

Public Document Pack



Ribble Valley
Borough Council

www.ribblevalley.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

The next meeting of the **HEALTH AND HOUSING** will be held at **6.30 pm** on **THURSDAY, 18 MARCH 2021** by **ZOOM**.

I do hope you can be there.

Yours sincerely

M. H. Scott

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** (Pages 3 - 8)
3. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS (IF ANY)**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in respect of matters contained in the agenda.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

ITEMS FOR DECISION

See below.

5. **JOINERS ARMS - ROOF RENEWAL AND RENOVATION WORKS** (Pages 9 - 12)

Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning - Enclosed

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

See below.

6. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021- 2022** (Pages 13 - 20)

Report by the Director of Resources - Enclosed

7. **REVENUE MONITORING 2020 - 2021** (Pages 21 - 30)
Report by the Director of Resources - Enclosed
8. **GREEN ENERGY GRANTS** (Pages 31 - 36)
Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning - Enclosed
9. **COVID-19 UPDATE** (Pages 37 - 40)
Report by the Chief Executive - Enclosed
10. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES (IF ANY)**
None.
11. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

ITEMS FOR DECISION

See below.

12. **REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TEAM** (Pages 41 - 44)
1
13. **CLITHEROE MARKET - RENTS UPDATE** (Pages 45 - 50)
1
Report by the Chief Executive - Enclosed

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

See below.

14. **HOUSING GRANTS - UPDATE** (Pages 51 - 54)
1
Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning - Enclosed

Electronic agendas sent to members of Health and Housing – Councillor Bridget Hilton (Chair), Councillor Jan Alcock JP (Vice-Chair), Councillor Stephen Atkinson, Councillor Anthony (Tony) Austin, Councillor David Birtwhistle, Councillor Rosemary (Rosie) Elms, Councillor Jonathan Hill, Councillor Mark Hindle, Councillor Brian Holden, Councillor Allan Knox, Councillor Richard Newmark, Councillor Donna O'Rourke, Councillor David Peat, Councillor Mary Robinson and Councillor Richard Sherras.

Minutes of Health and Housing

Meeting Date: Thursday, 14 January 2021, starting at 6.30 pm
Present: Councillor B Hilton (Chair)

Councillors:

J Alcock	B Holden
S Atkinson	A Knox
T Austin	R Newmark
D Birtwhistle	D O'Rourke
R Elms	D Peat
J Hill	M Robinson
M Hindle	R Sherras

In attendance: Chief Executive, Head of Regeneration and Housing, Acting Head of Environmental Health, Head of Financial Services and Senior Accountant

911 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

912 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on the 1 October 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

913 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

914 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (IF ANY)

There was no public participation.

915 REVISED REVENUE BUDGET 2020/2021

The Director of Resources submitted a report outlining the revised revenue budget for 2020/21 for this Committee. The Director reminded members that the original estimate for this current financial year was set in March 2020 and at this time of year the estimates are revised in order to predict the likely outturn. This also assists in preparing original estimates for the coming financial year.

Members were advised that the budget this year had been particularly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. The pandemic had also brought about wider pressures on service resources to the extent that there had been a lighter touch review of the budgets this year and the reporting is at a higher level than that usually provided.

Any impacts on fees and charges income due to Covid-19 were included within this Committee's estimates as was the estimated part-funding towards these losses from the government.

The proposed revised estimate budget for this Committee was £1,018,980, after allowing for movements in earmarked reserves. This is a decrease of £54,570 from the original estimate budget.

A comparison between the original and revised budgets for each cost centre was included for members information and the key movements were highlighted.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

Approved the revenue revised estimate for 2020/21 for this Committee.

916

REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES 2021/2022

The Director of Resources submitted a report seeking member approval on proposals to increase this Committee's fees and charges with effect from 1 April 2021. These fees and charges would operate for the duration of the 2021/22 financial year.

Members were reminded that the Council's fees and charges are reviewed on an annual basis as part of the budget setting process.

The Council's latest budget forecast allows for a 2% inflationary increase in the level of income raised from fees and charges and the review aimed to increase the budgeted income for 2021/22 by this amount when compared to this year's original budget estimate.

After applying this percentage increase, proposed charges had generally been rounded up to minimise any problems with small change. This inevitably impacted on the individual percentage rise for each separate charge, particularly when the current charge is low.

There were extremely high levels of uncertainty around income levels from the Council's fees and charges in light of Covid-19 and the impact this was having on use of the Council's services and facilities. In the current financial year, the government was partly compensating the Council for lost income at 75% of lost sales, fees and charges income – after first adjusting for 5% of total budgeted income. It was on the continuation of this, or alternatively the recovery of income levels, that the fees and charges had been set.

Following discussions between financial services, heads of service and budget holders, a proposed set of fees and charges for implementation from 1 April 2021 had been produced for this Committee for members to consider.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

1. Approved the fees and charges for this Committee for 2021/22 as outlined in Annex 1 of the report;
2. Requested officers to submit a general report to this Committee on Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO's) and their wider implications.

917

ORIGINAL REVENUE BUDGET - 2021/2022

The Director of Resources submitted a report asking members to agree a draft revenue budget for 2021/22 for this Committee for consideration at Special Policy and Finance Committee.

Committee were reminded that the Council's three-year budget forecast was last presented to Policy and Finance Committee in March 2020. At that time the following budget gaps had been predicted: £281,000 in 2021/22, £206,000 in 2022/23 and £337,000 in 2023/24, after allowing for the use of general fund balances.

At the time of producing the March forecast, the outcome of the Fair Funding Review, the potential changes to the New Homes Bonus Scheme and the implications of Business Rate Retention Reforms were unknown. The forecast was also made before the extent of the impact of Covid-19 in the current financial year was known.

Committee were informed that in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the government had scrapped its plans for a multi-year spending review and had instead conducted a one-year review for 2021/22.

The key messages that came out of the 2020 Spending Review were highlighted to Committee.

At the Policy and Finance Committee in November 2020, members had agreed with the conclusion of the Budget Working Group that the Council should prepare its budget on the 2020/2021 base budget plus inflation and on the expectation that any variance due to the Covid-19 pandemic would be made good by the government.

The Budget Working Group would then consider the overall position once all committees had approved their detailed estimates and would then make recommendations to Special Policy and Finance Committee on 2 February 2021 in order to achieve a balanced budget.

The proposed fees and charges for 2021/22 for this Committee had been considered by Committee earlier in the agenda and had already been incorporated into the service budgets on the assumption that they would be approved without material change.

The draft revenue budget estimates for this Committee had been prepared on current levels of service allowing for pay increases at 2% and price increases at 2%. The budget for each cost centre within the report was presented individually showing the original estimate, inflation, movements in expenditure, income, support services and capital, which then culminated in the draft original estimate for 2021/22.

The report detailed individual budget areas under this Committee and comments were provided on the key variations.

Committee was informed that approval of the original estimate budget for 2021/22 of £1,095,450 would see an increase in net expenditure of £21,900 compared with the original estimate budget for 2020/2021 after allowing for movements in earmarked reserves. The main reasons for the changes were summarised for committee's information.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

Approved the revenue original estimate for 2021/22 for this Committee and submit it to the Special Policy and Finance Committee.

918

REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/2021

The Director of Resources submitted a report seeking approval of the 2020/21 revised estimate for this Committee's capital programme.

In February and March 2020, three capital schemes with an original estimate budget of £513,940 had been approved. This included new annual budgets for two on-going grants schemes and also budget for two schemes that had been moved from the 2019/20 capital programme to the 2020/21 capital programme.

In addition to the original estimate other budget changes and approvals have been made in 2020/21. As a result, the total approved budget for this Committee's capital programme of six schemes was £1,446,220. This was set out in Annex 1 of the report.

Following discussions with budget holders on each of the schemes in the capital programme, a revised estimate of £1,277,520 was proposed for this Committee, which is a reduction of £168,700 from the total approved budget. The main reasons for the revised estimate budget changes were set out for Committee's information.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

1. Approved the 2020/21 revised estimate of £1,277,520 for this Committee's capital programme, as set out in Annex 1 of the report;
2. Approved the move of the following capital budgets from 2020/21 to 2021/22:
 - Landlord/Tenant Grants, £136,740.
 - Clitheroe Market Improvements, £78,600; and
3. Approved the transfer of £5,000 capital budget in 2020/21 from the Landlord/Tenant Grants Scheme to the Longridge Affordable Housing Scheme.

919

CAPITAL PROGRAMME REVIEW 2021/2022 TO 2024/2025

The Director of Resources submitted a report asking members to consider the proposed future four-year capital programme (2021/22 to 2024/25) for this Committee.

The future capital programme is reviewed and updated each year. In recent years, the Council has been setting a fully funded five-year capital programme each year. However, given the additional burdens and priority focus caused by the Covid-19 pandemic throughout 2020, the Budget Working Group had streamlined the capital programme budget update process for this year, moving to a four-year capital programme, covering 2021/22 to 2024/25, and there being no new capital bids for 2025/26 (year five).

After a review of the previously approved 2021/22 capital programme schemes and a review of the progress of schemes in the current year's capital programme, a proposed four-year capital programme of £1,943,240 for this Committee was proposed. Annex 1 of the report showed the schemes included in the proposed four-year capital programme.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE

1. Considered the proposed four-year capital programme (2021/22 to 2024/25) of £1,943,240 for this Committee, as set out in Annex 1 of the report.
2. Recommended to Policy and Finance Committee the proposed four-year capital programme (2021/22 to 2024/25) for this Committee, as set out in Annex 1 of the report.

920

REVISED ALLOCATIONS POLICY

The Director of Economic Development and Planning submitted a report proposing amendments to the Council's housing allocations policy.

The Report noted that on average there is between 900-1,000 households registered on the housing register. Therefore, a fair and transparent allocations policy is essential to ensure the correct priority is given to each and every household.

The propose amendments include changes to contact details and general changes in operational procedures. In addition, the report noted two key proposed amendments, these related to the Homeless Reduction Act 2017 and amendments to the awarding of points to households fleeing domestic violence.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

1. Agreed to the proposed amendments to the allocations policy and that the new policy as shown in Appendix 1 of the report is adopted and implemented.
2. Requested officers have regard to the circumstances of members/former members of the armed forces when considering the allocation of points and that this is clarified as appropriate in the policy document.

921

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES (IF ANY)

There were no reports from outside bodies.

922

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That by virtue of the next item of business being exempt information under Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

923

GRANTS UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Director of Economic Development and Planning informing the Committee of the grants that had been approved as at 30 November 2020.

The meeting closed at 8.13 pm

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact committee clerk Mike Hill; on 01200 414485 or email mike.hill@ribblevalley.gov.uk.

This page is intentionally left blank

DECISION

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: 18 MARCH 2021
title: JOINERS ARMS – ROOF RENEWAL AND RENOVATION WORKS
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
principal author: COLIN HIRST, HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING
ADRIAN HARPER, HEAD OF ENGINEERING

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To seek agreement to:

- bring forward the proposed roof renewal capital programme scheme at the Joiners Arms; and
- recommend a new capital scheme for renovation works to make two flats at Joiners Arms available for use again.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives – To meet the identified needs of households in the borough. To help make people's lives safer and healthier.
- Corporate Priorities – To be a well-managed authority.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Joiners Arms located at 90 Whalley Road, Clitheroe is the Council's homeless hostel. The unit provides a mix of self contained and shared facility flats to provide emergency temporary accommodation for those in need. The premises were taken back into Council management in 2017 following the ending of the previous agreement with Ribble Valley Homes (Onward) who managed the site for the previous 9 years.

2.2 Since being in Council management, repairs, maintenance and refurbishments have been undertaken to keep the building compliant and operationally fit for purpose. This has generally been ongoing maintenance and repairs, however the need to replace the roof was identified as a significant project out of the capital programme.

3. ROOF RENEWAL AND RENOVATION WORKS

3.1 Members will be familiar with the scheme in the current capital programme to re-roof the building. The relevant programme schedule is included at Appendix 1 to this report. This was initially programmed to be undertaken in the financial year 2023/24 at an estimated cost of £43,900, inclusive of an inflation uplift.

3.2 Recent adverse weather events and considerable, accelerated deterioration of the roof fabric has meant it is now a matter of some urgency that the re-roofing is undertaken. Consequently, Members are asked to approve the movement of the roof renewal capital scheme from the year 2023/24 to 2021/22 to enable the works to proceed. Bringing forward the scheme will reduce the scheme budget to £42,200, to reflect less inflation uplift.

- 3.3 In addition, at present two flats have had to be taken out of service as a result of damp and water ingress. The ceiling in flat 2 has collapsed as a result of water damage. Unfortunately, these units are two of the larger self-contained family flats which brings pressure on the service to accommodate users who need these larger units to meet their needs. Whilst temporary measures could be taken to mask the effects of damp in flat 1, without the roof renewal such measures would simply be a stop gap.
- 3.4 As Members will recall, most of the flats have been refurbished and renovated over a number of years to maintain a basic standard, however flats 1 and 2 have not had this work undertaken in part due to the damp. As well as dealing with the damp issues, these units also require redecoration, replacement of damaged and dangerous flooring, and kitchen renovations to flat 1 where the kitchen units are damaged and cannot be maintained to clean and hygienic standard.
- 3.5 The table below indicates the key renovation work needed to bring these two flats into service.

Flat 1

Strip out existing kitchen supply and install new contract kitchen, re-tile splashbacks and supply and install new 7L water heater.	£3,615.00
Strip walls of existing paper and re-paper with lining paper.	£1,450.00
Remove existing laminate flooring and replace with a suitable vinyl floor with weld joints.	£2,335.00
<u>Flat 1 Total</u>	<u>£7,400.00</u>

Flat 2

Strip walls of existing paper and re-paper with lining paper.	£1,500.00
Re-plaster to ceiling and wall in lounge area.	£2,300.00
Remove existing laminate flooring and replace with a suitable vinyl floor with weld joints.	£2,335.00
<u>Flat 2 Total</u>	<u>£6,135.00</u>

Estimated Total Costs £ 13,535.00

- 3.6 Work for maintenance repairs would normally be funded through established revenue budgets for Joiners Arms maintenance and in general work is undertaken within the normal programme of building maintenance and reactive repairs. However, as the work currently being proposed is considered beyond the scope of normal maintenance, it is proposed to undertake a new capital scheme for the renovation of flats 1 and 2 at Joiners Arms as soon as possible in 2021/22 to ensure the work can be progressed effectively and the flats brought back into use at the earliest point.
- 3.7 It is proposed to fund the £13,540 budget for the new capital scheme from amounts set aside in the Flexible Homelessness Support Grant earmarked reserve. This reserve funds measures necessary to meet the Council's homelessness duties.
- 3.8 Possible further work has also been identified in relation to the render to the rear of the building which is need of renovation and investigation is being undertaken. This will be the subject of a further report.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – The Joiners Arms Roof Renewal capital scheme is already funded as part of this Committee's approved four-year capital programme, but bringing forward the scheme by two years from 2023/24 to 2021/22 will reduce the scheme budget and associated funding required by £1,700, due to less inflation uplift. The proposed new capital scheme in 2021/22 for the renovation of flats 1 and 2 at Joiners Arms will require additional budget of £13,540 and this will be funded from the Flexible Homelessness Support Grant earmarked reserve. Whilst the flats are out of use, there is no opportunity to secure rental income and any need to provide externally sourced accommodation for families that cannot be met through the remaining available flats is likely to be a significant cost on the service depending upon what accommodation can be sourced.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – The Council has a duty to make provision to address homelessness and any accommodation within its management must be fit for purpose and meet minimum standards.
- Political – N/A
- Reputation – The issues considered in this report help demonstrate the Council is a well-managed authority and that accommodation offered is fit for purpose.
- Equality & Diversity – N/A

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 5.1 Approve the move of the Joiners Arms Roof Renewal capital scheme from the 2023/24 capital programme to the 2021/22 capital programme, with a revised budget of £42,200, and refer this to Policy and Finance Committee for final approval.
- 5.2 Approve a new capital scheme for the renovation of flats 1 and 2 at Joiners Arms, with a budget of £13,540 funded from the Flexible Homelessness Support Grant earmarked reserve, and refer this to Policy and Finance Committee for final approval.

COLIN HIRST
HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

ADRIAN HARPER
HEAD OF ENGINEERING

NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

For further information please ask for Colin Hirst, extension 4503 or Adrian Harper, extension 4523.

Joiners Arms Roof Renewal – Capital Scheme

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The existing roof coverings on the property (main & extension roofs) have reached the end of their expected life span, the roof felt has become brittle and perished in places and there are significant numbers of visibly broken tiles. It is anticipated that the majority of the roof tiles are degraded and brittle beyond repair. The chimneys and associated flashings and mortar flashing etc. are in need of repair work, as are the rainwater goods. Replacement of the roof covering will require installation of additional insulation in the roof between the rafters to comply with Building Regulations. The property is a Grade II Listed Building, this scheme proposes to remove and replace the existing roof covering to ensure the fabric of the building is protected from further water ingress and the property is fit-for-purpose in-line with the Council's policies. The existing covering will be removed and replaced with Blue Slate as per the requirements of RVBC's Planning department.

Revenue Implications:

Lost rent income implications, only if any of the flats become uninhabitable, but work should be scheduled without the need to close any of the rooms during the scheme.

Timescale for Completion:

It is anticipated that the works will take 6-8 weeks to fully complete.

Any Risks to Completion:

Adverse/inclement weather conditions, so schedule work in summer.

Capital Cost:

	2021/22 £
Contractors	41,330
Internal Staff Time	670
Planning Fees / Building Regulations	200
Total Capital Cost	42,200

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: 18 MARCH 2021
 title: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: ANDREW COOK

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform members of the schemes which have been approved for inclusion in this Committee's 2021/22 capital programme.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 As members will be aware, at its meeting on 14 January 2021 this Committee proposed a four-year capital programme for 2021/22 to 2024/25 to Special Policy and Finance Committee.

2.2 Following recommendation by Special Policy and Finance Committee on 16 February 2021, Full Council approved the four-year capital programme for 2021/22 to 2024/25 on 2 March 2021.

2.3 The Council's overall capital programme for the four-year period 2021/22 to 2024/25 totals £6,011,700 for all committees. The total for this Committee is £1,943,240 over the four-year life of the programme. £639,640 of this relates to the 2021/22 financial year.

3 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 – APPROVED SCHEMES

3.1 For this Committee there are five approved schemes in the 2021/22 capital programme, totalling £639,640. These are shown in the table below.

Cost Centre	Scheme	Budget for 2021/22 £
DISCP	Disabled Facilities Grants (<i>budget to be confirmed when 2021/22 final grant allocation is notified</i>)	347,000
LANGR	Landlord/Tenant Grants (<i>Includes £136,740 budget moved from 2020/21</i>)	186,740
CMIMP	Clitheroe Market Improvements (<i>Budget moved from 2020/21</i>)	78,600
PVFJP	Replacement of Pest Control Van (PK13 FJP)	13,800
PVEYC	Replacement of Dog Warden Van (PE64 EYC)	13,500
	Total - Health and Housing Committee	639,640

- 3.2 The Disabled Facilities Grants scheme is funded by a yearly grant allocation from central government. The scheme is included in the original estimate capital programme at an indicative value of £347,000, on the basis that the scheme budget will be re-set to match the actual Disabled Facilities Grants 2021/22 grant allocation from central government, when notified to the Council.
- 3.3 The detailed information for each scheme is shown in **Annex 1**.
- 3.4 During the closure of our capital accounts there may be some slippage on schemes in the current financial year, 2020/21. A report will be brought to a future meeting of this Committee giving details of any slippage on 2020/21 capital schemes and any slippage will also be reported to Budget Working Group.
- 3.5 Responsible officers will complete and update capital monitoring sheets for each scheme, which will be reported regularly to members to give an indication of progress.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 This Committee has a capital programme for 2021/22 of five schemes, totalling £639,640.
- 4.2 The Disabled Facilities Grants scheme budget is currently an indicative amount. The actual scheme budget will be confirmed when the 2021/22 grant allocation from central government is notified to the Council.
- 4.3 Any slippage on schemes in the 2020/21 capital programme will be reported to this Committee.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

HH7-21/AC/AC
5 March 2021

Disabled Facilities Grants

Service Area: Housing and Regeneration

Submitted by: Colin Hirst

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The scheme provides grant aid to adapt homes so elderly and disabled occupants can remain in their own home. The grants can provide for minor adaptation, for example the installation of a stair lift, up to the provision of a bathroom and bedroom extension.

Revenue Implications:

Administration fees are paid to the Council for any individual Disabled Facilities Grants scheme that the Council administers. The actual administration fee income varies each year, dependent on the number and value of schemes completed in-year.

Timescale for Completion:

The Disabled Facilities Grants budget operates throughout the financial year.

Any Risks to Completion:

The population age of Ribble Valley occupants is increasing and therefore demand for the service will continue, but with finite resources.

The scheme is dependent on the level of funding awarded by the government.

Capital Cost:

2021/22 £
347,000

Please Note - The value above is indicative only and the actual scheme budget will be set to match the actual government grant funding received in-year. Notification of the 2021/22 funding allocation is expected in Spring 2021.

Landlord/Tenant Grants

Service Area: Housing and Regeneration

Submitted by: Colin Hirst

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The scheme match funds a landlord's investment in a property in return for an affordable rental property. Conditions of the grant are nomination rights and a set rent level in line with LHA. The scheme is crucial for move-on accommodation for families in temporary accommodation as the social housing waiting list is so long. The scheme is also used to bring empty properties back into use.

Revenue Implications:

Administration fees are paid to the Council for any individual Landlord/Tenant Grants scheme that the Council administers. The actual administration fee income varies each year, dependent on the number and value of schemes completed in-year.

Timescale for Completion:

The Landlord/Tenant Grants budget operates throughout the financial year.

Any Risks to Completion:

Dependent on demand for the scheme.

Capital Cost:

2021/22 £
186,740

Please Note – The £186,740 budget for 2021/22 is made up of two elements:

- *£50,000 capital scheme bid for 2021/22.*
- *In January 2021 this Committee approved the move of £136,740 of the 2020/21 Landlord/Tenant Grants scheme budget from 2020/21 to the 2021/22 financial year. This was because Housing officers did not expect any further grants to be approved and completed in 2020/21 in addition to the grants already approved at that stage.*

Clitheroe Market Improvements

Service Area: Regeneration and Clitheroe Market

Submitted by: Nicola Hopkins and Heather Barton

Budget moved from 2020/21:

The work on the initial phase of market improvements was completed in 2020/21 and there is £78,600 budget available for a further phase of market improvements. The plans for this further phase will be worked up by officers in 2021. Following consultation with the market traders, the plans will be reported to a future meeting of the Health and Housing Committee for approval before work commences. Therefore, the further phase of works will not be undertaken in 2020/21.

Given the above, in January 2021 this Committee approved the move of the £78,600 remaining scheme budget from 2020/21 to the 2021/22 financial year.

Capital Cost:

2021/22 £
78,600

Replacement of Pest Control Van (PK13 FJP)

Service Area: Dog Warden & Pest Control

Submitted by: Heather Barton

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The current van (Fiat Doblo 1.3 SX Panel Van) is required to transport pest control staff to various sites around the borough to carry out their work. The van was 7 years old in May 2020 and initially programmed for replacement at that point. However, a review of the van in 2019 identified that the van was in good enough condition to move back the planned replacement from 2020/21 to 2021/22.

The bid is for the purchase of the basic van plus additional adaptations to make the van fit for pest control purposes.

Revenue Implications:

There are no additional revenue implications above those of the existing van.

Timescale for Completion:

2021/22.

Any Risks to Completion:

None identified.

Capital Cost:

2021/22 £
13,800

Replacement of Dog Warden Van (PE64 EYC)

Service Area: Dog Warden & Pest Control

Submitted by: Heather Barton

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The current van (Fiat Doblo 1.3 SX Panel Van) will be 7 years old and ready for replacement in May 2021. The van is required to transport dog warden staff to various sites around the borough to carry out their work.

The bid is for the purchase of the basic van plus additional adaptations to make the van fit for dog warden purposes.

Revenue Implications:

There are no additional revenue implications above those of the existing van.

Timescale for Completion:

2021/22.

Any Risks to Completion:

None identified.

Capital Cost:

2021/22
£
13,500

This page is intentionally left blank

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: 18 MARCH 2021
 title: REVENUE MONITORING 2020/21
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: ANDREW COOK

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide this Committee with information relating to the progress of the 2020/21 revised revenue budget, as at the end of January 2021.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – none identified.
- Corporate Priorities - to continue to be a well-managed council providing efficient services based on identified customer need, whilst ensuring the Council provides council tax payers with value for money.
- Other Considerations – none identified.

2 REVENUE MONITORING 2020/21

2.1 Shown below, by cost centre, is a comparison between actual expenditure and the revised estimate budget for the period April 2020 to January 2021. You will see an overall overspend of £33,340 on the net cost of services, after allowing for transfers to and from earmarked reserves. Please note that underspends and additional income are denoted by figures with a minus symbol.

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Budget for the Full Year £	Budget to end of January 2021 £	Actual including Commitments to end of January 2021 £	Variance £	
AFHOU	Affordable Rent Properties	-266,850	-2,962	-3,110	-148	G
APLAC	Alma Place Unit	2,370	-248	-967	-719	G
AWARM	Affordable Warmth	410	344	0	-344	G
BURCR	Burials & Cremations	0	0	0	0	G
CLAIR	Clean Air	1,820	434	712	278	G
CLAND	Contaminated Land	9,430	0	0	0	G
CLCEM	Clitheroe Cemetery	40,320	-6,524	-10,242	-3,718	A
CLDCY	Closed Churchyards	5,220	4,350	3,553	-797	G
CLMKT	Clitheroe Market	-39,810	-112,046	-112,004	42	G
CMGHH	Community Groups - Health & Housing	15,210	0	0	0	G
COMNL	Common Land	2,450	568	0	-568	G
CTBEN	Localised Council Tax Support Admin	151,820	-15,196	-18,007	-2,811	A

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Budget for the Full Year £	Budget to end of January 2021 £	Actual including Commitments to end of January 2021 £	Variance £	
DOGWD	Dog Warden & Pest Control	112,800	27,600	26,201	-1,399	G
ENVHT	Environmental Health Services	302,740	-15,200	-21,123	-5,923	R
HGBEN	Housing Benefits	120,190	-66,086	-9,792	56,294	R
HOMEE	Home Energy Conservation	6,570	360	0	-360	G
HOMES	Homelessness Strategy	50,440	-29,846	-37,288	-7,442	R
HSASS	Housing Associations	6,710	0	0	0	G
HSTRA	Housing Strategy	49,020	286	-187	-473	G
IMPGR	Improvement Grants	79,010	-20,948	-20,224	724	G
JARMS	Joiners Arms	41,990	10,804	11,371	567	G
SHARE	Shared Ownership Rents	-400	-1,300	-1,303	-3	G
SUPPE	Supporting People	19,220	11,900	11,698	-202	G
UCRED	Universal Credit	22,680	-2,880	-2,882	-2	G
Net Cost of Services		733,360	-216,590	-183,594	32,996	
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves						
	Housing Related Grants Reserve - Affordable Warmth Grant	-410	-344	0	344	
	Housing Related Grants Reserve - Domestic Abuse Outreach Support Service	-11,700	-11,700	-11,700	0	
	Housing Related Grants Reserve - Homelessness Reduction Act Funding	7,090	0	0	0	
	Housing Related Grants Reserve - Flexible Homelessness Support Grant	26,740	0	0	0	
	Business Rates Growth Reserve	-480	-480	-480	0	
	Equipment Reserve - Joiners Arms Furniture and Equipment Reserve	-2,230	-2,230	-2,230	0	
	Capital Reserve	266,610	0	0	0	
Net Cost of Services after transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves		1,018,980	-231,344	-198,004	33,340	

Key to Variance shading	
Variance of £5,000 or more (Red)	R
Variance between £2,000 and £4,999 (Amber)	A
Variance less than £2,000 (Green)	G

- 2.2 The red variances highlight specific areas of high concern, for which budget holders are required to have an action plan. Amber variances are potential areas of high concern and green variances are areas which currently do not present any significant concern.
- 2.3 The main variances between budget and actuals on individual budget codes within cost centres have also been highlighted and explained, as follows:
- Red budget code variances (£5,000 or more) are shown with the budget holder's comments and agreed actions in Annex 1.
 - Amber budget code variances (£2,000 to £4,999) are shown with the budget holder's comments in Annex 2.
- 2.4 The largest overspend to date is the Housing Benefits rent allowance net overspend of £65,680 which will be broadly funded by increased Housing Benefits subsidy grant income at year-end. Thus, there will be no significant overspend at year-end.
- 2.5 Outlined below are the main variances to the end of January 2021 that are unlikely to be rectified by the end of the financial year:

Description	Variance to the end of January 2021 £
Clitheroe Cemetery/Interment Fees and Exclusive Woodland Burial Rights Fees - Higher income due to both normal year-on-year variations in the numbers of interments and plot reservations and a number of non-residents interments for the year to date. <i>Some of this increased income will be used to offset the repairs overspend at Clitheroe Market.</i>	-6,425
Homelessness Strategy/Homelessness Temporary Accommodation – Increased homelessness costs in-year due to Covid-19 are being covered by MHCLG Covid-19 funding under the Policy and Finance Committee budget. As a result, the impact for this Committee is an underspend to date on the normal homelessness temporary accommodation budget. <i>Some of this underspend will be used to offset the repairs overspend at Joiners Arms homelessness unit.</i>	-4,978
Environmental Health Services/Street Trading Licences - Several new street trading licences issued in-year, which has resulted in increased income in this demand-led licence income area.	-4,770
Dog Warden & Pest Control/Grounds Maintenance – Increased costs due to some increased dog bin emptying work in-year and an increase in the internal charge out rate in-year. <i>Budget will be transferred from the Ribble Valley Parks grounds maintenance budget to cover this overspend.</i>	2,021
Clitheroe Market/Repair & Maintenance - Buildings – Increased costs due to extra tarmacing, other essential repairs works and electrical testing in-year, plus an increase in the internal charge out rate in-year. <i>Increased income above budget from Clitheroe Cemetery will be used to cover this overspend.</i>	4,230
Joiners Arms/Repair & Maintenance - Buildings – Increased costs due to significant re-decoration work in-year, the impact of higher Covid-19 occupancy and an increase in the internal charge out rate in-year. <i>Budget will be transferred from the Homelessness Temporary Accommodation budget to cover this overspend.</i>	4,634

2.6 A number of service areas reported here may show income levels as being similar to that normally expected. However, as invoiced income shown in this report represents that which has been invoiced rather than actually paid, this masks issues around levels of outstanding debt, notably as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on businesses and individuals.

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 The comparison between actual expenditure and the revised estimate budget for this Committee at the end of January 2021 shows a net overspend of £33,340, after allowing for transfers to and from earmarked reserves.

3.2 The largest overspend to date is the Housing Benefits rent allowance net overspend of £65,680 which will be broadly funded by increased Housing Benefits subsidy grant income at year-end. Thus, there will be no significant overspend at year-end.

3.3 There is a high level of outstanding debt on invoiced income in some service areas as a result of Covid-19.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

HH6-21AC/AC
5 March 2021

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None
For further information please ask for Andrew Cook

Health and Housing Committee Revenue Monitoring – Red Variances

Ledger Code	Ledger Code Name	Budget for the Full Year £	Budget to end of January 2021 £	Actual including Commitments to end of January 2021 £	Variance £		Reason for Variance	Action Plan as agreed between the Budget Holder and Accountant
HGBEN/8007z Page 25	Housing Benefits/HRA Rent Rebate Grant	-30,130	-25,110	-32,100	-6,990	R	More Rent Rebate grant subsidy income to date than budgeted for at Revised Estimate. This is because actual income is in line with estimates prepared for the 2020/21 DWP subsidy grant Mid-Year Estimate in August 2020, whereas the 2020/21 Revised Estimate produced in December 2020 estimated less subsidy income for the full-year than the Mid-Year Estimate, based on less Covid-19 impact for the rest of the financial year.	The level of subsidy grant income received at year-end and the level of Flexible Homelessness Support Grant allocated to support homelessness unit rent rebate payments at year-end will broadly cover the Rent Rebates payments made in-year. As a result, there is no significant over-recovery of Rent Rebates grant income expected for the full year, at this stage.

Health and Housing Committee Revenue Monitoring – Red Variances

Ledger Code	Ledger Code Name	Budget for the Full Year £	Budget to end of January 2021 £	Actual including Commitments to end of January 2021 £	Variance £	Reason for Variance	Action Plan as agreed between the Budget Holder and Accountant
HGBEN/8814z	Housing Benefits/Recovery of Rent Allowance Payments	-25,110	2,862	28,041	65,680	R Rent Allowance payments are 1.4% higher than budgeted for at revised estimate stage, after adjusting for recovery of benefits overpayments and non-cash transactions. We budgeted for Rent Allowance caseload to reduce and associated payments to reduce, mainly due to the on-going caseload migration from Housing Benefits to Universal Credit in Ribble Valley. The caseload reduction impact on actual payments to date in 2020/21 is less than budgeted for. In addition, there have been less benefits overpayments invoiced for the year to date than budgeted for (the level of overpayments can fluctuate from year to year and in-year).	Any higher Rent Allowance payments for the year as a whole will be reflected in more Rent Allowance subsidy grant income received at year-end from the DWP, as payments for the full year are broadly funded by subsidy grant received at year-end. As a result, there is unlikely to be a significant net overspend at year-end.
HGBEN/4652	Housing Benefits/Rent Allowance Payments	5,548,240	4,706,016	4,746,517			

Page 26

Health and Housing Committee Revenue Monitoring – Amber Variances

Ledger Code	Ledger Code Name	Budget for the Full Year £	Budget to end of January 2021 £	Actual including Commitments to end of January 2021 £	Variance £		Reason for Variance
HOMES/ 2450	Homelessness Strategy/Homelessness Temporary Accommodation	5,630	4,692	-286	-4,978	A	The Council has incurred significant additional homelessness temporary accommodation costs for the year to date, due to a rise in homelessness cases caused by Covid-19 and the implementation of the national no rough sleeping policy operating during pandemic lockdown periods. However, these costs are being covered by MHCLG Covid-19 funding, including some specific homelessness grants, under the Policy and Finance Committee budget. As a result, the impact for this Committee is an underspend to date on the normal homelessness temporary accommodation budget.
ENVHT/ 8430u	Environmental Health Services/Street Trading Licence	-7,150	-7,150	-11,920	-4,770	A	There have been several new street trading licences issued in-year, which has resulted in increased income in this demand-led licence income area.
CLCEM/ 8441u	Clitheroe Cemetery/Interment Fees	-41,760	-34,802	-38,985	-4,183	A	Higher interments income due to both the normal year-on-year variations in the numbers of interments requested in this demand-led income area and a number of non-residents interments for the year to date (non-residents interment fees are double the fees charged to residents).
CLCEM/ 8747u	Clitheroe Cemetery/Exclusive Woodland Burial Rights	-6,680	-5,568	-7,810	-2,242	A	Higher income due to the normal year-on-year and in-year variations in the numbers of plot reservations in this demand-led income area, for the year to date.

Page 24

Health and Housing Committee Revenue Monitoring – Amber Variances

Ledger Code	Ledger Code Name	Budget for the Full Year £	Budget to end of January 2021 £	Actual including Commitments to end of January 2021 £	Variance £		Reason for Variance
DOGWD/ 5056	Dog Warden & Pest Control/Grounds Maintenance	19,490	16,244	18,265	2,021	A	<p>There has been some extra dog bin emptying work undertaken by grounds maintenance in response to call backs where bins become full between scheduled emptying dates and also covering dog bin emptying where there were vacancies and sickness on the dog warden service earlier in the financial year. In addition, there has been an increase in the internal charge out rate per hour for the grounds maintenance team, who undertake this work, because of the impact of sickness and Covid-19.</p> <p>Budget will be transferred from Ribble Valley Parks grounds maintenance budget to cover this overspend.</p>
CLMKT/ 2402	Clitheroe Market/Repair & Maintenance - Buildings	13,940	12,191	16,421	4,230	A	<p>Increased costs due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extra works to date, those being tarmac works, in response to the poor state of some surface areas through wear and tear and increased vehicle access and footfall at the market this year, plus works on market cabin doors and shutters repairs, railings works on the market café and the five yearly electrical testing work for the whole market being undertaken in summer 2020. - An increase in the internal charge out rate per hour for the works administration team, who undertake some of this work, because of the impact of sickness and Covid-19. <p>This has led to an overspend against the full year budget.</p> <p>Increased income above budget from Clitheroe Cemetery will be used to cover this overspend.</p>

Health and Housing Committee Revenue Monitoring – Amber Variances

Ledger Code	Ledger Code Name	Budget for the Full Year £	Budget to end of January 2021 £	Actual including Commitments to end of January 2021 £	Variance £		Reason for Variance
JARMS/ 2402	Joiners Arms/Repair & Maintenance - Buildings	13,300	11,084	15,718	4,634	A	<p>Increased costs due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Significant re-decoration work in-year and impact from higher Covid-19 occupancy in summer 2020. - An increase in the internal charge out rate per hour for the works administration team, who undertake some of this work, because of the impact of sickness and Covid-19. <p>This has led to an overspend against the full year budget.</p> <p>Budget will be transferred from the Homelessness Temporary Accommodation budget to cover this overspend.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

**RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE**

meeting date: THURSDAY, 18 MARCH 2021
title: GREEN ENERGY GRANTS
submitted by: NICOLA HOPKINS – DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
principal author: COLIN HIRST – HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To receive information on current energy efficiency projects in the borough.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
- Community Objectives – To meet the identified needs of households in the borough. To help keep the community safe and healthier.
 - Corporate Priorities – None.
 - Other Considerations – None.

2 INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Government announced a Green Homes Energy Scheme as a package of support promoted to help with installing energy efficient improvements in residential houses. It is aimed at making homes more energy efficient from both a fuel poverty fuel point but also from a reducing carbon consideration as well.
- 2.2 At present there are two broad elements of the scheme; one delivered by way of vouchers and independent installers and the other is known as the Local Authority Delivered Scheme (LAD) which the Council is more directly involved in.
- 2.3 Homeowners or residential landlords can apply for green homes grant vouchers to help fund the costs of installing energy efficient improvements to their houses. It cannot be used on new properties and whilst it is means tested most households will be eligible for some form of contribution. The maximum Government contribution is £5,000 to cover two thirds of the cost of eligible improvements. For households that qualify on a low income, the costs come up to £10,000 of support. More information is available on the Government's website at:
www.gov.uk/guidance/applyforthegreenhomesgrantscheme
- 2.4 In addition to the general scheme a separate part of the Green Homes Grant Scheme is delivered through local authority partnerships. In Lancashire home energy issues have been dealt with by way of a long-standing partnership of the Lancashire Energy Officers' Group of which this Council has been a member for many years.
- 2.5 In terms of projects, delivery of any funding is through the partnership known as CHil (Cosy Homes in Lancashire) which for some years now has taken forward affordable warmth and home energy support.
- 2.6 As part of the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery (Phase 2) the Northwest of England will receive up to £52.8m to support local authority delivery from January 2021. Northwest England covers Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Liverpool, Cheshire and Warrington. The estimated share for Lancashire is some £10.5m plus to 12% costs for admin. The local authority partnership across Lancashire did not submit a bid to Phase 1 of the project due to time and operational constraints, however LAD Phase 2 aims to support low income households living in energy

inefficient homes, without the Council being part of the LAD scheme, local residents would be ineligible to apply for any of the grant support.

- 2.7 The LAD scheme will upgrade homes delivering progress towards the statutory fuel poverty target for England, the phasing out of the installation of high carbon fossil fuel heating systems and reducing air quality emissions and helping to contribute towards the UK's target to be carbon net zero by 2050.
- 2.8 The current proposal submitted on behalf of all Lancashire Authorities by Blackpool seeks to deliver the following energy measures to improve SAP/EPC ratings. for residents:
- air source heat pumps,
 - solid wall insulation
 - solar voltaic cells

The measures are particularly targeted towards both rural and non-rural areas. In Ribble Valley addressing low carbon fuel is often a problem due to the nature of the housing stock and the fact that so many premises are off grid making fuel choices limited.

- 2.9 Within the LAD scheme, to be eligible, low income households are considered households with a combined annual income of less than £30,000 or where residents are on predetermined, qualifying benefits. It is also important to recognise that private homeowners will also be eligible for grants together with those in rental properties, social or private, which broadens the opportunity for people to access support for home energy improvements.
- 2.10 Under this project Blackpool Council will be the accountable authority and a procurement process has taken place to appoint RHEA projects on behalf of Chil to administer the grant. The grant proposals are now live and a copy of the promotional literature is attached at Appendix 1 for reference. In terms of the commitment from this Council we are asked to provide addresses and areas of properties with the lowest SAP/EPC ratings from data that we can access and also to ensure that this process is promoted within the area following the launch of the grant scheme on 15 March.
- 2.11 Under the scheme, whilst households with a combined annual income of less than £30,000 are eligible, all properties in the borough with a combined income of over £30,000 can still apply individually for grants up to £5,000 per properties for initiatives to improve the SAP rating. This is done through the Green Homes Grant Improvement Scheme referenced above.

3 LOW CARBON COMMUNITY HEAT PROJECT

- 3.1 Government have allocated funding through the Rural Community Energy Fund Grant for replacing costly energy provision in rural communities with renewable energy sources as part of an initiative to help promote the shift towards low carbon heating. The project was open for communities to bid into where relevant criteria could be met.
- 3.2 Within Ribble Valley initially a number of villages were researched to identify those that could be put forward typically being off the gas grid, having clusters of properties which were both privately owned and social housing and had a mixture of house types particularly those that were hard to heat.
- 3.3 Chipping Community Land Trust, together with the Parish Council, sought support to use Chipping as a Community Heat Pilot Project under this scheme, looking at options around lower carbon heating for the village. The Rural Community Energy Fund Grant was available to bid in to and a bid was made by the partners into this initial application stage. A strength of the bid is that the Parish Council and the Community Land Trust

sought to bring together the clusters of housing and ownership issue with community interest and that the Parish Council through its own control of the playing field in close proximity to village housing clusters has the ability to deliver an alternative Community Heat Project.

- 3.4 The grant team is now in the process of selecting an organisation to carry out a feasibility study and it is hoped that the Chipping Partnership will be selected as one of the pilots, particularly as it is able to offer the pilot criteria the project was seeking.
- 3.5 If, as a result of the feasibility study, it is shown that it is feasible to deliver further community heat projects, further funding can be applied for by way of development grants with the scheme ultimately becoming a demonstration model for other villages, not just in Ribble Valley but throughout the Northwest. This project is being led by the Rural Community Energy Fund Northwest and Members will be kept informed of progress.

COLIN HIRST
HEAD OF REGENERATION & HOUSING

NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

For further information please ask for Jill Brown (Housing Officer – Energy) ext.4567 or Colin Hirst, extension 4503.

REF: CH/CMS/H&H/18 March 2021

LIVING IN A COLD HOME?

**WE CAN PICK UP THE BILL
TO MAKE YOU WARMER**



The Government's 'Green Homes Grant' is now available to Lancashire residents.

If you are a homeowner and/or a landlord, you may be able entitled to receive up to £10,000* to improve the energy efficiency of your property! This means you can get warm and stay warm whilst your heating bills fall.

Page 34

What is a Green Homes Grant?

In July 2020 the Government announced a £2 billion Green Homes Grant scheme, £500 million of which was allocated to Local Authorities to improve the energy efficiency of homes of low-income households by installing insulation measures and renewable heating technologies. The Lancashire Authorities have successfully secured funding to enable Green Home Grants to be offered to eligible residents.

The grant is worth up to £10,000 per property and is free for owner occupiers. A small contribution will be required from Private Landlords.

More information can be found at www.chil.uk.com

Will I qualify?

You'd be surprised who qualifies for the Green Homes Grant scheme.

If you are in receipt of any benefits then it's more than likely that you will qualify. You can also qualify by meeting other certain criteria too, such as: earning less than £30k pa, savings under £16K and with a health vulnerability.

One quick phone call is all it takes to assess your eligibility - so contact us today on 03306 061 488

How do I know the scheme is legitimate?

The scheme will be delivered with the support of your Local Authority. All work undertaken will be in accordance with current Government Retrofit standards (PAS 2035:2019) and will be carried out by Trustmark-registered installers.

How do I access this grant?

Apply online at www.chil.uk.com or call our local rate number so we can establish your eligibility and explain the process to you. Surveys will be carried out by one of our expert council-approved energy and heating specialists.

Following the survey, recommendations will be made to you about the most suitable energy efficiency improvements for your home to improve the thermal comfort and save you money on future energy bills.



IS YOUR HOUSE WINTER READY?

WE CAN PICK UP THE BILL TO MAKE YOU WARMER



The Government's 'Green Homes Grant' is now available to Lancashire residents.

If you are a homeowner and/or a landlord, you may be able entitled to receive up to £10,000* to improve the energy efficiency of your property! This means you can get warm and stay warm whilst your heating bills fall.

Call us now to speak to a friendly advisor

03306 061 488

www.chil.uk.com



What is a Green Homes Grant?

In July 2020 the Government announced a £2 billion Green Homes Grant scheme, £500 million of which was allocated to Local Authorities to improve the energy efficiency of homes of low-income households by installing insulation measures and renewable heating technologies. The Lancashire Authorities have successfully secured funding to enable Green Home Grants to be offered to eligible residents.

The grant is worth up to £10,000 per property and is free for owner occupiers. A small contribution will be required from Private Landlords.

More information can be found at www.chil.uk.com

Will I qualify?

You'd be surprised who qualifies for the Green Homes Grant scheme.

If you are in receipt of any benefits then it's more than likely that you will qualify. You can also qualify by meeting other certain criteria too, such as: earning less than £30k pa, savings under £16K and with a health vulnerability.

One quick phone call is all it takes to assess your eligibility - **so contact us today on 03306 061 488**

How do I know the scheme is legitimate?

The scheme will be delivered with the support of your Local Authority. All work undertaken will be in accordance with current Government Retrofit standards (PAS 2035.2019) and will be carried out by Trustmark-registered installers.

How do I access this grant?

Apply online at www.chil.uk.com or call our local rate number so we can establish your eligibility and explain the process to you. Surveys will be carried out by one of our expert council-approved energy and heating specialists.

Following the survey, recommendations will be made to you about the most suitable energy efficiency improvements for your home to improve the thermal comfort and save you money on future energy bills.



Funding has been secured by Blackpool Council on behalf of all Lancashire Authorities with the aim of reducing fuel poverty across the County. Administered by Rhea Projects Ltd.

WINTER IS COMING

WITH OUR HELP YOU CAN BE PREPARED



The Government's 'Green Homes Grant'
is now available to Lancashire residents.

If you are a homeowner and/or a landlord, you may be able entitled to receive up to £10,000* to improve the energy efficiency of your property! This means you can get warm and stay warm whilst your heating bills fall.

What is a Green Homes Grant?

In July 2020 the Government announced a £2 billion Green Homes Grant scheme, £500 million of which was allocated to Local Authorities to improve the energy efficiency of homes of low-income households by installing insulation measures and renewable heating technologies. The Lancashire Authorities have successfully secured funding to enable Green Home Grants to be offered to eligible residents.

The grant is worth up to £10,000 per property and is free for owner occupiers. A small contribution will be required from Private Landlords.

More information can be found at www.chil.uk.com

Will I qualify?

You'd be surprised who qualifies for the Green Homes Grant scheme.

If you are in receipt of any benefits then it's more than likely that you will qualify. You can also qualify by meeting other certain criteria too, such as: earning less than £30k pa, savings under £16K and with a health vulnerability.

One quick phone call is all it takes to assess your eligibility - **so contact us today on 03306 061 488**

How do I know the scheme is legitimate?

The scheme will be delivered with the support of your Local Authority. All work undertaken will be in accordance with current Government Retrofit standards (PAS 2035:2019) and will be carried out by Trustmark-registered installers.

How do I access this grant?

Apply online at www.chil.uk.com or call our local rate number so we can establish your eligibility and explain the process to you. Surveys will be carried out by one of our expert council-approved energy and heating specialists.

Following the survey, recommendations will be made to you about the most suitable energy efficiency improvements for your home to improve the thermal comfort and save you money on future energy bills.

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: THURSDAY, 18 MARCH 2021 VIA ZOOM
 title: UPDATE ON COVID-19 PANDEMIC
 submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
 principal author: MATTHEW RIDING – ACTING HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Committee of the current status of the Covid-19 pandemic in the Ribble Valley.

1.2 Relevance to the Council’s ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives – None.
- Corporate Priorities - To help make people’s lives safer and healthier.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Following the Chief Executive’s presentation to Health and Housing Committee on 14 January 2021, it was considered important to provide a regular update to members on the current level of infection in the Ribble Valley, and also to highlight a couple of initiatives that have recently been introduced by the Council.

3 ISSUES

3.1 Numbers of Covid-19 Cases in the Ribble Valley

Week Ending	Daily incidence per 100,000 (7-day Moving Average)	Confirmed Cases (last 7 days)
8/1/21	627	381
15/1/21	506	306
22/1/21	353	213
29/1/21	279	148
5/2/21	192	130
13/2/21	151	92
19/2/21	140	85

The daily incidence and number of confirmed cases have reduced by over 75% during the six-week period, 8 January to 19 February 2021. Since the beginning of January, there have been four significant outbreaks in Ribble Valley Care Settings (Nursing/Residential Homes) affecting 66 residents and 49 staff. Two large workplaces have also been affected.

The mortality rate in the Ribble Valley has been lower than the national mortality rate, although there have been 58 deaths of Ribble Valley residents throughout the first two months of this year (those residents who have died within 28 days of the first positive test result for Covid-19).

3.2 Testing for Covid-19

Symptomatic Testing

Site Location	Number of Tests (% site capacity)						
	7-13 Jan	14-20 Jan	21-27 Jan	28 Jan-3 Feb	4-10 Feb	11-17 Feb	18- 24 Feb
Edisford Road Car Park	481 (24%)	413 (20%)	322 (16%)	283 (14%)	172 (9%)	183 (9%)	148 (7%)
	Number of Tests (number of days on site)						
Ribchester Car Park	92 (3)	68 (2)	-	-	34 (1)	-	16 (1)
Longridge Civic Hall Car Park	-	-	124 (3)	126 (4)	50 (2)	58 (3)	29 (2)
Weekly % individuals test positive	17.3	15.0	13.1	11.2	8.8	6.9%	6.9%
Home testing kits registered	244	207	171	155	169	127	135
Care Home testing kits registered	659	597	439	414	468	441	495

Since November 2020, a Local Testing Site (LTS) has been located at Edisford Road Car Park, Clitheroe, for testing those residents with Covid-19 symptoms. A couple of Mobile Testing Units have also been provided during the past two months, at Ribchester Car Park (7 days) and Longridge Civic Hall Car Park (14 days).

One of the main advantages of a Mobile Testing Unit is that a person can remain in their vehicle whilst being tested. Also, these sites can be easily set up and dismantled within a short period of time.

The number of tests has declined considerably from the beginning of January. This is illustrated at Edisford LTS where the number of individuals tested has reduced by 70% over a five-week period and the site is currently only operating at 9% capacity.

The reduced number of people presenting with symptoms coupled with a reduction in the weekly percentage of individuals testing positive, is an indication of a significant decline in the number of Covid-19 cases in the Ribble Valley.

Whilst this information is good news, Lancashire County Council's Director of Public Health, Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, has advised that testing facilities must not be abandoned especially given the threat posed by mutant strains (variants) of Covid-19. Therefore, the lease agreement with the MHCLG is to be extended for them to continue to use Edisford Road Car Park as a Local Testing Site for a further six months.

Asymptomatic Testing

Lateral Flow Tests (LFT's) are used to identify those positive cases in the community that show no symptoms (asymptomatic). These tests are extremely useful as results are provided within half an hour of testing.

A Lateral Flow Testing station was established in the Council Chamber at the beginning of February. It is operated by trained staff from the Council's Leisure Services Team and it is currently used to test staff twice weekly. Sixty of our largest employers have been offered the opportunity to use the testing facility and leaflets have been delivered to all small businesses within the Clitheroe area.

During the first three weeks, 341 staff tests were undertaken and 96 tests were completed on external employees.

3.3 Local Contact Tracing

Dates	Number of cases received	Average days from test to receipt by RVBC	% of cases received where contact tracing has commenced within 24 hours of receipt	Returned to Tier 2 NT&T
				Number
11-17 Dec	20	4.95	100%	
18-24 Dec	13	4.15	100%	
1-7 Jan	15	4.93	100%	
8-14 Jan	60	4.78	100%	
15-21 Jan	26	N/A	N/A	19
22-28 Jan	18	3.50	100%	
29 Jan-4 Feb	25	4.32	100%	
5-11 Feb	23	4	100%	
12-18 Feb	24	4.08	100%	
19-25 Feb	13	3.38	100%	

Three members of staff are currently employed in the combined role of Local Contact Tracer and Community Hub advisor. A team leader is responsible for overseeing their work.

Their main role is to contact those positive Covid-19 cases who have failed to respond to telephone calls from the National Test and Trace system. They must ensure that all cases are self-isolating and identify the 'Close Contacts' of these cases. These details are then passed back to the National system for them to follow-up.

The table helps to illustrate their excellent work during the period 11 December 2020 to 25 February 2021, when they received a total of 237 cases from the National Test and Trace System. 45% of cases received were successfully contacted. 44% of cases were closed with no contact possible and this was due to many different reasons including incorrect details provided, the case not answering their phone and cases being in hospital.

Nineteen cases were returned to Tier 2 National Test and Trace during the week 15-21 January 2021 due to our Local Contact Tracers being unavailable.

It is proposed that over the next few weeks, Local Contact Tracing will be improved by a number of measures including receiving information earlier from the national system. Data will also be provided in an improved format which will make it possible for outbreak management to be undertaken effectively.

This 'Enhanced Contact Tracing' will enable the investigation to focus on where the positive case has been over the previous few days, which may help to identify when and where the person became infected (especially as this information will be cross referenced with other positive cases).

3.4 Enforcement Action

Since the beginning of January, the Council have received 57 complaints about premises that are allegedly breaking the lockdown rules and four informal notices have been issued.

24 of these complaints were regarding hospitality venues (including food takeaways) and 17 complaints were for Leisure/Gyms.

Officers have visited a total of 60 premises, some of which were to give advice.

3.5 Vaccination

The weekly data published on 25 February 2021 recorded that a total of 19,770 Ribble Valley residents had been vaccinated between 8 December 2020 and 21 February 2021 (see Table)

Number of people vaccinated with at least 1 dose				
Under 70	70-74	75-79	80+	TOTAL
9021	3886	2962	3901	19770

4 **CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 That Committee note the work being undertaken by the Council in addressing the Covid-19 pandemic.

MATTHEW RIDING
ACTING HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Matthew Riding, extension 4466

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank