

REVENUE MONITORING 2021/22 - Period 8 to November 30th 2021 (Variances in excess of £5K)

Appendix A

Key

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FINANCE & DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE / CORPORATE CROSS CUTTING BUDGETS

Service Area	Detailed Description	Full Year Budget £	Budget as at Period 8 £	Actual & Commitments as at Period 8 £	Variance as at Period 8 £	FAV / ADV	Alert	Budget Holder Comments
All Council services	Employee costs including basic pay, pension, NI, and overtime, plus agency costs	10,103,006	6,898,487	6,890,538	-7,949	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	The budget forecast which was approved by Council in March 2021 assumes employee cost savings (including vacancy savings arising from delays in the recruitment to vacant posts) of £300,000 per annum from 2021/22 onwards. The actual spend to date shown here includes an assumed pay award of 2.75% in line with the current budget provision, although the actual pay award is yet to be agreed. This budget will be kept under review during the remainder of the financial year and may be adjusted as part of future budget right-sizing exercises.
Organisational Improvement	Organisational Improvement Costs	26,000	17,336	11,019	-6,317	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	This budget includes some monies slipped from last financial year which were unspent due to covid. Additional seasonal costs at Christmas on recognition and rewards - some predicted expenditure may not occur due to COVID measures.
Communications and PR	Media Costs	15,000	10,000	0	-10,000	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	Most media costs have been COVID related. Therefore, we have used COMF allocated funding, which has taken priority most of the year. Currently uncertainty on the demand for comms if new COVID regulations begin within the new year it is likely this budget will be required.
Mayoralty	Mayoral Chauffeur/Assistant	19,485	12,993	5,745	-7,248	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	There have been fewer mayoral engagements as a result of the pandemic, which has led to this favourable variance.
Elections - Other/Referendum	Elections - Neighbourhood Plan Referenda	26,411	17,611	0	-17,611	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	The original budget was allocated to provide for the St Annes neighbourhood plan referendum to be re-run in the event that a legal challenge to the original referendum had been successful. The Supreme Court eventually rejected the challenge, so the budget is no longer required. It is possible that a neighbourhood plan referendum may be required in 2023 in Wrea Green and this budget could be used to fund that.
Computer Services	Purchase of Computer Equipment / Licences / Infrastructure & Network Costs	280,138	186,796	59,508	-127,288	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	An underspend is currently recorded against the profiled budget, however with a core infrastructure and network transformation project and associated license costs in response to the challenges of end of life platforms and enablement of hybrid working underway we expect variances to normalise towards the end of the year. A parallel and essential modernisation project to telephony ahead of the decommission of the PSTN lines is being scoped and due to commence before the end of the calendar year which will enable full internet dialling and direct routing of calls through video and voice platforms. These commitments also pick up business continuity, ongoing network hardening and security works, Town Hall WIFI replacement and meeting room improvements enabling a modern, secure and fit for purpose network in line with the ICT Strategy.
Council Tax Collection Costs	MHCLG Grant Funding - LCTS	0	0	-130,548	-130,548	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	F&D Committee approved a scheme at its November meeting to top up the CTRS hardship fund to £10k and allocate the remaining amount for distribution to CTRS cases.
External Audit Fees	Other Reimbursements	0	0	-7,250	-7,250	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	This income is from Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd following a distribution of surplus funds as they are 'a not for profit' organisation. The budget will be updated accordingly as part of budget right-sizing.

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TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

Service Area	Detailed Description	Full Year Budget £	Budget as at Period 8 £	Actual & Commitments as at Period 8 £	Variance as at Period 8 £	FAV / ADV	Alert	Budget Holder Comments
Sports Development	Business Health Matters Initiatives	26,750	17,836	0	-17,836	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	This is a new project which has only just had committee approval and funds will be spent / claimed from early 2022 onwards.
	ESF - Business Health Matters Funding	-26,750	-17,836	0	17,836	ADVERSE		
	PCC - Safe Communities Project	16,300	10,872	2,475	-8,397	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	Money is being held back to ensure we have a good delivery plan for the Christmas and New Year period. This will include a combination of youth interventions, diversionary activities and education.
Management of the Arts & Heritage Assets	Support to Arts	14,000	9,336	0	-9,336	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	£10K is allocated to Green Loop Arts project for Spring 2022. The project has only recently been approved by Arts Council and the £10K will be used as match funding and will be spent on the project early 2022.

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OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Service Area	Detailed Description	Full Year Budget £	Budget as at Period 8 £	Actual & Commitments as at Period 8 £	Variance as at Period 8 £	FAV / ADV	Alert	Budget Holder Comments
Cemetery and Crematorium	Interments	-200,000	-133,360	-123,907	9,453	ADVERSE	AMBER	There is a general downward demand for burials as opposed to cremations. These budgets will be kept under review during the remainder of the financial year and adjusted as necessary as part of the budget right-sizing exercise.
	Cremations	-1,070,000	-713,476	-602,681	110,795	ADVERSE	AMBER	There has been a reduced demand for services from residents outside of the borough. These budgets will be kept under review during the remainder of the financial year and adjusted as necessary as part of the budget right-sizing exercise.
	Memorial Income	-40,000	-26,672	-20,876	5,796	ADVERSE	AMBER	There has been a reduced demand for services from residents outside of the borough. These budgets will be kept under review during the remainder of the financial year and adjusted as necessary as part of the budget right-sizing exercise.
Fylde Waste Schemes	Replacement Waste Containers	75,000	75,000	84,709	9,709	ADVERSE	AMBER	Additional expenditure due to demand for replacement containers and increased wheeled bin costs per unit. These budgets will be kept under review during the remainder of the financial year and adjusted as necessary as part of the budget right-sizing exercise. We will look to do a budget virement to cover these increased costs.
Public Conveniences	Miscellaneous Receipts	-30,000	-30,000	-42,642	-12,642	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	Additional unbudgeted income due to increased number of visitors following lockdown/staycations. These budgets will be kept under review during the remainder of the financial year and adjusted as necessary as part of the budget right-sizing exercise.
Highways Cleansing	Weed Control	22,000	22,000	27,131	5,131	ADVERSE	AMBER	The contracted cost of the weed service has increased. We will look to do a recurring virement to cover these increased costs.
Health & Wellbeing	Food Purchases	35,260	35,260	29,003	-6,257	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	In 2021, all local authorities were provided with grant funding to co-ordinate free holiday provision during the summer and Christmas holidays - including healthy food and enriching activities. The funding is for all children who receive benefits-related free school meals. The summer programme ran over for 4 weeks in July and August and accounted for ¼ of the budget, the remaining ¾ of the budget remaining is allocated for the Christmas provision, which will be delivered over the week of 19-24 th December. The Christmas provision will include face to face delivery of physical activities through play, including healthy food, plus food parcel support for all children who attend. The funding is budgeted to be spend by the end of January.
	Miscellaneous Expenses	12,500	12,500	2,883	-9,617	FAVOURABLE		
Fleet & Plant	FMS Material Costs	165,670	110,547	90,281	-20,266	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	There are a number of favourable variances in respect of vehicle costs. These budgets will be kept under review during the remainder of the financial year and adjusted as necessary as part of the budget right-sizing exercise.
	Fuel Costs	305,595	220,483	180,227	-40,256	FAVOURABLE		
	Tyres - Renewal	34,636	23,186	13,042	-10,144	FAVOURABLE		
	Hire of Transport	63,357	42,247	23,805	-18,442	FAVOURABLE		
Car Parking Fees	Car Parking Fees	-688,000	-458,765	-582,891	-124,126	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	Due to the good weather and increased staycations over the summer months due to Covid it is anticipated that the annual income will be greater than expected. The budgets will be kept under review and adjusted as necessary as part of the budget right-sizing exercise to reflect this.
Stanner Bank Car Park	Operational Costs including Barrier System	0	0	12,492	12,492	ADVERSE	RED	Costs associated with maintenance contract and repairs required to barrier system. Costs do not yet fully reflect the true impact of operating the barrier as an out of hours call system and proposed CCTV system have not yet been accounted for.
Off-Street Parking Enforcement	Enforcement Costs	56,000	37,340	50,569	13,229	ADVERSE	RED	This budget is likely to be overspent as a result of additional charges incurred from the contractor as a result of LCC taking back in-house their enforcement services and the contractor increasing their charges to their remaining customers, including Fylde.
	Decrim - Off-Street Pkng Fees	-40,000	-26,672	-35,251	-8,579	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	With more visitors to the area so more contraventions have been observed with a greater number of Penalty Charge Notices being issued resulting in greater enforcement income.
Land Charges Fee Income	LC - CON29, LLC1 & CON290 Fees	-75,000	-50,012	-71,866	-21,854	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	Increased land charge fee income received in year. These budgets will be kept under review during the remainder of the financial year and adjusted as necessary as part of the budget right-sizing exercise.
Bus Shelters	Shelters-Provision/Replacement	20,000	13,336	4,342	-8,994	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	2 replacement shelters are about to be ordered it is expected expenditure will be contained within the budget.
St Annes Square (Maintenance)	Repairs & Maintenance	45,000	30,004	6,204	-23,800	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	Repairs ongoing on assets it is expected this budget will be fully used by year-end.
Property Management Team	Miscellaneous Income	0	0	-8,550	-8,550	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	Additional income from ad hoc fees generated through management of portfolio. This budget will be updated as part of budget right-sizing.

ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

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Covid-19 Support	Unringfenced Covid Grant Support	263,000	175,368	14,462	-160,906	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	The Government provided un-ringfenced Covid support grant to all local authorities in 2021/22, with Fylde receiving £392k for the year. Of this £33k was allocated to Town and Parish areas to support covid recovery, and to date £50k has been vired to support agency labour costs within Operational Services to ensure continuing service delivery, £15k has been vired to the Cemetery & Crematorium to ensure covid compliance and £22k has been vired towards cleaning and covid measures in the Town Hall. This budget will be kept under review as part of the ongoing response to the Covid pandemic throughout the remainder of the current financial year.
	Practical Support for Self-isolation	0	0	5,750	5,750	ADVERSE	BLUE	Along with all the Lancashire Authorities take up in Fylde of the practical support funding is extremely low. Officers have recently met with the Methodist Church who are delivering the program to ensure the scheme is as responsive as possible for anyone who is seeking support, but demand continues to be low. This may shift with the onset of the Omicron variant.
	LCC Funding - Practical Support for Self-Isolation	0	0	-140,315	-140,315	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	
	LCC Funding - Community Testing Covid	0	0	-82,611	-82,611	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	A report is going to the January cycle seeking agreement to fully fund the lateral flow program from this LCC funding as opposed to the Community Outbreak Management Funding as originally anticipated.
Covid 19 - Household Support Fund	HSF Initiatives - CAB	0	0	15,000	15,000	ADVERSE	BLUE	A report is going to the January cycle to explain that the Council has been awarded £150k Household Support Funding from Lancashire County Council. This has to be expended by 31st March 2022 to support vulnerable households. Due to the urgency in delivery emergency procedure rules were used to approve the expenditure by the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Leader and Chairman of EHH Committee. The planned report will give further details.
Covid-19 Contain Management Outbreak (COMF)	Covid Contain Outbreak Management Funding supporting vulnerable people, contact tracing, testing, enforcement, communications and covid prevention acquisitions	479,768	404,913	413,324	8,411	ADVERSE	BLUE	Accelerated spend against the profiled budget. Many of the budget heads identified within this approved budget are on track. However there may be some variances as we near year-end for example the support for the vulnerable budget may be underspent due to the prevalence of other funding streams. This also may be the case for budget identified for food inspections, due to staffing pressures within the Environmental Health Team as a result of ongoing vacancies combined with the difficulty in sourcing consultants to take on the work.
Covid-19 Welcome Back Fund	Welcome Back fund - expenditure	243,516	162,376	689	-161,687	FAVOURABLE	AMBER	This budget is specifically held to assist in the economic recovery following the Covid pandemic. Funds are required to be spent before April 2022, with all spending agreed by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. Welcome Back Fund application has now been approved by Govt. Two external groups yet to submit intentions & quotes, others have started to submit. Internally, the Public Realm larger commitment is still being costed up due to contractor unavailabilities. Other internal activities have either started or in final stage of costing for RFQ's.
	Media Costs	0	0	20,098	20,098	ADVERSE	AMBER	
	Covid-19 Welcome Back Grant	-243,516	-162,376	0	162,376	ADVERSE	AMBER	This grant funding is specifically held to assist in the economic recovery following the Covid pandemic. Funds are required to be spent before April 2022, with all spending agreed by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. It is expected that the budget will be used in full before the end of the financial year and the grant is claimed in arrears.
Community Grants	Community Projects Fund	20,000	13,336	7,624	-5,712	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	A publicity campaign will be carried out in the new year to encourage applications.
Community Safety Initiatives	Community Safety Initiatives	25,441	16,964	0	-16,964	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	As a result of Covid funding available to CSP partners, and other funding via the PCC's office, there has not been a great demand for CSP funding for other initiatives during the course of the year. £500 has recently been agreed by the Chairman of the CSP for a policing initiative over the Christmas period. A slippage request is again likely to move the budget forward to 2022/23. The available budget is specifically for community safety Initiatives going forward, as stipulated by the former Local Strategic Partnership, who granted the money on the understanding it would remain within the Partnerships preview until it is exhausted going forward.

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ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)

Service Area	Detailed Description	Full Year Budget £	Budget as at Period 8 £	Actual & Commitments as at Period 8 £	Variance as at Period 8 £	FAV / ADV	Alert	Budget Holder Comments
Homelessness	CAB - Debt Advice Service	21,877	14,588	0	-14,588	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	This is an MHCLG Homelessness Reduction Act grant funded Initiative to support clients with Debt issues. The service transferred from CAB to Blackpool Debt advice service. We are now charged per client as opposed to previously funding staff and management costs of the CAB, therefore enabling us to get more value for money. As a result there will be an underspend in this budget which cannot yet be quantified. Any underspend at year-end will be requested as slippage with the off-setting grant funding.
	MHCLG Homlessness Reduction Act Initiatives	24,937	16,631	-2,380	-19,011	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	This is MHCLG Homeleneess Reduction Act funding to provide a range of activities to support clients into accommodation i.e. household items, rent in advance/bond. The Next Steps funding (see below)has been utilised to fund these activities and therefore there will be an underspend at year-end where a slippage with the corresponding grant funding slippage will be requested.
	Ex-Offender Initiatives	34,172	22,784	0	-22,784	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	This MHCLG funding was awarded in 20/21. There had been a delay in value of the funding being confirmed, therefore EHH Committee in September approved the merger of the Ex-offender funding with Rough Sleeper Initiative year 3 funding to create a project accommodation finding service for rough sleepers and ex-offenders. The project has gone through Procurement and the successful contractor will commence in January 2022. Due to the delay in the funding award the project will extend beyond the original period into 2023/24. MHCLG have approved the merging of the two funding streams and extension of the project.
	Domestic Abuse Act Initiatives	16,500	11,004	0	-11,004	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	This is MHCLG funding to deliver a domestic abuse support housing outreach worker. The appointment commenced in November 2021. This project will run until November 2022/23.
	Invest to Save Expenditure	10,000	6,668	496	-6,172	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	Due to the award of MHCLG Next Steps funding or Covid recovery being used to fund the invest to save initiatives there will be an underspend at year-end against this budget.
	B&B Accommodation Costs	62,500	42,508	72,792	30,284	ADVERSE	RED	The Homeless service has seen high demand for temporary accommodation following the lifting of evictions coupled with limited move-on opportunities in social and private accommodation. This trend is likely to continue with the budget being significantly overspent at year-end. The overspend would have been greater if it hadn't been supported by the use of the Next Steps funding. This has supported clients who are unable to claim housing benefit and the need of the service to secure empty accommodation. The service only has available 10 units of temporary homelessness in Fylde and significantly relies of B&B accommodation.
	Rapid Re-housing Programme	28,866	19,250	546	-18,704	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	This is MHCLG funding for Rough Sleeper 3 year initiative which was not expected. As described above this funding has been merged with Ex-offenders funding to provide the rough sleeper and ex-offenders accommodation service. MHCLG have approved the merging of the two funding streams and extension of the project.
	Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP)	25,000	16,668	25,223	8,555	ADVERSE	BLUE	This is MHCLG Funding for Covid-19 recovery. Its delivering a range of housing support for clients within the homeless service i.e. household items, rent in advance/bonds and the provision of temporary accommodation in B&B. A further budget virement will be actioned to cover these additional costs.
	Hsing Benefit/Univrsal Credit Repayment	-45,000	-30,004	-35,451	-5,447	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	The Homeless service has seen high demand for temporary accommodation. All clients complete Housing benefit forms, but cost of accommodation in B&B varies per week from £120 - £350 and clients entitled to between £82.40 and £91.50 per week.
Housing Standards	Contribution to Care & Repair	30,000	20,004	0	-20,004	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	Pilot underway with Care and Repair Preston for Handyperson and Sanctuary Scheme awaiting invoice for Qtr 1 and Qtr 2. We expect this to be on target for year-end.
	Disabled Facilities Grant Fees	-160,000	-106,688	-95,803	10,885	ADVERSE	BLUE	The budget will be monitored throughout the rest of the year and adjusted through the MTFs if necessary.

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PLANNING COMMITTEE

Service Area	Detailed Description	Full Year Budget £	Budget as at Period 8 £	Actual & Commitments as at Period 8 £	Variance as at Period 8 £	FAV / ADV	Alert	Budget Holder Comments
Building Control	Plan, Inspection & Building Notice Fees	-211,500	-141,028	-176,508	-35,480	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	Increased Building Control fee income received in year due to an increased demand. These budgets will be kept under review during the remainder of the financial year and adjusted as necessary as part of the budget right-sizing exercise.
Development Management	Archaeology and Ecology Agreement	12,000	8,000	2,307	-5,693	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	Expenditure on Archaeological and ecological advice is determined by the nature of planning applications submitted. During the year to date there has been a reduced need to consult with these particular specialist bodies. The introduction of the requirement for new developments to 'Biological Net Gain' through the Environment Act 2021 is likely to require increased ecological advice.
	Planning Application Fees	-675,000	-450,088	-531,058	-80,970	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	The number of planning applications received is significantly higher than recent years. This may be a reflection of the economic recovery following the pandemic. The number of application fees received will continue to be monitored.
Planning Appeals	Planning Appeal Hearing Costs	45,000	30,004	0	-30,004	FAVOURABLE	GREEN	There has only been one planning hearing this year, which did not require the procurement of specialised advisors. Accordingly there has been no call on this budget in the year to date.
Planning Enforcement	Enforcement Costs	35,000	23,340	0	-23,340	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	Court action regarding the case this funding was set aside for was suspended due to the Coronavirus pandemic. As the courts reopen for business this funding will be required, although expenditure may be delayed as the courts recover from their backlog of cases.
Development Management Team	Consultants Fees	20,000	13,336	0	-13,336	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	This funding is held to allow the appointment of specialist consultants to assist in the determination of planning applications. Spend depends on the needs of the service based on the nature of applications received and continues to be reviewed on an ongoing basis.
Economic Regeneration	Consultants Fees	150,000	100,020	0	-100,020	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	This funding is held for the St Anne's Town Centre Masterplanning project. Work has been commissioned and is underway and this is expected to be fully spent in year.
Pleasure Island/Salters Wharf	Consultants Fees	120,000	80,016	0	-80,016	FAVOURABLE	BLUE	This funding is held for The Island MasterPlan project. Work has been commissioned and is underway and this is expected to be fully spent in year.
	LCC - Lancashire Economic Recovery Grant	-108,000	-72,016	0	72,016	ADVERSE	BLUE	Income to be claimed from Lancashire County Council as part of the Island MasterPlan Project through the Lancashire Economic Recovery Grant in line with agreed triggers set out in the Grant Fund Agreement.