1112	Cllr. D Coleman Cllr. Stansfield	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£9,926.93 £9,926.93	£0.00 £0.00	£9,926.93 £9,926.93
Norbreck Ward BC1013/BC1113	Cllr. Mrs Callow Cllr. Sloman	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	£10,000.00 £10,000.00	£100.00 £100.00	£9,900.00 £9,900.00
Park Ward BC1014/BC1114	Cllr. Campbell Cllr. Kirkland	2 2	2 2	0 0	0 0	£9,978.72 £9,978.72	£962.28 £971.28	£9,016.44 £9,007.44
Squires Gate Ward BC1015/BC1115	Cllr. Cox Cllr. Walsh	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	£8,228.65 £8,228.65	£712.50 £712.50	£7,516.15 £7,516.15
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	4 4	4 4	0 0	0 0	£8,352.72 £8,352.71	£2,347.69 £2,347.69	£6,005.03 £6,005.02
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	4 3	4 3	0 0	0 0	£8,597.46 £8,777.47	£742.99 £442.99	£7,854.47 £8,334.48
Warbreck Ward BC1020/BC1120	Cllr. D Scott Cllr. Mrs M Scott	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£8,340.30 £8,340.30	£0.00 £0.00	£8,340.30 £8,340.30
Waterloo Ward BC1021/BC1121	Cllr. O'Hara Cllr. Robertson BEM	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	£10,000.00 £10,000.00	£0.00 £0.00	£10,000.00 £10,000.00

<b>Ward Totals</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>£386,268.06</b>	<b>£37,794.14</b>	<b>£348,473.92</b>
<b>Unallocated Budget</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(£25,000.00)</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>(£25,000.00)</b>
<b>Income Budget</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>Area Ward Totals</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>£361,268.06</b>	<b>£37,794.14</b>	<b>£323,473.92</b>

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## Blackpool Council - Resources

### Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	2022/23		F/CAST FULL YEAR VAR. (UNDER) / OVER £000	NON-COVID £000		COVID-19					
		EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	PROJECTED SPEND £000				FORECAST OUTTURN £000	GROSS £000	DIRECT SERVICE GRANTS £000	CCG CONTRIBUTION £000	SALES, FEES & CHARGES £000	NET £000
<b>RESOURCES</b>												
<b>NET EXPENDITURE</b>												
PROCUREMENT & EXCHEQUER SERVICES	56	(389)	420	31	(25)	-	(25)	-	-	-	-	-
BENEFITS	(1,368)	(2,612)	1,244	(1,368)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REVENUES SERVICES	1,604	1,257	347	1,604	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CUSTOMER FIRST	(18)	(506)	502	(4)	14	-	14	-	-	-	-	-
ICT SERVICES	19	(2,213)	2,232	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ACCOUNTANCY	131	(587)	634	47	(84)	-	(84)	-	-	-	-	-
RISK SERVICES	(24)	(417)	444	27	51	-	51	-	-	-	-	-
PROPERTY SERVICES (Incl. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO)	1,426	(3,129)	4,388	1,259	(167)	-	(167)	-	-	-	-	-
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY	77	9	82	91	14	-	14	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,903</b>	<b>(8,587)</b>	<b>10,293</b>	<b>1,706</b>	<b>(197)</b>	-	<b>(197)</b>	-	-	-	-	-

### 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 4 months of 2022/23 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

#### Procurement and Exchequer Services

Procurement and Exchequer Services are forecasting an underspend of £25k due to additional income in relation to; Town Deal, Opportunity Area and Practical Support (PH) and staff vacancy savings.

#### Benefits

The Benefits Service is forecasting a break-even position. Monthly Housing Benefit new claims processing figures for July was 25 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 8 days

#### Revenue Services

Revenue Services are forecasting a break-even position on a gross budget of £2.37m.

#### Customer First

Customer First is forecasting an overspend of £14k against a gross budget of £1.01m. This is due to unachieved vacancy savings within the service.

#### ICT Services

ICT is forecasting a break-even position on a gross budget of £6.05m.

**Accountancy**

Accountancy is forecasting an underspend of £84k. Savings have been achieved through vacancy savings and a restructure of the service.

**Risk Services**

Risk Services are forecasting an overspend of £51k against a gross budget of £1.04m. This is due to unachieved vacancy savings within the service.

**Property Services (incl. Investment Portfolio)**

Property Services are forecasting an underspend of £167k against a gross budget of £12.18m. An improvement due to new lease agreements. The potential lease to be agreed for Flagstaff Garden food court will now be 2023/24.

**Equality and Diversity**

Equality and Diversity are forecasting an overspend of £14k. This is due to unachieved savings within the service.

**Summary of the revenue forecast**

After 4 months of the financial year Resources are forecasting a £197k underspend. 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 and Regeneration

## Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	2022/23		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	63	(73)	260	187	124	-	124	-	-	-	-	-
PLANNING	537	305	232	537	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOURISM AND COMMUNICATIONS	2,908	1,464	1,518	2,982	74	-	74	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3,508</b>	<b>1,696</b>	<b>2,010</b>	<b>3,706</b>	<b>198</b>	-	<b>198</b>	-	-	-	-	-

## 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 £198k overspend is based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2022/23 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.

### Economic Development and Cultural Services

This service is currently forecasting an overspend of £124k. The £124k is the 2% Directorate saving target towards which no savings have been identified.

### Planning

This service is expecting to break-even.

### Tourism & Communications

There is an expected pressure in this area of £74k.

As at month 4, there is a £74k pressure in the Visit Blackpool service that relates to increased marketing costs for which there is not expected to be any increase in income.

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

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## Blackpool Council – Strategic Leisure Assets

### Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE				
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	2022/23		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	1,992	331	1,765	2,096	104	-	104	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,992</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>1,765</b>	<b>2,096</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### 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 4 months of 2022/23 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

Strategic Leisure Assets are now reporting an in-year pressure of £104k. This is due to new approved developments since the budget process.

In accordance with the original decision for this programme by the Executive on 7th February 2011, the projected overspend on Strategic Leisure Assets of £104k (i.e. excluding Covid costs) will be carried forward and transferred to Earmarked Reserves. This brings the expected cumulative deficit as at 2022/23 to £10,822k after accounting adjustments in 2021/22.

The latest Leisure Assets medium-term financial plan currently expects the service to break-even, in-year, in 2025/26.

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

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## Blackpool Council – Growth and Prosperity

### Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	2022/23		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	
GROWTH & PROSPERITY												
NET EXPENDITURE												
GROWTH & PROSPERITY	(6,007)	(243)	(5,764)	(6,007)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	(6,007)	(243)	(5,764)	(6,007)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

### 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 4 months of 2022/23 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

As at month 4, the service is forecasting a break-even position.

The Executive, at its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021, agreed to the approach to transition out the Growth and Prosperity net revenue budget target over a 2-year period, 2022/23-23/24, with any proceeds subsequently realised from the existing work programme being directed to bolstering reserves and any new proceeds being retained by Growth and Prosperity for their re-investment.

**Budget Holder – Mr A Cavill, Director of Communications and Regeneration**

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## Blackpool Council – Community and Environmental Services

### Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND 8/FWD £000	VARIANCE					
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	2022/23		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
<b>COMMUNITY &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</b>												
<b>NET EXPENDITURE</b>												
BUSINESS SERVICES	(749)	229	(978)	(749)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LEISURE AND CATERING	4,475	4,276	399	4,675	200	-	200	-	-	-	-	-
PUBLIC PROTECTION	1,038	539	419	958	(80)	-	(80)	-	-	-	-	-
HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES	17,483	(2,337)	19,775	17,438	(45)	-	(45)	-	-	-	-	-
STREET CLEANSING AND WASTE	18,319	1,183	17,061	18,244	(75)	-	(75)	-	-	-	-	-
COASTAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS	4,098	1,759	2,339	4,098	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INTEGRATED TRANSPORT	1,154	1,353	(199)	1,154	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>45,818</b>	<b>7,002</b>	<b>38,816</b>	<b>45,818</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### 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 break-even outturn is based upon actual financial performance for the first 4 months of 2022/23 together with predictions of performance, anticipated pressures and efficiencies in the remainder of the financial year, all of which have been agreed with each head of service.

#### Business Services

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

#### Leisure and Catering

Leisure and Catering is currently forecasting a pressure of £200k. Leisure Centres are reporting income pressures of £460k, this, however, is reduced by £260k due to savings of £220k within staffing and additional grant income of £40k.

#### Public Protection

The service is currently forecasting a saving of £80k due to staff vacancies within Public Protection.

#### Highways and Traffic Management Services

This service is currently forecasting an underspend of £45k due to staff vacancies within Highways & Engineering.

#### Street Cleansing and Waste

Waste Services are reporting an underspend of £75k. Trade Waste is forecasting an increase in income of £100k, but there is a forecast pressure of £25k within Public Conveniences, where an inflationary uplift has been applied to the contract, which is not within the budget.

**Coastal and Environmental Partnerships**

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

**Integrated Transport**

This service is currently forecasting a break-even position.

**Conclusion – Community and Environmental Services financial position**

At the end of July 2022, the Community and Environmental Services Directorate is forecasting a break-even position. There are pressures within the Leisure service, but savings have been identified within the Directorate to mitigate this pressure.

**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		2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE						
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	2022/23		FORECAST OUTTURN £000	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	
ADULT SERVICES														
NET EXPENDITURE														
ADULT SOCIAL CARE	8,352	3,522	4,816	8,338	(14)	-	(14)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CARE & SUPPORT	6,566	2,962	3,618	6,580	14	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ADULT COMMISSIONING PLACEMENTS	50,419	14,475	36,410	50,885	466	-	466	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ADULT SAFEGUARDING	696	132	596	728	32	-	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	66,033	21,091	45,440	66,531	498	-	498	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

### 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 4 months of 2022/23 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 Social Care

Adult Social Care is forecasting an underspend of £14K due to slippage on vacant posts.

#### Adult Commissioning Placements (Social Care Packages)

The Adult Commissioning Placements budget is forecasting a £466k overspend on a £50m gross expenditure budget. Forecasted pressures within Complex Cases, Residential placements and Nursing placements are being partly offset by Discharge to Assess (D2A) recharges to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) for the first 6 months of the year and savings on Homecare packages.

#### Care and Support

Care and Support is forecasting an overspend of £14k due to staffing pressures in terms of overtime/extra duties/bank holiday payments and back dated regrades.

#### Adults Safeguarding

Adults safeguarding is forecasting an overspend of £32k due to pressures on the Deprivation of Liberties (DOLS) assessments.

#### Summary of the Adult Services financial position

As at the end of July 2022 the Adult Services Directorate is forecasting an overall overspend of £498k for the financial year to March 2023 on a gross budget of £66m.

Budget Holder – K Smith, Director of Adult Services

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## Blackpool Council – Children’s Services

### Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE			VARIANCE	2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE				
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £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
<b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b>											
<b>NET EXPENDITURE</b>											
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - ISB	98,414	6,613	91,801	98,414	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LOCAL SCHOOLS BUDGET - NON DELEGATED	276	93	118	211	(65)	(65)	-	-	-	-	-
EDUCATION	28,773	5,163	24,389	29,552	779	779	-	-	-	-	-
EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	182	61	121	182	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BUSINESS SUPPORT AND RESOURCES	8,760	3,505	5,255	8,760	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DEDICATED SCHOOL GRANT	(138,009)	(20,201)	(117,759)	(137,960)	49	49	-	-	-	-	-
CARRY FORWARD OF DSG UNDER/(OVER) SPEND	1,604	-	841	841	(763)	(763)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL DSG FUNDED SERVICES</b>	-	<b>(4,766)</b>	<b>4,766</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPRECIATION	2,203	-	2,203	2,203	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EDUCATION	3,377	1,209	2,809	4,018	641	641	-	-	-	-	-
EARLY HELP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	5,427	553	4,827	5,380	(47)	(47)	-	-	-	-	-
CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE	52,135	17,901	38,625	56,526	4,391	4,391	-	-	-	-	-
BUSINESS SUPPORT AND RESOURCES	983	1,252	(266)	986	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
LOCAL SERVICES SUPPORT GRANT	(18)	-	(18)	(18)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT	(166)	-	(166)	(166)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL COUNCIL FUNDED SERVICES</b>	<b>63,941</b>	<b>20,915</b>	<b>48,014</b>	<b>68,929</b>	<b>4,988</b>	<b>4,988</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>63,941</b>	<b>16,149</b>	<b>52,780</b>	<b>68,929</b>	<b>4,988</b>	<b>4,988</b>	-	-	-	-	-

### 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 4 months of 2022/23 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 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020 and also to develop the placements market and increase the capacity within internal fostering. The CSMTFS aimed to reverse the current trend and this investment alongside other service improvements aimed to ensure the service can pay back the budget increase by 2026/27.

However, Children’s Social Care Placements had a worsening position since May 2020 of £2,827k, mainly due to the additional support required following the breakdown of high cost placements and New to Care Placements offsetting the work to step Children down coming in at a greater pace than expected. There is an intention to review the assumptions within the CSMTFS as both the numbers and unit costs have diverted from the original plan. There was also an additional target to bring savings forward of £500k and if the current agency employees remain in post for the full financial year, this will add £1,064k to the forecast.

## **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 2023/24 and, in the case of overspends, become the first call on the grant in that year.

### **Education**

There is expected to be an overspend of £566k against Children's Transport Service partly due to demand pressures and partly due to a historical savings target that wasn't achieved and other variances within the service of £75k relating to some one-off spend on a commissioning contract.

### **Early Help**

The Early Help Service is expected to underspend by £47k mainly due to vacant posts across the service.

## **Summary of the Children's Services financial position**

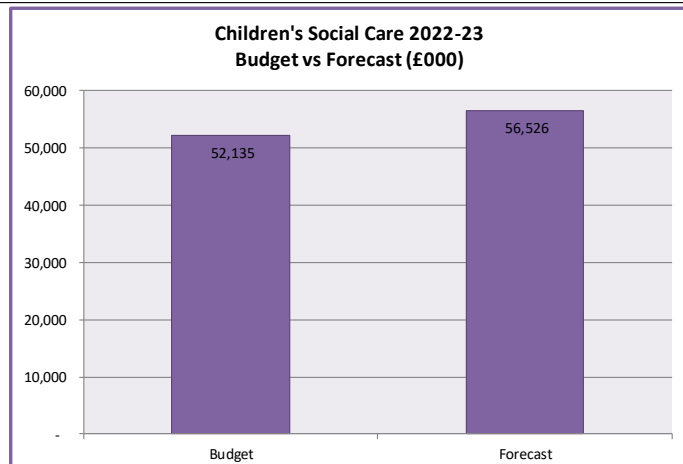
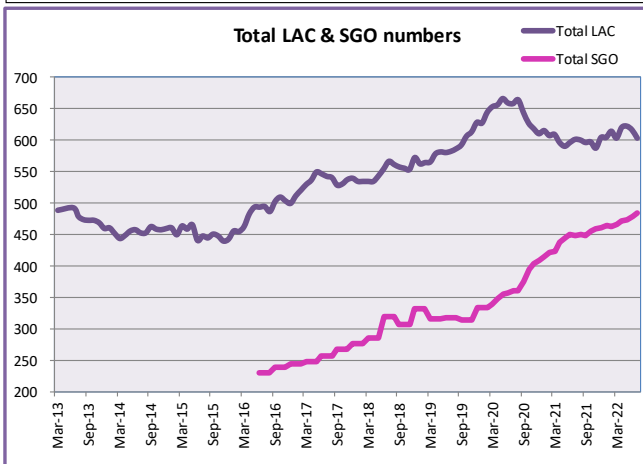
As at the end of July 2022 the Children's Services Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £4,988k for the financial year to March 2023.

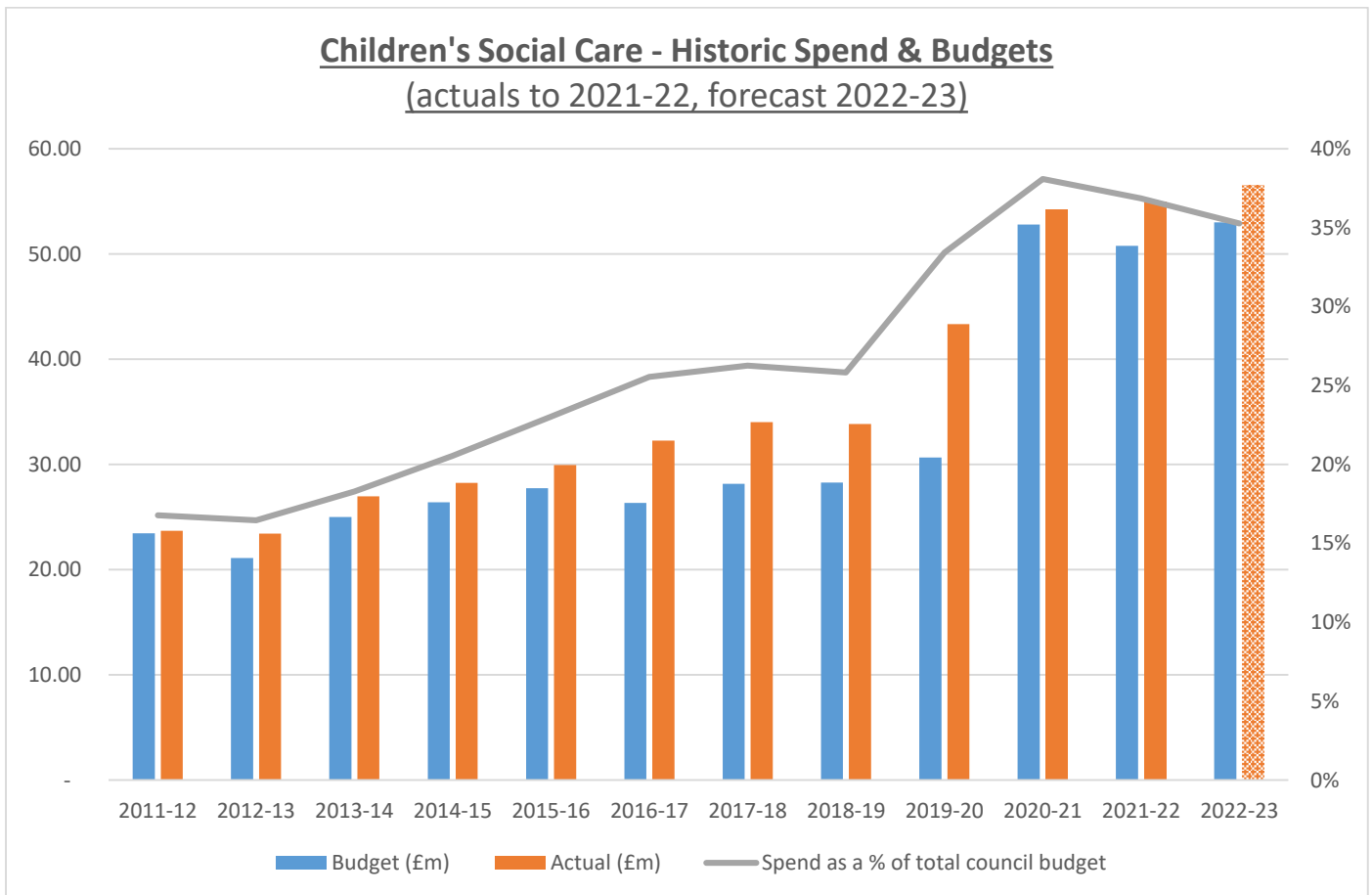
**Budget Holder – Victoria Gent, Director of Children's Services**

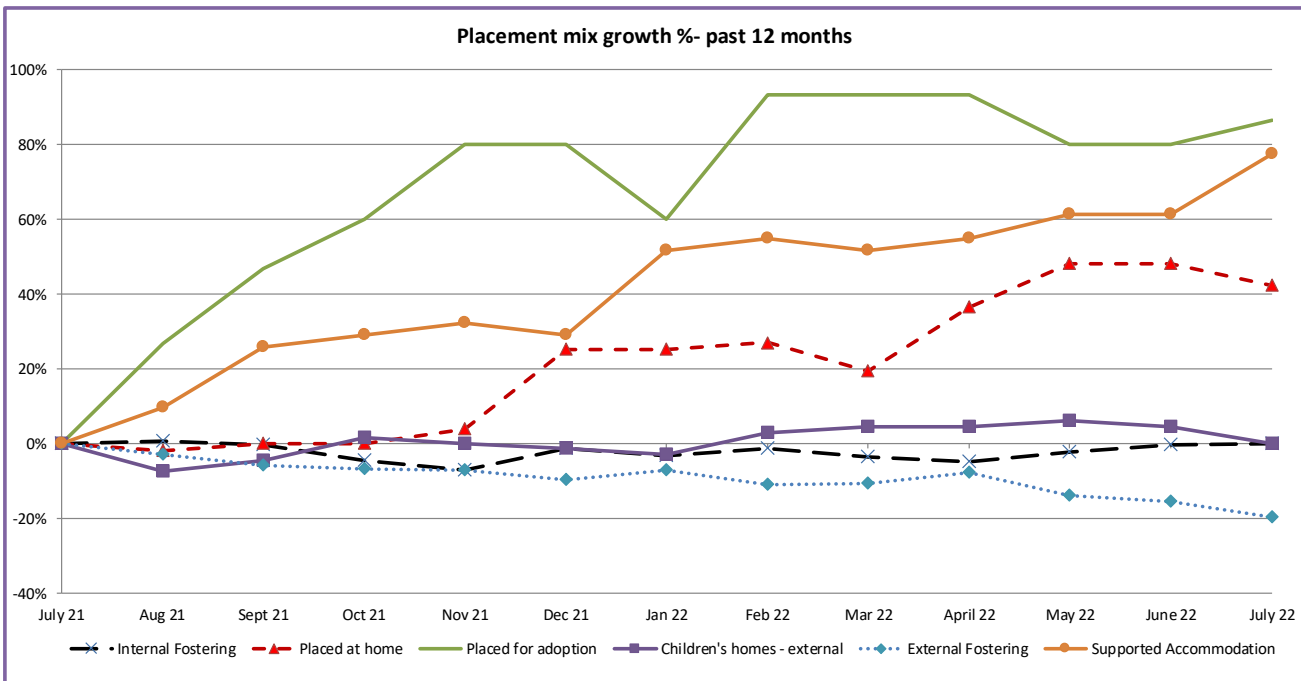
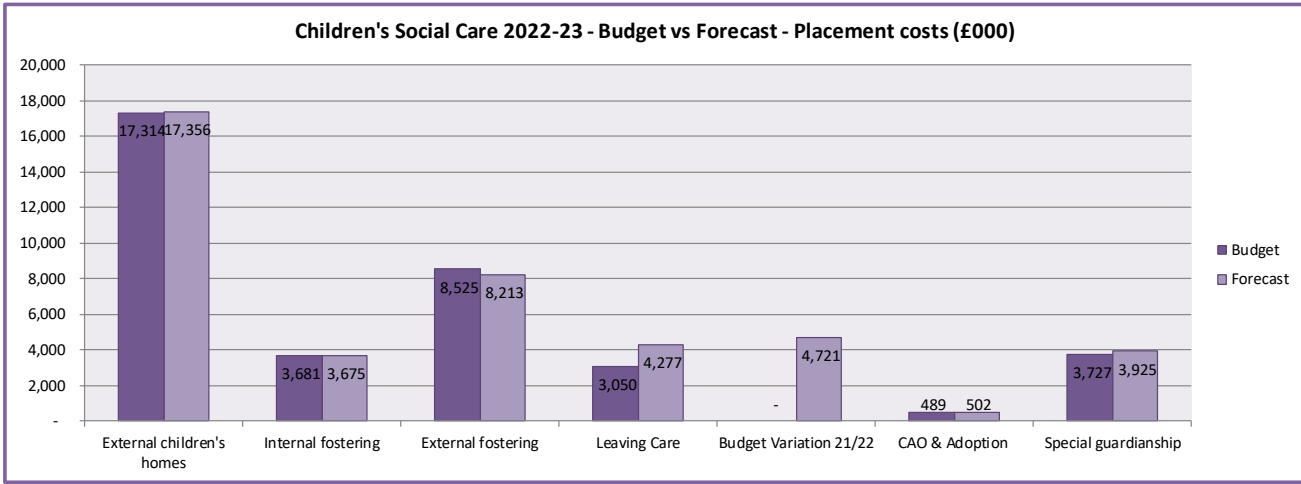
Children's Social Care Trends

Date	External Placements Projection						Internal Fostering			Supported Accommodation			LAC number	SGO	
	Residential			Fostering inc M&B			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	41	8%	111,596	72	15%	36,202	263	53%	11,887	16	3%	no data	492		no data
Sep-13	33	7%	111,523	66	14%	35,667	272	58%	11,908	17	4%	no data	472		no data
Dec-13	30	7%	117,073	69	15%	36,560	260	57%	11,828	17	4%	no data	459		no data
Mar-14	27	6%	118,473	64	14%	34,058	248	56%	11,757	15	3%	no data	443		no data
Jun-14	25	5%	102,561	74	16%	35,928	250	55%	12,833	18	4%	no data	457		no data
Sep-14	21	5%	121,210	75	16%	37,655	237	51%	12,570	27	6%	no data	462		no data
Dec-14	18	4%	124,281	70	15%	38,760	243	53%	12,474	23	5%	no data	459		no data
Mar-15	23	5%	128,868	73	16%	40,155	244	53%	12,374	19	4%	no data	463		no data
Jun-15	25	6%	147,777	74	17%	40,625	219	50%	12,541	20	5%	no data	440		no data
Sep-15	25	6%	142,934	73	16%	40,400	225	50%	12,549	16	4%	no data	450		no data
Dec-15	27	6%	145,196	70	16%	41,243	217	49%	12,428	17	4%	no data	442		no data
Mar-16	29	6%	146,120	69	15%	42,215	257	56%	12,453	22	5%	no data	462		no data
Jun-16	34	7%	157,136	77	16%	42,145	259	53%	12,630	28	6%	38,608	493	230	5,472
Sep-16	32	6%	169,996	84	17%	42,750	254	51%	12,688	27	5%	41,376	502	240	5,582
Dec-16	36	7%	175,954	89	18%	43,038	258	52%	12,857	28	6%	41,037	499	245	5,562
Mar-17	44	8%	179,669	103	19%	43,502	269	51%	12,872	26	5%	42,416	529	249	5,555
Jun-17	49	9%	151,450	100	18%	40,933	272	50%	13,227	26	5%	60,946	546	258	5,576
Sep-17	35	7%	161,487	95	18%	40,991	270	51%	13,213	36	7%	57,928	528	267	5,383
Dec-17	43	8%	162,623	103	19%	41,277	272	50%	13,169	36	7%	58,358	539	277	5,281
Mar-18	44	8%	165,935	98	18%	41,099	273	51%	13,116	30	6%	55,728	534	286	5,109
Jun-18	45	8%	164,794	97	18%	40,083	297	54%	13,403	24	4%	48,006	554	320	5,512
Sep-18	45	8%	159,388	97	17%	40,425	302	54%	13,441	28	5%	46,073	557	308	5,294
Dec-18	47	8%	169,287	99	17%	40,227	305	53%	13,430	33	6%	46,167	572	332	5,175
Mar-19	53	9%	177,477	94	17%	39,536	306	54%	13,289	23	4%	45,845	565	317	5,238
Jun-19	53	9%	172,929	107	18%	42,426	305	53%	13,014	26	4%	68,367	580	318	5,988
Sep-19	58	10%	180,014	116	20%	43,981	294	50%	12,649	32	5%	56,148	592	315	5,693
Dec-19	62	10%	184,396	145	23%	45,812	300	48%	12,854	31	5%	60,289	628	334	5,670
Mar-20	65	10%	183,892	167	26%	45,201	292	45%	13,166	33	5%	61,076	653	339	5,624
Jun-20	69	10%	207,288	175	27%	47,565	284	43%	12,877	32	5%	92,575	659	357	5,882
Sep-20	75	12%	211,328	173	27%	47,125	277	43%	12,979	30	5%	97,225	644	376	6,056
Dec-20	72	12%	209,062	178	29%	47,361	248	41%	14,343	32	5%	105,274	610	410	6,551
Mar-21	72	12%	209,953	189	31%	47,883	230	38%	14,234	25	4%	107,561	609	424	6,685
Jun-21	68	11%	225,246	200	34%	45,809	213	36%	16,619	26	4%	78,324	596	450	7,650
Sep-21	64	11%	229,272	194	33%	47,303	221	37%	17,059	39	7%	70,834	596	448	7,752
Dec-21	66	11%	238,266	186	31%	47,535	219	36%	17,064	40	7%	68,328	604	461	7,884
Mar-22	70	12%	247,935	184	30%	47,718	214	35%	17,348	47	8%	68,576	608	467	8,076
Jun-22	70	11%	251,588	174	28%	50,006	221	36%	17,030	50	8%	74,397	616	479	8,093
Jul-22	67	11%	245,580	165	27%	49,457	222	37%	17,008	55	9%	69,999	603	484	8,171

**Note:**  
The variance between the current total number of Looked After Children (603) and the total internal fostering and external placement numbers (509) is children with care orders, adoption placements etc. They are still classed as LAC but do not incur any commissioned costs. SGO = Special Guardianship Order.







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## Blackpool Council – Public Health

### Revenue summary - budget, actual and forecast:

FUNCTIONS OF THE SERVICE	BUDGET		EXPENDITURE		VARIANCE		2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE						
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £000	2022/23		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		
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH</b>														
<b>NET EXPENDITURE</b>														
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORATE & CORPORATE SUPPORT	1,015	(9,160)	10,175	1,015	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NHS HEALTH CHECKS - MANDATED	100	21	79	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHILDREN (5-19) - PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMMES	619	220	399	619	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHILDREN'S 0-5 SERVICES	2,520	815	1,705	2,520	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOBACCO CONTROL	374	153	221	374	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING	15	(130)	145	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES - MANDATED	1,845	382	1,463	1,845	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUBSTANCE MISUSE (DRUGS AND ALCOHOL)	2,606	709	1,897	2,606	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HARM REDUCTION (SEXUAL HEALTH, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL)	773	414	359	773	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HEALTHY WEIGHT/WEIGHT MANAGEMENT	118	-	118	118	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	9,252	(20,937)	30,189	9,252	-	-	-	1,024	(1,024)	-	-	-	-	-
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT	-	5	(5)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRANT	(19,231)	-	(19,231)	(19,231)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>(27,508)</b>	<b>27,514</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,024</b>	<b>(1,024)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### 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 4 months of 2022/23 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, £19,231,130, for the financial year to March 2023.

#### 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 July 2022, the Public Health Directorate are forecasting a break-even position for the financial year to March 2023.

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 £1,024k in 2022/23 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 Payment by Results (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	2021/22 (UNDER)/OVER SPEND B/FWD £000	VARIANCE				
	ADJUSTED CASH LIMITED BUDGET £000	EXPENDITURE APR - JUL £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
<b>BUDGETS OUTSIDE THE CASH LIMIT</b>											
<b>NET EXPENDITURE</b>											
TREASURY MANAGEMENT	2,564	1,559	3,119	4,678	2,114	-	2,114	-	-	-	-
PARKING SERVICES	(5,974)	(1,902)	(3,938)	(5,840)	134	-	134	-	-	-	-
CORPORATE SUBSCRIPTIONS	135	85	50	135	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HOUSING BENEFITS	1,458	480	978	1,458	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COUNCIL TAX & NDR COST OF COLLECTION	1,105	366	739	1,105	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES	(954)	(418)	(536)	(954)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LAND CHARGES	(51)	(27)	(24)	(51)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CONCESSIONARY FARES	3,734	8	3,586	3,594	(140)	-	(140)	-	-	-	-
EMPLOYERS PREVIOUS YEARS' PENSION LIABILITY	117	39	78	117	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEW HOMES BONUS	(211)	(106)	(105)	(211)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,923</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>3,947</b>	<b>4,031</b>	<b>2,108</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,108</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### 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 4 months of 2022/23 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 an overspend of £2,114k including £742k savings target that will not be met in 2022/23. The Council is currently using temporary and long-term borrowing to finance prudentially-funded capital expenditure. With increasing borrowing rates the treasury management panel decided to fix £125m of temporary borrowing in order to mitigate the impacts of further interest rate rises.

The Business Loans Fund has a savings target of £3,309k and is forecasting a pressure of £1,446k due to increases in interest rates and slippage in business loans awarded.

Following a review of the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), which was approved by the Executive on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021, a total of £6.7m of saving has been forecast to be achieved in 2022/23.

#### Parking Services

Parking Services is forecasting a shortfall of income of £134k for 2022/23. This is as a consequence of lost parking spaces due to regeneration projects, with the effect reduced by an increase in charges.

As at Week 20 (w/e 14<sup>th</sup> August) parking income is at £2.49m with patronage at 494,268. Car Park patronage is down by 4,688 but up on income by £227k on 2021/22. On-Street Pay and Display patronage is down by 18,640 and income is down by £19k.

The graphs below show, for comparison, the patronage and income figures for 2019/20, 2021/22 and 2022/23. 2020/21 is excluded as figures distorted due to Covid.

**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**

This service is expected to break-even.

**Land Charges**

This service is expected to break-even.

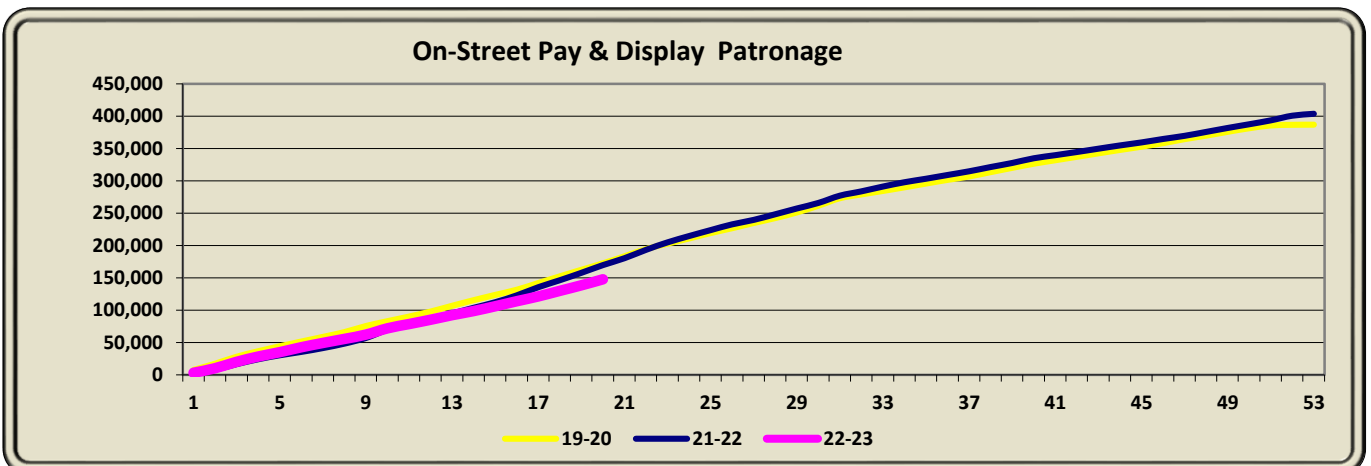
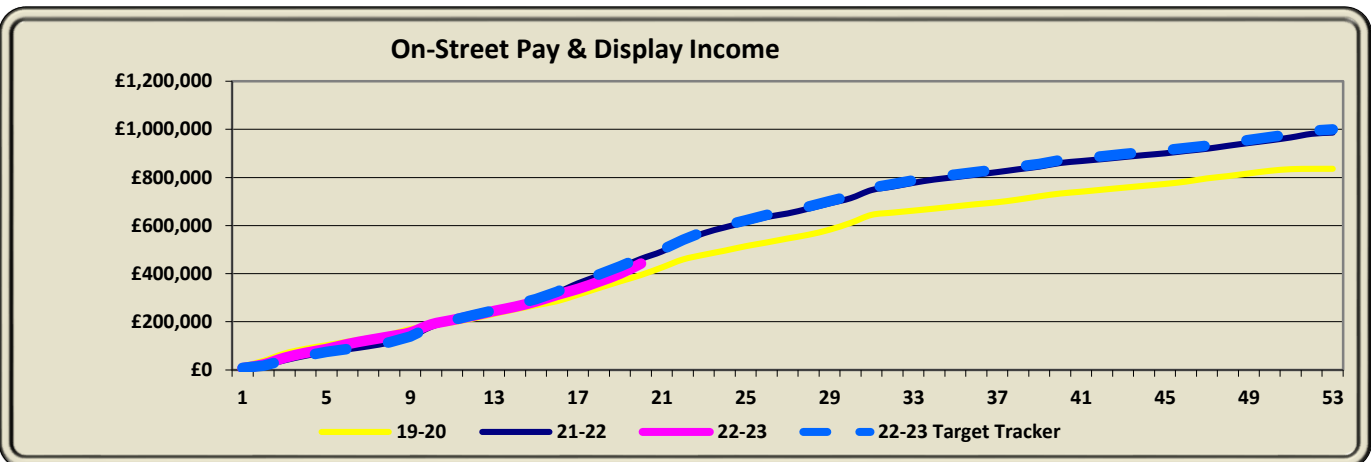
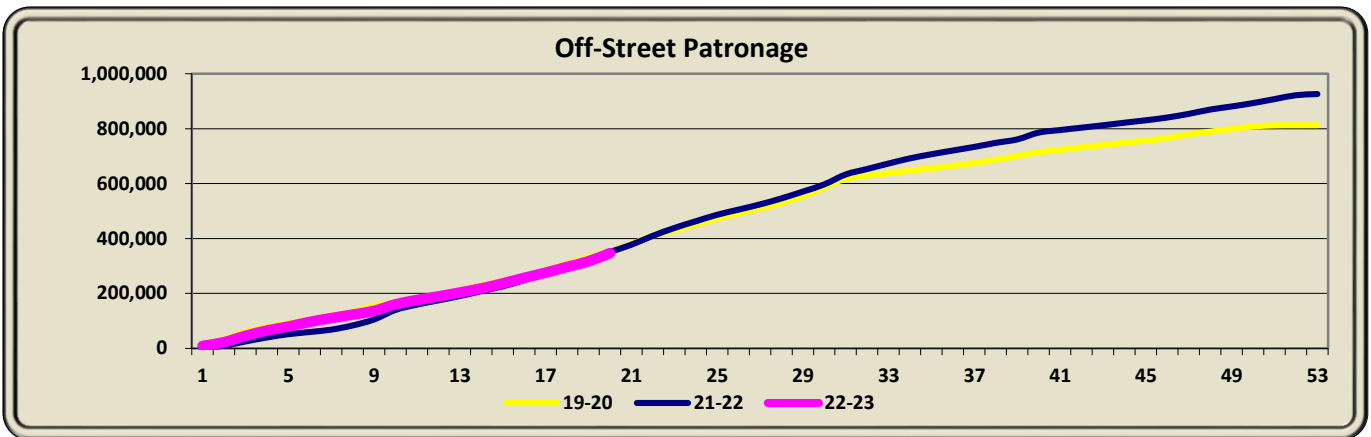
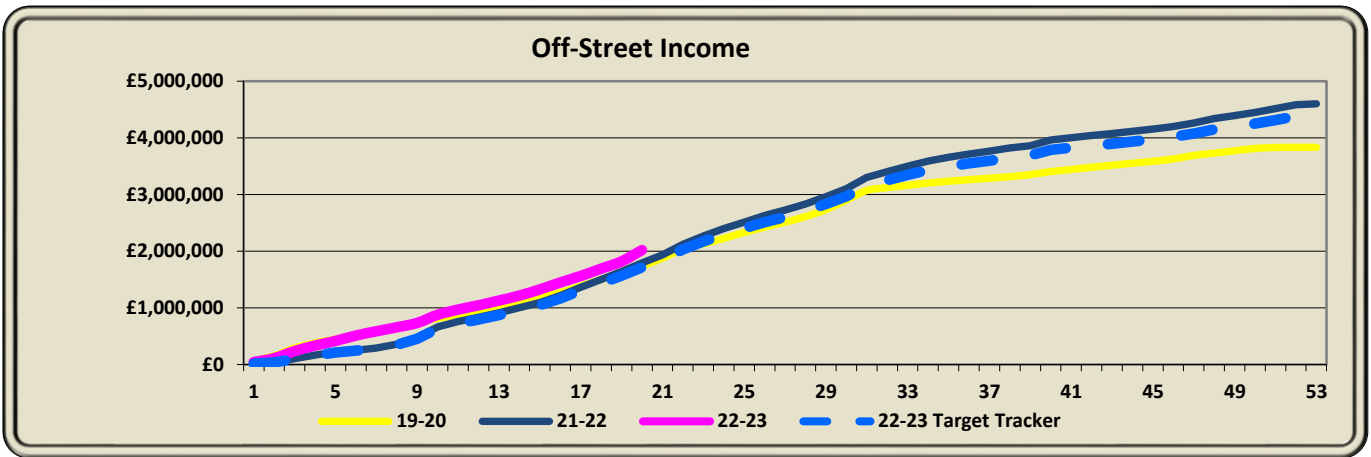
**Concessionary Fares**

There is a £140k underspend expected in Concessionary Fares based on paying the compensation rate as per Department for Transport (DFT) guidance till March 2023.

**Summary of the revenue forecasts**

After 4 months of the financial year, the Budgets Outside the Cash Limit services are forecasting a £2,108k overspend.

**Car Parking Trends**



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## Blackpool Council

### Wholly-Owned Companies

#### 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 the 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 break-even 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 £16.11m against that facility of which £9.12m has been drawn down. £1.36m of this has subsequently been repaid. The Council's Business Loans Fund Panel monitors progress against the WOCs' respective recovery plans on a regular basis.

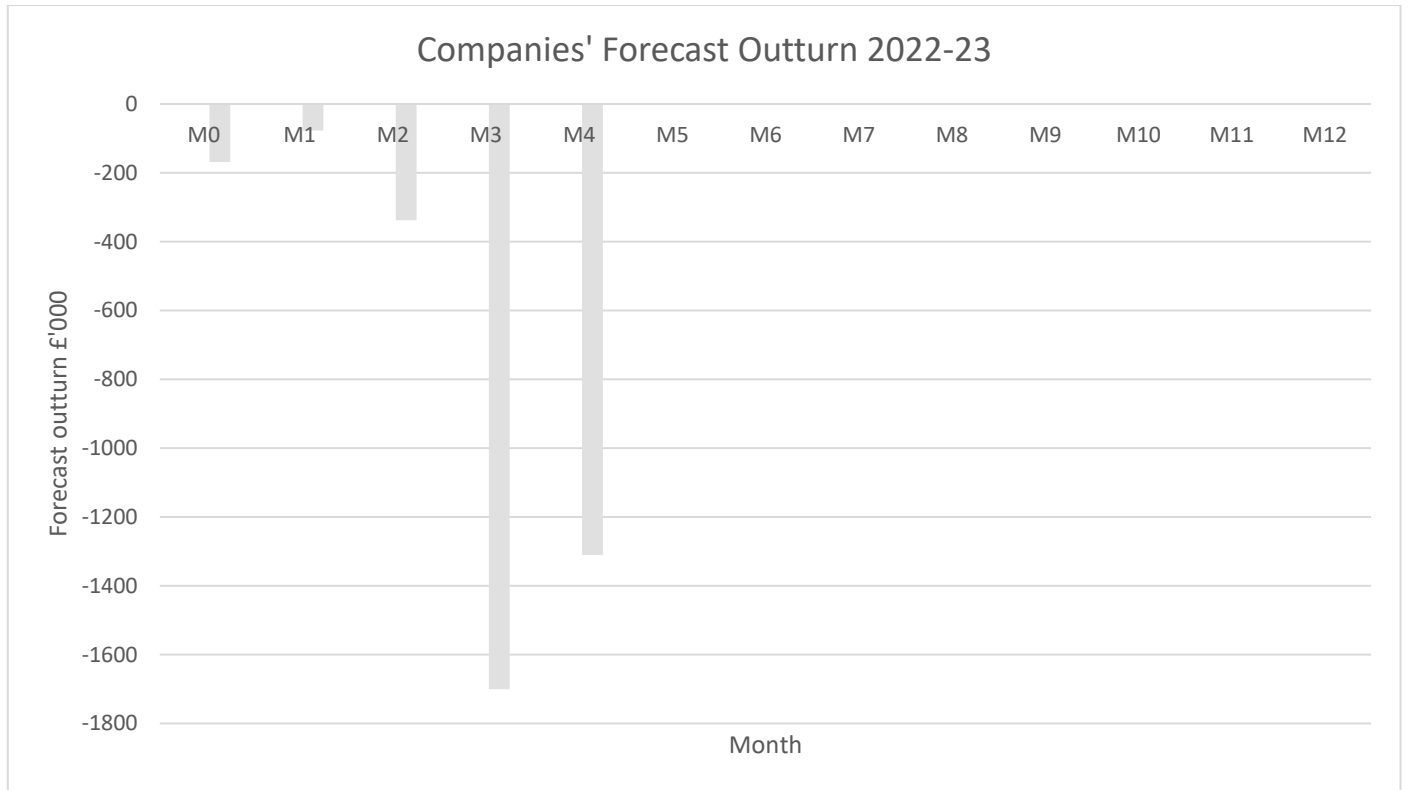
#### Non Covid-related loan support to WOCs

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 principal and capitalised interest in respect of such WOC capex loans is currently £42.06m.

There are currently no short-term cash flow loans outstanding in respect of Council Wholly-owned companies.

#### Wholly-owned companies financial performance as at Month 4 2022/23

The consolidated forecast financial position of the Council's wholly-owned subsidiary companies is a loss of £1.31m based on their individual Month 4 financial monitoring reports. This represents a deterioration of £0.97m from the position at Month 2 largely as a result of inflationary pressures, including fuel costs, utilities and wage pressures, coupled with reduced customer receipts resulting from patronage reductions, offset by some additional grant support and improved income forecasts since Month 3.



There has been a change to the Council's group structure with effect from 1 April 2022 with the transfer of Lancashire Management Operations Limited from the Council's direct ownership to become a subsidiary of Blackpool Housing Company Limited.

The Council has taken advice from CIPFA regarding the proper accounting treatment in respect of company forecast losses. CIPFA has advised that the Council does not need to include the forecast losses in its forecast revenue out-turn; the company losses will be included in the Council's consolidated financial position.



## Blackpool Council

## Budget Savings Target 2022/23

Summary progress to date

	Target	Achieved	Not yet achieved	To be achieved before year-end	Not able to be achieved	Amount of saving not yet found recurrently
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b><u>Recurrent Savings</u></b>						
Corporate Services	419	(419)	0	0	0	0
Adult Services	1,051	(1,051)	0	0	0	0
Chief Executive	53	(53)	0	0	0	0
Children's Services	137	(87)	50	(50)	0	0
Governance and Partnership Services	128	(25)	103	(78)	25	0
Community and Environmental Services	622	(150)	472	(472)	0	0
Outside Cash Limit	4,759	(1,336)	3,423	(2,681)	742	742
Public Health	0	0	0	0	0	0
Communications and Regeneration	585	(380)	205	(205)	0	61
Strategic Leisure Assets	200	(100)	100	(100)	0	200
Resources	675	(644)	31	(31)	0	0
<b>Recurrent Saving</b>	<b>8,629</b>	<b>(4,245)</b>	<b>4,384</b>	<b>(3,617)</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>1,003</b>

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**2022/23 CAPITAL MONITORING  
MONTH 4**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/22	Budget Brought Forward 2021/22	Capital Programme 2022/23	Total Available Budget 2022/23	Spend to Date April - July	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
<b>Director Responsible for Resources</b>									
<b>Property and Asset Management</b>									
Central Business District Phase 1	40,432	38,142	2,290	-	2,290	-	-	-	
ICT Refresh	5,579	4,655	-	924	924	26	898	-	
Core CCTV Replacement	2,000	14	1,986	-	1,986	372	1,614	-	
Finance, HR, Payroll System	2,722	1,470	-	1,252	1,252	181	1,071	-	
Other Resources Schemes	1,609	1,099	255	255	510	89	556	-	see note 2
<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>52,342</b>	<b>45,380</b>	<b>4,531</b>	<b>2,431</b>	<b>6,962</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>4,139</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>Director Responsible for Adult Services</b>									
Support to Vulnerable Adults - Grants	9,945	7,959	-	1,986	1,986	332	1,654	-	
LD Respite Centre - Colton House	1,695	1,695	-	-	-	(15)	15	-	
I-Switch	3,154	3,029	125	-	125	-	125	-	
Other Adult Services Schemes	1,665	508	599	558	1,157	17	1,140	-	
<b>Total Adult Services</b>	<b>16,459</b>	<b>13,191</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>2,544</b>	<b>3,268</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>2,934</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>Director Responsible for Community and Environmental Services</b>									
Anchorsholme Seawall	30,966	26,075	4,891	-	4,891	(546)	437	-	
Coastal Protection Strategy 2021-2025	9,000	-	-	9,000	9,000	-	5,000	-	
Coastal Protection Studies	4,049	2,202	166	1,681	1,847	100	1,747	-	
<b>Total Community and Environmental Services</b>	<b>44,015</b>	<b>28,277</b>	<b>5,057</b>	<b>10,681</b>	<b>15,738</b>	<b>(446)</b>	<b>7,184</b>	<b>-</b>	

**2022/23 CAPITAL MONITORING  
MONTH 4**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/22	Budget Brought Forward 2021/22	Capital Programme 2022/23	Total Available Budget 2022/23	Spend to Date April - July	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
<b>Chief Executive</b>									
<b>Housing</b>									
Foxhall Village	12,797	13,452	(655)	-	(655)	6	(661)	1,800	
Work towards Decent Homes Standard	7,243	-	-	7,243	7,243	770	6,473	-	
Queens Park Redevelopment Ph2	13,427	13,427	-	-	-	1	(1)	-	
Troutbeck Redevelopment	11,970	10,926	-	1,044	1,044	262	782	-	
Grange Park	13,565	1,315	-	12,250	12,250	1,491	10,759	-	
Dunsop Court	1,233	756	-	477	477	50	427	-	
Feasibility/ Infill site	2,620	189	2,301	130	2,431	2	126	-	
Haweside Masterplan	562	82	480	-	480	(5)	485	-	
Garstang Road West	2,547	2,547	-	-	-	179	(179)	-	
Acquisition and Refurbishment	4,871	941	1,499	2,431	3,930	120	2,378	-	
<b>Total Chief Executive</b>	<b>70,835</b>	<b>43,635</b>	<b>3,625</b>	<b>23,575</b>	<b>27,200</b>	<b>2,876</b>	<b>20,589</b>	<b>1,800</b>	
<b>Director Responsible for Communications and Regeneration</b>									
<b>Regeneration</b>									
College Relocation/Illumination Depot	13,305	13,924	(619)	-	(619)	-	-	-	
Leisure Assets	66,279	65,094	1,185	-	1,185	122	1,063	-	
Conference Centre	30,562	30,685	(123)	-	(123)	-	(123)	-	
CBD Phase 2 - Hotel	24,500	14,902	9,598	-	9,598	2,198	7,400	-	
CBD Phase 3	99,750	7,038	(7,038)	25,000	17,962	1,727	16,235	-	
Land Release Fund	3,204	769	2,435	-	2,435	40	2,395	-	
Enterprise Zone	13,000	10,389	2,611	-	2,611	950	1,661	-	
Town Centre Parking Strategy	16,000	3,029	12,971	-	12,971	(1,469)	1,250	-	
Museum	7,894	3,359	4,535	-	4,535	1,811	2,724	-	
Abingdon Street Market	3,600	3,134	466	-	466	(570)	1,036	-	
HoundsHill Ph2	20,190	6,000	14,190	-	14,190	1,624	12,566	-	
Heritage Action Zone	1,091	475	616	-	616	84	532	-	
Devonshire Road Hospital Land	1,425	1,252	173	-	173	-	173	-	
Town Deal	59,250	2,302	(2,302)	18,714	16,412	840	15,572	-	
Land Acqn Alfred, Leopold & Adelaide Streets	1,790	81	(81)	1,790	1,709	1,600	109	-	
South King Street Car Park	597	-	-	597	597	-	597	-	
Other	166	166	-	-	-	11	(11)	-	
<b>Transport</b>									
Local Transport Plan 2021/22	2,630	1,835	795	-	795	64	731	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2021/22	283	283	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Local Transport Plan 2022/23	2,302	-	-	2,302	2,302	23	2,279	-	
Local Transport Plan Project 30 2022/23	223	-	-	223	223	-	223	-	
Blackpool/Fleetwood Tramway	99,990	99,990	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tramway Extension	16,400	16,404	(4)	-	(4)	(13)	9	-	
Tramway Refurbishment	1,053	713	340	-	340	-	340	-	
<b>Total Communications and Regeneration</b>	<b>485,484</b>	<b>281,824</b>	<b>39,748</b>	<b>48,626</b>	<b>88,374</b>	<b>9,042</b>	<b>66,761</b>	<b>-</b>	

**2022/23 CAPITAL MONITORING  
MONTH 4**

	Total Scheme Budget	Spend as at 31/3/22	Budget Brought Forward 2021/22	Capital Programme 2022/23	Total Available Budget 2022/23	Spend to Date April - July	Forecast to Year End	Forecast Variance	Notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
<b>Director Responsible for Children's Services</b>									
Devolved Capital to Schools	846	607	239	-	239	26	213	-	
Park Expansion	610	412	198	-	198	-	198	-	
Basic Need	1,553	3	1,050	500	1,550	-	1,550	-	
Condition	1,372	24	845	503	1,348	51	1,297	-	
Others	657	356	301	-	301	24	277	-	
<b>Total Children's Services</b>	<b>5,038</b>	<b>1,402</b>	<b>2,633</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>3,636</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>3,535</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>CAPITAL TOTAL</b>	<b>674,173</b>	<b>413,709</b>	<b>56,318</b>	<b>88,860</b>	<b>145,178</b>	<b>12,575</b>	<b>105,142</b>	<b>1,800</b>	

## Notes

(1) Following the announcement that Marcus Worthington and Company Limited and its subsidiary company, Hollinwood Homes Limited, had gone into administration, the Council worked 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 partners including Homes England.

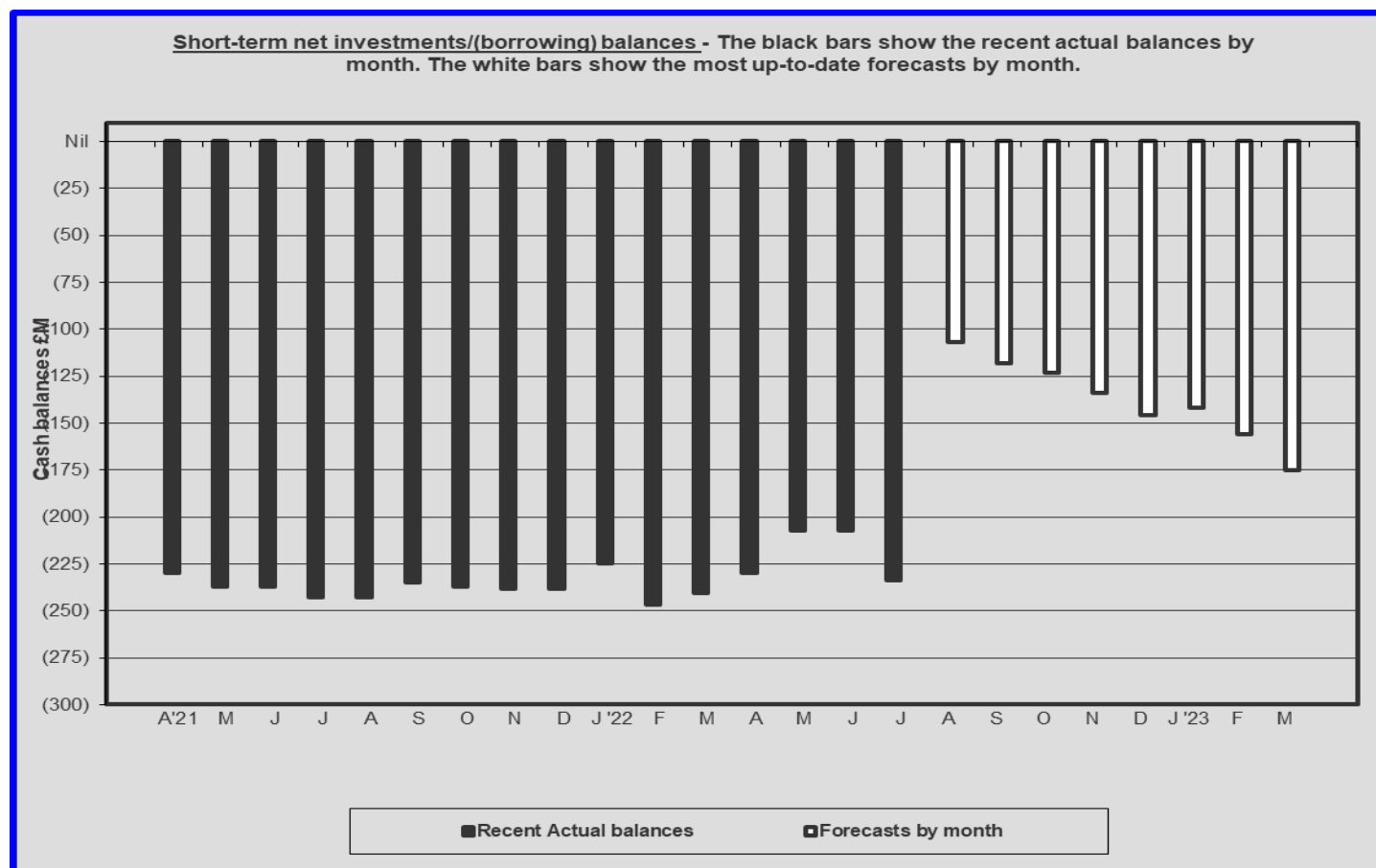
(2) £135k funding gap, as a result of inflation, for the Library/Grundy Art Galley roof (Other Resources Schemes) will be met by additional surplus top slice funding.

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## Blackpool Council

Cash summary - budget, actual and forecast:

CASH FLOW - SUMMARY - 22/23							
FULL YEAR CASH FLOW ORIGINAL BUDGET (*)	APR-JUL CASH FLOW ORIGINAL BUDGET (*)	APR-JUL CASH FLOW ACTUAL	AUG - 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-JUL MORE / (LESS) CASH ACTUAL vs ORIGINAL BUDGET	AUG - 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
45	15	13	29	<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
65	21	34	65	Housing Benefit & Subsidy	(2)	(1)	(3)
15	5	5	12	Council tax and NNDR	13	21	34
32	11	15	20	VAT	-	2	2
108	35	103	86	RSG & BRR	4	(1)	3
81	26	59	96	Other Grants	68	13	81
-	-	-	-	Other Income	33	41	74
37	37	245	173	Money Market Transactions Received	-	-	-
				Receipt of Loans	208	173	381
383	150	474	481	<b>RECEIPTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES</b>	324	248	572
				<b>PAYMENTS</b>			
12	4	4	8	Police & Fire	-	-	-
327	107	162	276	General Creditors	(55)	(56)	(111)
-	-	-	-	RSG & BRR	-	-	-
110	37	35	74	Salaries & wages	2	(1)	1
44	15	12	29	Housing Benefits	3	-	3
283	137	262	197	Money Market Transactions Paid Out	(125)	(51)	(176)
776	300	475	584	<b>PAYMENTS - NORMAL ACTIVITIES</b>	(175)	(108)	(283)
<b>(393)</b>	<b>(150)</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>(103)</b>	<b>NET CASH FLOW IN/(OUT)</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>289</b>
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 four months of the year, the Council's net cashflow has resulted in a decrease in short-term net investment/borrowing balances due to the receipt of up-front grant income in the new financial year. The Council has been predominantly using temporary borrowing to finance prudentially-funded capital expenditure and in order to mitigate the impacts of any future base rate rises is fixing £125m of temporary borrowing in August 2022.

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 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.



## Blackpool Council

Balance Sheet / Working capital:

BALANCE SHEET 2022/23				
LAST Y/END		CURRENT	CHANGE	NEXT Y/END
Draft 31 Mar 22		31 Jul 22 Actual	Movement since 31 Mar 22	31 Mar 23 Forecast
£000s		£000s	£000s	£000s
853,513	Property, Plant and Equipment	866,887	13,374	968,763
115,794	Long-term Assets	113,281	(2,513)	115,000
Current Assets				
62,573	Debtors	61,400	(1,173)	60,000
601	Inventories	504	(97)	500
1,300	Short-term loans	1,300	-	-
39,503	Cash and cash equivalents	7,881	(31,622)	15,000
<b>1,073,284</b>	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,051,253</b>	<b>(22,031)</b>	<b>1,159,263</b>
Current Liabilities				
(282,947)	Borrowing Repayable within 12 months	(237,840)	45,107	(155,000)
(97,379)	Creditors	(95,300)	2,079	(96,000)
Long-term Liabilities				
(75,534)	Borrowing Repayable in excess of 12 months	(75,534)	-	(203,500)
(94,914)	Long Term Creditors	(94,914)	-	(91,814)
(40,982)	Capital Grants in Advance	(40,982)	-	(14,000)
(10,157)	Provisions	(9,683)	474	(9,200)
(221,457)	Other Long-term Liabilities	(221,457)	-	(320,000)
<b>249,914</b>	<b>Total Assets less Liabilities</b>	<b>275,543</b>	<b>25,629</b>	<b>269,749</b>
(107,589)	Usable Reserves	(85,433)	22,156	(76,607)
(142,325)	Unusable Reserves	(190,110)	(47,785)	(193,142)
<b>(249,914)</b>	<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>(275,543)</b>	<b>(25,629)</b>	<b>(269,749)</b>

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 4. 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 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.

There is currently a consultation underway regarding the accounting treatment of infrastructure assets which has meant the 2020/21 accounts have not been signed off by the Council's external auditors. As soon as the consultation is complete the 2020/21 accounts will require amendment which will in turn affect the 2021/22 and 2022/23 balance sheet therefore the figures above should be treated as draft and will be subject to change.

Over the 4-month period there has been an increase in Property, Plant and Equipment of £13.4m due to capital expenditure which is in line with the Council's approved capital programme for 2022/23. There has been a decrease in Temporary Borrowing of £45.1m and a decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents of £31.6m due to the timing of capital and revenue grants.

**Report to:** **SCRUTINY LEADERSHIP BOARD**

**Relevant Officer:** Mrs Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager

**Date of Meeting:** 12 October 2022

## SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORKPLANS

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the workplan of the Scrutiny Leadership Board and of the Scrutiny Committees 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 Chair 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 The revised workplan of the Scrutiny Leadership Board is attached at Appendix 6(a) for Members' consideration.

Each of the Scrutiny Committees had now held a workplanning workshop to consider their workplans for the new Municipal Year. The revised workplans are attached to the agenda for consideration.

6.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

## **7.0 List of Appendices:**

7.1 Appendix 6(a): Scrutiny Leadership Board Workplan  
Appendix 6(b): Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee Workplan  
Appendix 6(c): Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee Workplan  
Appendix 6(d): Tourism, Economy and Communities Scrutiny Committee 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 2022/2023**

<b>13 July 2022 Formal Committee meeting</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Corporate Performance Indicator data (Q3 and End of Year)</li> <li>2. Provisional Revenue Outturn Report</li> <li>3. Financial Inclusion Strategy</li> <li>4. Channel Shift Scrutiny Review Final Report</li> <li>5. Scrutiny workplans</li> </ol>
<b>12 October 2022 Formal Committee meeting</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Corporate Performance update</li> <li>2. Corporate Financial Performance Monitoring</li> <li>3. Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy update</li> <li>4. Scrutiny workplans</li> </ol>
7 December 2022 Informal meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Finance/Budget 2023/2024 discussion</li> <li>2. MTFS</li> </ol>
18 January 2023 Informal meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Capital and Revenue budgets/Budget scrutiny</li> </ol>
<b>7 March 2023 Formal Committee meeting</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Corporate Financial Performance Monitoring</li> <li>2. Corporate Performance Indicator data (Q2)</li> <li>3. Channel Shift Scrutiny Review – update on the implementation of recommendations</li> </ol>
Informal workshop June 2023 tbc	For the new Board to develop its workplan.
<b>July 2023 Formal meeting tbc</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Corporate Performance Indicator data (Q3 and End of Year)</li> <li>2. Provisional Revenue Outturn Report</li> </ol>
<b>October 2023 Formal meeting</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Annual Customer Feedback Report</li> <li>2. Corporate Financial Performance Monitoring</li> <li>3. Corporate Performance Indicator</li> </ol>

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<b>Adult Social Care And Health Scrutiny Committee Work Plan 2022-2023</b>	
6 October 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Impact of alcohol during lockdowns</b> levels of alcohol consumption, deaths related to alcohol, the role of the new Alcohol Lead (and details of the strategic needs assessment they are developing), how services can be target at women (it was noted that uptake among women is traditionally very low) and what sobriety services are available.</li> <li>2. <b>North West Ambulance Services</b> – comprehensive performance report.</li> <li>3. <b>Smoking cessation</b> new model application and impact.</li> <li>4. <b>Maternity Services</b> fully comprehensive report on the performance of Maternity Services in Blackpool</li> </ol>
19 October 2022	<p><b>Mental Health Services</b></p> <p>As agreed at the meeting on 28 September 2021, following the update on the CQC inspection outcomes in March 2022 a full detailed progress report on mental health services to be provided to a special meeting to which the full partnership will be invited to attend. To include an update on the Initial Response Service.</p>
10 November 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>CCG Mid year performance update/Update on new Place Based Partnership/ICB</b></li> <li>2. <b>Adult Services update</b></li> <li>3. <b>BSAB Workplan</b> to receive an update on the work of the BSAB</li> <li>4. <b>Update on Meals on Wheels Scrutiny Review Recommendations</b></li> </ol>
26 January 2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Update on Supported Housing Scrutiny Review Recommendations</b></li> <li>2. <b>Adult Services update</b></li> <li>3. <b>Enhancing the Stroke Network</b> update on actions taken and recruitment.</li> <li>4. <b>Response to Multiple Disadvantage</b></li> <li>5. <b>Drug Related Deaths Scrutiny Review</b> update on recommendations.</li> </ol>
TBC June 2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>ICB End of year performance?</b></li> <li>2. <b>Final report on Drug Related Deaths Scrutiny Review Recommendations</b></li> <li>3. <b>Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2022/23</b></li> <li>4. <b>Adult Services update</b></li> </ol>
TBC October 2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dentistry update</b> following on from the in depth look at dentistry and oral health in 2022.</li> <li>2.</li> </ol>
TBC November 2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Adult Services update</b></li> </ol>

<b>Scrutiny Review Work</b>	
Ongoing	<b>Dentistry and oral health</b> ensuring adequate and accessible provision in the town. Care during the pandemic and impact on provision. Recovery. (NHS England).
14 September 2022	<b>Pathology Collaboration</b> Briefing update
TBC November 2022	<b>Dementia</b> – Provision of services/dementia friendly, impact of increasing diagnosis, support services on offer, long term impact of pandemic (dementia groups to be invited).
December 2022	<b>Healthy Weight Scrutiny Review</b> - Firstly to review the recommendations in light of the time passed since the review was approved. Secondly to consider progress of recommendations and impact of the pandemic on the issues identified in the report.
TBC	Scrutiny review of <b>population health management</b> to also include long covid.



<b>Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee - Work Plan 2022/2023</b>	
30 June 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Children's Social Care Improvement</b> – To receive a report on the number of children and young people who are re-referred back into the social care system following discharge.</li> <li>2. <b>Oracle Building Update</b> – To receive an update on SEND provisions at the Oracle building.</li> <li>3. <b>Literacy Strategy Update</b> – To receive an update on the implementation of the Literacy Strategy.</li> <li>4. <b>SEND Strategy</b> – To receive the final version of the SEND Strategy.</li> <li>5. <b>CYP Workplanning</b> – To receive the scoping documents for the Mental Health for Young Men and Suicide Prevention Review and Young People classed as NEET Review.</li> </ol>
22 September 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Early Help Strategy</b> – To receive a report on partnership working with the Police, Health and Schools.</li> <li>2. <b>Youth Justice Update</b> – To receive an update on the work of the Youth Justice Team.</li> <li>3. <b>Nutrition of School Meals and Chef's Academy</b> – To receive a report on the nutritional value of school meals and information on Chef's Academy.</li> <li>4. <b>Early Years Funding</b> – To receive information on funding for Early Years.</li> <li>5. <b>Education/SEND</b> – To receive information on the impact of the pandemic on early language and speech development.</li> <li>6. <b>CSAP Annual Report</b> – To consider CSAPs annual report.</li> <li>7. <b>Corporate Parent Panel Annual Report</b> – To receive the Corporate Parent Panel's Final Report</li> </ol>
17 November 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Better Start</b> – To receive an annual update on the work of Better Start and the development of the Communication Strategy.</li> <li>2. <b>Young Inspectors</b> – To receive an update on the work of the Young Inspectors.</li> <li>3. <b>Literacy Strategy Update</b> – To receive an update on the implementation of the Literacy Strategy.</li> <li>4. <b>Schools Response to the Pandemic Scrutiny Review</b> – Recommendation monitoring and the impact of the pandemic on pupil attainment.</li> <li>5. <b>PSHE Programme</b> – To consider details of the Personal, Social and Health Education programme offered in schools, with particular emphasis on raising awareness of coercive relationships.</li> <li>6. <b>HeadStart Final Report</b> – To receive HeadStart's final report.</li> </ol>
2 February 2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Children's Social Care Update</b> – To receive the findings of the Department for Education Care Review launched in January 2021.</li> <li>2. <b>Youth Justice Update</b> – To receive an update on the work of the Youth Justice Team.</li> <li>3. <b>Children's Social Care Medium Term Financial Strategy</b> – To review the proposed MTFS.</li> <li>4. <b>Thrive Model Update</b> – To receive an update on the work of the Thrive model introduced into schools in September 2022.</li> <li>5. <b>Youth Provision Review Update</b> – To receive an update on the implementation plan from the review of Youth Provision in Blackpool.</li> </ol>
June 2023 TBC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Literacy Strategy Update</b> – To receive an update on the implementation of the Literacy Strategy.</li> </ol>

<b>Scrutiny Review Work</b>	
Started July 2022	<b>Mental Health Support for Young Men (aged 16-25) and Suicide Prevention Services</b> A joint scrutiny review with the Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee. To include further information on the Elliot's House project and the links between self-harm and suicide rates.
3 October 2022	<b>Catch-Up/Recovery Premium Spend Review</b> To review how Blackpool schools have spent their Catch-up/Recovery premium funding from the government to consider if the funding has been utilised to ensure that children are able to catch-up any lost learning caused by the pandemic.
26 September 2022	<b>Young People classed as Not In Employment, Education or Training (NEET)</b> To consider this cross-cutting issue which disproportionately affects vulnerable young people. To include the potential impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on training/employment opportunities for young people, as well as considering the breadth of the offer in Blackpool and whether young people are adequately directed to available opportunities.
Post-September 2022	<b>Mental Health and Wellbeing in Schools</b> To review the provisions within schools to support the mental health and wellbeing of pupils. Potential link to SEND target of: <i>'Children and young people with SEND to enjoy good physical and mental health and wellbeing emotional health.'</i>
TBC	<b>SEND Review Recommendations</b> To consider the response to the recommendations from the SEND Review undertaken by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission. It was noted that the Council had received one recommendation and the NHS four.
TBC	<b>Looked After Children in Blackpool – Children's Homes</b> Consideration of the viability of Council-run children's homes.

<b>Tourism, Economy and Communities Scrutiny Committee - Work Plan 2022-2023</b>	
29 June 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Leisure Services Annual Report</b></li> <li>2. <b>Engagement of Consultants Annual Report</b></li> <li>3. <b>Climate Emergency Update</b> – Steps taken following declaration of Climate Emergency in Full Council July 2019 and the outcome of the Climate Assembly.</li> <li>4. <b>Public Rights of Way Update</b> – To update the Committee on progress with work on Blackpool’s Public Rights of Way</li> </ol>
28 September 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Tourism Performance</b> - To include details of tourism performance in Blackpool and Business Tourism.</li> <li>2. <b>Town Centre Regeneration Update</b> - To include information on the progress and forecast for current and planned regeneration projects, the use of BID funding and how these will support job creation in the town.</li> <li>3. <b>Regeneration Outside of the Town Centre</b> – To include information on regeneration projects outside of the Town Centre, to identify any areas for additional scrutiny.</li> <li>4. <b>Customer Feedback Annual Report</b></li> <li>5. <b>Arts and Culture Update</b> – To update the Committee on progress with work to develop a Cultural Plan for Blackpool</li> </ol>
23 November 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Car Parking Annual Report</b></li> <li>2. <b>Housing and Homelessness Update</b> – To include information on the implementation of the recommendations of the Housing and Homelessness Scrutiny Review Panel.</li> <li>3. <b>Climate Emergency Update</b> – Update on work being undertaken to meet the Council’s declaration of Climate Emergency.</li> <li>4. <b>Illuminations Update</b> – Update on work undertaken to deliver the Illuminations.</li> </ol>
8 February 2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Waste Services Annual Report</b> – To consider the annual report from Waste Services.</li> <li>2. <b>Flood Risk Annual Report</b> – To receive the annual report in relation to flood risk.</li> <li>3. <b>Bathing Water Quality Annual Report</b> – To receive an annual report in relation to bathing water quality.</li> <li>4. <b>Community Safety Partnership</b> – To undertake the annual review of the Community Safety Partnership</li> </ol>
21 June 2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Town Centre Regeneration Update</b> To include information on the progress and forecast for current and planned regeneration projects, the use of BID funding and how these will support job creation in the town.</li> <li>2. <b>Tourism Performance</b> - To include details of tourism performance in Blackpool and Business Tourism.</li> <li>3. <b>Parks and Green Environment Annual Report</b></li> <li>4. <b>Climate Emergency</b> - Update on work being undertaken to meet the Council’s declaration of Climate Emergency.</li> <li>5. <b>Public Rights of Way Annual Report</b> – To a report on work to maintain and reopen Blackpool’s Public Rights of Way</li> </ol>

<b>Scrutiny Review Work</b>	
January 2023	<b>Community Safety Partnership</b> – To consider the CSP Annual Report and performance of the Community Safety Plan.
November 2022	<b>Community Safety Plan Priority</b> – To receive an update on performance against the road safety priority.
October 2022	<b>Levelling Up</b> – To receive a report on the use of Levelling Up fund in Blackpool.
2022-23 (Committee Update due September 2022)	<b>Arts and Culture Scrutiny Review</b> – An ongoing review of the recovery of the arts and culture sector in Blackpool following Covid-19.
Starts July 2022	<b>Temporary Holiday Accommodation in Blackpool</b> – To consider the scope and scale of temporary holiday accommodation in Blackpool and its impact on communities and tourism.
November 2022	<b>CCTV Scrutiny</b> - Details of work being undertaken in relation to the second stage of CCTV infrastructure development in Blackpool.
TBC 2022	<b>Town Centre Strategy</b> - To consider the development of the Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan.
TBC 2022/2023	<b>Community Wealth Building</b> – To receive a briefing on Community Wealth Building and its possible application in Blackpool.

Future Work:

**Air Quality Strategy** policy development scrutiny of the draft strategy.

**Electric Vehicle Strategy** – *To consider the development of an EV Strategy for Blackpool.*