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Ribble Valley
Borough Council

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Dear Councillor

The next meeting of the **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** will be held at 6.30 pm on **THURSDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 2021** in the **Council Chamber, 13 Church Street, Clitheroe, BB7 2RA.**

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 - 6)
3. **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY, OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON REGISTRABLE INTERESTS**

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

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

ITEMS FOR DECISION

None.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5. **REVENUE OUTTURN 2020/21** (Pages 7 - 14)
Report of Director of Resources enclosed.
6. **REVENUE MONITORING 2021/22** (Pages 15 - 18)
Report of Director of Resources enclosed.

7. **CAPITAL MONITORING 2021/22**

(Pages 19 - 26)

Report of Director of Resources enclosed.

8. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

None.

9. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

None.

Electronic agendas sent to members of Economic Development – Councillor Stuart Hirst (Chair), Councillor Richard Bennett, Councillor David Berryman, Councillor David Birtwhistle, Councillor Robert (Bob) Buller, Councillor Stuart Carefoot, Councillor Judith Clark, Councillor Louise Edge (Vice-Chair), Councillor Rosemary (Rosie) Elms, Councillor Steve Farmer, Councillor Stewart Fletcher, Councillor Mark French, Councillor Simon Hore, Councillor Ged Mirfin and Councillor Robert Thompson.

Contact: Democratic Services on 01200 414408 or committee.services@ribblevalley.gov.uk

Minutes of Economic Development

Meeting Date: Thursday, 9 September 2021, starting at 6.30 pm
Present: Councillor S Hirst (Chair)

Councillors:

D Berryman	S Fletcher
B Buller	M French
L Edge	S Hore
R Elms	G Mirfin
S Farmer	R Thompson

In attendance: Director of Economic Development and Planning, Head of Leisure and Cultural Services and Head of Regeneration and Housing

Not in attendance: Councillor S Carefoot

266 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for the meeting were received from Councillors R Bennett, D Birtwhistle and J Clark.

267 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

268 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

269 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

270 MARKETING LANCASHIRE

The Director of Community Services submitted a report outlining the role of Marketing Lancashire in relation to the Council's tourism work.

Marketing Lancashire is a destination management organisation (DMO) that promotes Lancashire as a destination and a place for visitors, occupiers, developers, investors and businesses as well as providing PR, digital marketing and events function for Lancashire LEP. Their funding is received from business and local authority subscriptions, and from central government.

Committee were informed that the government had recently announced an independent review to assess how DMOs across England are funded and structured and how they perform their roles. The outcome of the review would be reported to the DCMS Secretary of State and recommendations will be made. The Council's Tourism Officer had been involved in the national consultation.

The Council has supported the work of Marketing Lancashire for several years with a subscription of £5,000pa with a service level agreement in place. However, Marketing Lancashire had recently dispensed with the agreement which meant there were now

limited ways in which the organisation remained accountable in terms of value for money.

Officers recommended to committee that to ensure the Council gets value for money, new conditions for the delivery of service be negotiated with Marketing Lancashire addressing areas of current concern around tourism and economic development strategy, the identity of Ribble Valley, communication, collaboration on social media and the lack of involvement in marketing campaigns.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

Delegate to the Director of Community Services in consultation with the Chair and Vice of committee to draft new conditions for the delivery of service and negotiate with Marketing Lancashire to establish a better working relationship which ensures value for money and effective delivery of co-ordinated tourism and economic development strategy.

271 COVID 19 ECONOMIC IMPACTS UPDATE

The Director of Economic Development and Planning submitted a report for information on the assessment of the ongoing impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the economy of the Ribble Valley.

The report outlined unemployment and furlough rates in Ribble Valley as well as data of vacant shop surveys in Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe. Generally speaking there had been a positive reaction to the removal of Covid-19 restrictions.

272 TOURISM UPDATE

The Director of Community Services submitted a report for information highlighting general progress on tourism activity with particular reference to measures taken to support the visitor economy during the pandemic as well as the priorities as recovery continues. The report referred to the relaunch of several tourism initiatives.

273 CAPITAL MONITORING 2021/22

The Director of Resources submitted a report for information on the progress on this committee's 2021/22 capital programme for the period to the end of July 2021.

There had been no spend on the two schemes in the capital programme and at this stage it was unclear whether they would be completed in-year.

274 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from representatives on outside bodies.

275 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That by virtue of the next item of business being exempt information under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

276 LAND AT A59

The Director of Economic Development and Planning submitted a report updating members on the development appraisal work for the land along the A59 in Clitheroe.

She outlined the options available to committee as a way forward with regard to this land taking into account the budgets available and the situation with consultants.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

Approve an increase in the budget for the piece of work to £30,000 (to be sourced from the Economic Development Initiatives budget) to enable further discussions to take place regarding the full appraisal of the land.

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact the committee clerk, Olwen Heap olwen.heap@ribblevalley.gov.uk.

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**RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

meeting date: 4 NOVEMBER 2021
title: REVENUE OUTTURN 2020/21
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: HELEN SEEDALL

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To report on the outturn for the financial year 2020/21 in respect of the Revenue Budget for this Committee.

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 and meets the objective within this priority to maintain critical financial management controls, ensuring the authority provides council tax payers with value for money.
- Other Considerations – none identified

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The national deadlines for local authorities to produce their Statement of Accounts and have them audited have been changed with effect from the 2020/21 financial year statements. However, due to the complexities around accounting for Covid, the resource pressures in respect of Covid business support grant payments and burdensome financial reporting in respect of Covid to Central Government, it has not been possible to meet these deadlines. This has also been the case at many other local authorities.

2.2 Good progress has been made and it has still been possible to report the outturn position within this report to committee. The Statement of Accounts is expected to be released for external audit at the end of August, with approval of the audited Statement of Accounts expected at the Accounts and Audit committee on 17 November 2021.

3 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

3.1 Shown below, by cost centre, is a comparison with the revised estimate. You will see an overall underspend of -£63,937 on the net cost of services. After transfers to and from earmarked reserves overall there is an underspend of -£51,119. This has been added to General Fund Balances.

3.2 The table below provides a summary of actual spend against the revised estimate budget and the associated variance.

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Revised Estimate 2020/21 £	Actual 2020/21 £	Variation £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
ALBNM	Albion Mill	-700	-4,280	-3,580	0	-3,580
INDDV	Economic Development	177,630	129,885	-47,745	7,485	-40,260
RHSSF	Reopening High Streets Safely Fund	4,720	3,252	-1,468		-1,468
TURSM	Tourism & Events	121,700	110,556	-11,144	5,333	-5,811
NET COST OF SERVICES		303,350	239,413	-63,937	12,818	-51,119

4 EARMARKED RESERVES

4.1 Reserves are important to local authorities as, unlike central government, we cannot borrow money over the medium term, other than for investment in assets, and we are required to balance our budgets on an annual basis.

4.2 Reserves can be held for three main purposes:

- A working balance to help cushion the impact of uneven cash flows and avoid unnecessary temporary borrowing;
- A contingency to cushion the impact of unexpected events or emergencies. This also forms part of general reserves;
- A means of building up funds or accounting for funds we are committed to spend (i.e. grants received), this is done through our earmarked reserves to meet known or predicted requirements; our earmarked reserves are accounted for separately but remain legally part of the General Fund.

4.3 The table below provides details of the Revised Estimate, our actual outturn and the impact in both cases on the movement in earmarked reserves. Full details are provided below of the earmarked reserves that have been impacted and the reasons for the movements.

	Revised Estimate 2020/21 £	Outturn £	Variance £	Reason for Movement on Earmarked Reserve
Committee Net Cost of Services	303,350	239,413	-63,937	
EDBAL/H386 Restoring Your Railways Reserve Balance of grant income received to fund the preparation of a business case for the reopening of the	0	7,485	7,485	To set aside funding received in respect of producing a strategic outline business case for restoring the Clitheroe to Hellifield rail line, in order to fund the final report issued in April 2021.

	Revised Estimate 2020/21 £	Outturn £	Variance £	Reason for Movement on Earmarked Reserve
Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers.				
EDBAL/H276 Promotions Activities Reserve This reserve has been setup to carry forward unspent budget funding for Tourism Publicity which has been delayed in 2020/21 due to unforeseen circumstances.	0	5,333	5,333	To carry forward unspent budget funding for Tourism Publicity due to the delayed publication of a guide caused by the changing Covid-19 restrictions, which made it repeatedly impossible to finalise the content. As there was uncertainty around restrictions this could have altered editorial content, in addition there was also uncertainty of the survival of the business content contributors. The funds have been set aside to be spent in 2021/22.
Committee Net Cost of Services after Movements on Earmarked Reserves	303,350	252,231	-51,119	

5 KEY MOVEMENTS FROM REVISED ESTIMATE TO OUTTURN

5.1 The main variations have been extracted, and are shown with the Budget Holder's comments at Annex 1. However, a summary of the major variations is set out in the table below.

Service Area	Description of Variance	Amount £
Economic Development: Consultants	Expenditure incurred in respect of consultants engaged to deliver the strategic business case for the reopening of the Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers £42,415 and a capacity analysis by Network Rail £20,230. This was funded by a grant from the Department for Transport: Restoring Your Railways £50,000 and a contribution from Community Rail Lancashire £20,000 as detailed below.	£62,645
Economic Development: Grant Funding	A grant of £50,000 was received from the Department for Transport: Restoring Your Railways, for the purpose of providing funding towards the cost of preparing a strategic business case for the reopening of the Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers. A contribution of £20,000 was also received from Community Rail Lancashire for the same purpose.	-£70,000

Service Area	Description of Variance	Amount £
Economic Development: Subscriptions	It was expected the subscriptions budget would be used towards funding the strategic business case being delivered by consultants in respect of reopening the Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers and a capacity analysis. However, the costs were covered by other sources, a £20,000 contribution from Community Rail Lancashire and a £50,000 grant from the Department of Transport.	-£17,115
Economic Development: Economic Development & Planning Support Services Recharge	The recharge of the Economic Development and Planning Department costs was lower than estimated due to decreased salary costs as a result of vacancy savings and reduced support service costs.	-£16,639

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 There have been a number of variations in both income and expenditure during the year, and this has given rise to an overall underspend of -£63,937 on the net cost of services. After transfers to and from earmarked reserves there is an overall underspend of -£51,119.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

ED9-21HS/AC
11 October 2021

BACKGROUND PAPERS

*Revised Estimates approved by Committee on 21 January 2021
Closedown Working Papers*

For further information please ask for Helen Seedall.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – REVENUE OUTTURN 2020/21 VARIANCES

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Variance in Capital Costs £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
<u>ALBNM: Albion Mill</u>							
A saving was achieved in legal fees due to there being no changes in tenants during the year.	-£1,870				-£1,870		-£1,870
A saving was achieved as the allowance for repairs and maintenance costs was not required during the year.	-£1,200				-£1,200		-£1,200
Total Albion Mill	-£3,070				-£3,070		-£3,070
<u>INDDV: Economic Development</u>							
It was expected the subscriptions budget would be used towards funding the strategic business case being delivered by consultants in respect of reopening the Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers and a capacity analysis. However, the costs were covered by other sources, a £20,000 contribution from Community Rail Lancashire and a £50,000 grant from the Department of Transport.	-£17,115				-£17,115		-£17,115

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Variance in Capital Costs £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
Expenditure incurred in respect of consultants engaged to deliver the strategic business case for the reopening of the Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers £42,415 and a capacity analysis by Network Rail £20,230. This was funded by a grant from the Department for Transport: Restoring Your Railways £50,000 and a contribution from Community Rail Lancashire £20,000.	£62,645				£62,645	£7,485	£70,130
It was expected the promotions budget would be used towards funding the strategic business case being delivered by consultants in respect of reopening the Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers and a capacity analysis. However, the costs were covered by other sources, a £20,000 contribution from Community Rail Lancashire and a £50,000 grant from the Department of Transport.	-£6,038				-£6,038		-£6,038
The recharge of the Economic Development and Planning Department costs were lower than estimated due to decreased salary costs as a result of vacancy savings and reduced support service costs.			-£16,639		-£16,639		-£16,639
A contribution was received from Community Rail Lancashire for the purpose of providing funding towards the cost of preparing a strategic business case for the reopening of the Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers.		-£20,000			-£20,000		-£20,000

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Variance in Capital Costs £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
A grant was received from the Department for Transport: Restoring Your Railways, for the purpose of providing funding towards the cost of preparing a strategic business case for the reopening of the Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers.		-£50,000			-£50,000		-£50,000
Total Economic Development	£39,492	-£70,000	-£16,639		-£47,147	£7,485	-£39,662
<u>RHSSF: Reopening High Streets Safely Fund</u>							
Total claim to the Reopening High Streets Safely Fund was higher than forecast due to additional expenditure being eligible for claiming that is recorded in other cost centres.		-£1,808			-£1,808		-£1,808
Total Reopening High Streets Safely Fund		-£1,808			-£1,808		-£1,808
<u>TURSM: Tourism & Events</u>							
The need to use temporary staff was reduced as there was not a requirement for work on the visitor guide.	-£1,183				-£1,183		-£1,183
The business rates charge is shared between visitor information centres and public conveniences. Business rates relief has been awarded for 20/21 to public conveniences therefore this has also resulted in a saving to the visitor information centre business rates cost.	-£2,110				-£2,110		-£2,110

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Variance in Capital Costs £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
Expenditure on publicity was lower than estimated due to the delayed publication of a guide caused by the changing Covid-19 restrictions, which made it repeatedly impossible to finalise the content. As there was uncertainty around restrictions this could have altered editorial content, in addition there was also uncertainty of the survival of the business content contributors. The savings are being set aside in reserve to be used on producing the guide in 2021/22.	-£5,333				-£5,333	£5,333	-£0
Saving on the recharge of the support service costs due to reduced expenditure within those service areas.			-£1,976		-£1,976		-£1,976
Total Tourism & Events	-£8,626		-£1,976		-£10,602	£5,333	-£5,269
	£27,796	-£71,808	-£18,615	£0	-£62,627	£12,818	-£49,809
					-£1,310		-£1,310
					-£63,937	£12,818	-£51,119
Total Variances for Economic Development Committee (Net Cost of Services)					-£63,937	£12,818	-£51,119

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

meeting date: 4 NOVEMBER 2021
 title: REVENUE MONITORING 2021/22
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: HELEN SEEDALL

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To let you know the position for the period April to September 2021 of this year's revenue budget as far as this committee is concerned.

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. To meet the objective within this priority, of maintaining critical financial management controls, ensuring the authority provides council tax payers with value for money.

Other Considerations – none identified.

2 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2.1 Shown below, by cost centre, is a comparison between actual expenditure and the revised estimate for the period to the end of September. You will see an overall overspend of £15,616 on the net cost of services. Please note that underspends are denoted by figures with a minus symbol. After allowing for transfers to/from earmarked reserves the overspend is £2,798.

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Net Budget for the full year	Net Budget to the end of the period	Actual including commitments to the end of the period	Variance	
ALBNM	Albion Mill	340	7,796	10,813	3,017	A
INDDV	Economic Development	191,210	-1,700	6,400	8,100	R
RHSSF	Reopening High Streets Safely Fund	0	25,460	25,458	-2	G
TURSM	Tourism and Events	122,500	13,263	17,764	4,501	A
	Sum:	314,050	44,819	60,435	15,616	
Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves						
	Restoring Your Railways Reserve	0	0	-7,485	-7,485	
	Promotions Activities Reserve	0	0	-5,333	-5,333	
	Total after Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves	314,050	44,819	47,617	2,798	

2.2 The variations between budget and actuals have been split into groups of red, amber and green variance. 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.

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

2.3 We have then extracted the main variations for the items which fall within the red variance category in the period April to September 2021. These are shown with the budget holders’ comments and agreed action plan in Annex 1.

2.4 The main variations for items included in the amber shaded category are shown with budget holders’ comments at Annex 2.

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 The comparison between actual and budgeted expenditure shows an overspend of £15,616 for the first six months of the financial year 2021/22. After allowing for transfers to/from earmarked reserves the overspend is £2,798.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

ED11-21/HS/AC
22 October 2021

Economic Development Committee Budget Monitoring – Red Variances

Ledger Code	Ledger Code Name	Budget for the Full Year	Budget to the end of the period	Actual including commitments to the end of the period	Variance	Reason for Variance	Action Plan as agreed between the Budget Holder and Accountant
ALBNM/2402	Albion Mill/Repair & Maintenance - Buildings	0	0	5,460	5,460	Resurfacing work to the entrance of Albion Court, that was not included in the original estimate, has resulted in an overspend.	Two thirds of the cost has been charged to other users of the site, as mentioned below under amber variances.
INDDV/3085	Economic Development/Consultants	0	0	7,485	7,485	Expenditure incurred in the production of the final report by consultants engaged to deliver the strategic business case for the reopening of the Clitheroe to Hellifield railway to passengers.	This expenditure is being funded from unspent grant funding received in 2020/21 set aside in an earmarked reserve for this purpose.
TURSM/3263	Tourism and Events/Publicity	20,580	10,294	16,338	6,044	Mainly expenditure on publication of a guide, production of which was delayed in 2020/21 due to changing restrictions in order to manage Covid-19.	This expenditure is being funded from budget savings in 2020/21 set aside in an earmarked reserve for this purpose.

Economic Development Committee Budget Monitoring – Amber Variances

Ledger Code	Ledger Code Name	Budget for the Full Year	Budget to the end of the period	Actual including commitments to the end of the period	Variance	Reason for Variance
ALBNM/8582n	Albion Mill/Rechargeable Works (VATable)	0	0	-3,640	-3,640	Contributions received from other users of the site for resurfacing work carried out at Albion Court, as mentioned above.
TURSM/0130	Tourism and Events/Temporary Staff	0	0	4,892	4,892	A temporary Tourism Assistant is being employed for a six month period and is being funded by the Government's Kickstart Scheme, as mentioned below.
TURSM/2451	Tourism and Events/National Non Domestic Rates	2,150	2,150	0	-2,150	The business rates charge is shared between visitor information centres and public conveniences. Business rates relief has been awarded for 2021/22 to public conveniences, therefore this has also resulted in a saving to the visitor information centre business rates cost.
TURSM/8969z	Tourism and Events/MHCLG - Kickstart Scheme	0	0	-4,532	-4,532	Monies received from the Government's Kickstart Scheme to fund a temporary Tourism Assistant post.

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

meeting date: 4 NOVEMBER 2021
 title: CAPITAL MONITORING 2021/22
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: ANDREW COOK

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To report the progress on this Committee’s 2021/22 capital programme for the period to the end of September 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.
- Other considerations – none identified.

2 2021/22 CAPITAL PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

2.1 One capital scheme for this Committee’s original estimate budget, totalling £66,750, was approved by the Special Policy and Finance Committee and Full Council at their meetings in February 2021 and March 2021 respectively. The scheme budget had been moved from the 2020/21 capital programme to the 2021/22 capital programme.

2.2 In addition to the original estimate budget, two capital schemes were not completed by 31 March 2021 and had unspent budget available at that date. The total unspent budget of £35,000 on those schemes, known as slippage, has been moved into the 2021/22 capital programme budget, after approval by this Committee in June 2021.

2.3 As a result of the above, the total approved budget for this Committee’s capital programme of two schemes is £101,750. This is shown at Annex 1.

3 CAPITAL MONITORING 2021/22

3.1 The table below summarises this Committee’s capital programme budget, expenditure to date and remaining budget, as at the end of September 2021. Annex 1 shows the full capital programme by scheme. Annex 2 shows scheme details, financial information and budget holder comments to date for each scheme.

Original Estimate 2021/22 £	Budget Moved from 2020/21 £	Slippage from 2020/21 £	Total Approved Budget 2021/22 £	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of September 2021 £	Remaining Budget as at end of September 2021 £
0	66,750	35,000	101,750	7,950	93,800

3.2 At the end of September 2021 £7,950 had been spent or committed. This is 7.8% of the capital programme total approved budget for this Committee.

3.3 Progress on the two schemes to date (remaining budgets shown in brackets) is as follows:

- **Economic Development Initiatives (£81,750):** There is no spend to date but the Council are continually seeking to identify economic development schemes which this budget is set aside for. Members will recall that a proportion of the budget was set aside to assess a piece of land along the A59 and work is on-going with this.
- **Gateway Signs for Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe (£12,050):** The supply and installation of the two new welcome signs, including associated traffic management costs, is to be undertaken by Lancashire County Council (LCC). This work was ordered in September 2021 at a cost of £7,950. The damaged sign at Simonstone has been replaced at no cost to this scheme. We are currently waiting for LCC to schedule in the new signs installation work, but at this stage it is expected that the work will be completed before financial year-end.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 At the end of September 2021 £7,950 had been spent or committed. This is 7.8% of the capital programme total approved budget for this Committee. At this stage, one of the two schemes in the capital programme is expected to be completed in-year. It is unclear whether the other scheme budget will be fully committed in-year.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

ED10-21/AC/AC
25 October 2021

For further background information please ask for Andrew Cook
BACKGROUND PAPERS – None

Economic Development Committee - Capital Programme 2021/22

Cost Centre	Scheme	Original Estimate 2021/22 £	Budget Moved from 2020/21 £	Slippage from 2020/21 £	Total Approved Budget 2021/22 £	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of September 2021 £	Remaining Budget as at end of September 2021 £
ECDVI	Economic Development Initiatives	0	66,750	15,000	81,750	0	81,750
GWSGN	Gateway Signs for Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe	0	0	20,000	20,000	7,950	12,050
Total Economic Development Committee		0	66,750	35,000	101,750	7,950	93,800

Economic Development Committee – Capital Programme 2021/22

Economic Development Initiatives (Budget Moved from 2020/21 and Slippage from 2020/21)

Service Area: Regeneration and Housing

Submitted by: Colin Hirst

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The project is to establish a general source of pump-priming and pre-investment funding to support the delivery of the Council's economic priorities. The bid particularly seeks to support our high growth sectors in the provision of land and premises or tourism infrastructure where applicable. The Council needs to be able to develop and respond to initiatives that will support delivery of business growth. In order to develop schemes, funding needs to be available to undertake works in areas such as valuation and feasibility assessments, due-diligence, initial planning and design work. As projects progress funding needs to be available to support acquisition, marketing and development. Specific funding for land or premises would be the subject of separate bids as required.

Projects include identifying options to deliver employment land, schemes to support high growth business opportunities and necessary infrastructure to support our rural business base including tourism.

Revenue Implications:

Unspecified – general revenue costs would be anticipated to be contained within existing budgets.

Timescale for Completion:

Key milestones will depend upon the individual projects developed.

Capital Cost:

	£	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of September 2021 £	Remaining Budget as at end of September 2021 £
Original Estimate 2021/22	0		
Budget Moved from 2020/21	66,750		
Slippage from 2020/21	15,000		
Total Approved Budget 2021/22	81,750	0	81,750
Actual Expenditure in 2020/21	0		
ANTICIPATED TOTAL SCHEME COST	81,750		

Progress - Budget Holder Comments

September 2021: There is no spend to date but the Council are continually seeking to identify economic development schemes which this budget is set aside for. Members will recall that a proportion of the budget was set aside to assess a piece of land along the A59 and work is on-going with this.

July 2021: There is no spend to date in-year but the Council are continually seeking to identify economic development schemes which this budget is set aside for. Members will recall that a proportion of the budget was set aside to assess a piece of land along the A59 which is subject to a separate report on this agenda.

Economic Development Committee – Capital Programme 2021/22

March 2021: One appropriate scheme for funding from this capital budget, re improving employment land site access at Salthill, was identified as possibly taking place in early 2021. However, the scheme did not take place in 2020/21 because there was no further progress by the landowner before year-end. Slippage of £15,000 into 2021/22 is requested to add to the £66,750 budget already moved to 2021/22 to fund any economic development schemes that would be appropriate to fund from this capital budget in 2021/22.

December 2020: There is currently just one development initiative scheme being considered that, if given the go ahead, would incur expenditure in 2020/21. That scheme is a joint-funded site investigation and development modelling scheme for improving employment land site access at Salthill. If that scheme is approved to go ahead the Council's expenditure is estimated to be no more than £15,000 in 2020/21. Therefore, it is recommended that the 2020/21 revised estimate for the overall scheme is reduced to £15,000 and £66,750 of the overall scheme budget is moved to the 2021/22 financial year.

September 2020: There are no current schemes in progress which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot. Therefore, at this stage there is the possibility that not all of the budget will be committed by year-end. Officers will consider whether any of the scheme budget will be moved to 2021/22 when the revised estimate capital programme is presented for approval in January 2021.

December 2019: There are currently no development opportunities earmarked to draw on the funds from the Economic Development Initiatives scheme budget at this stage in the year. Therefore, it is recommended that the 2019/20 revised estimate for this scheme is reduced to nil and the £81,750 scheme budget is moved to the 2020/21 financial year.

September 2019: No change - There are no current schemes in progress which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot. Therefore, at this stage there is the possibility that not all of the budget is committed by year-end. However, a number of site opportunities are being explored and will be the subject of future reports.

July 2019: There are no current schemes in progress which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot. A number of site opportunities are being explored and will be the subject of future reports.

March 2019: There was no expenditure on this Committee's capital scheme in 2018/19, because no appropriate development opportunities have arisen in-year which have required funding from this capital scheme.

December 2018: A number of site opportunities are being explored in more detail, as per the report elsewhere on this agenda. At this stage, no specific scheme costs are being charged to this Economic Development Initiatives capital budget, but there is always the possibility that a valuation or assessment in-year may require expenditure in relation to acquisition at short notice.

September/October 2018: A number of site opportunities are under preliminary investigation and will be reported to this Committee in due course. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report.

August 2018: Development opportunities to bring forward land for employment will be reported to this Committee in due course. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report.

December 2017: There has been no spend on the scheme in-year, with costs for support work being charged to revenue budgets rather than capital. Development opportunities to bring forward land for employment are being reviewed and will be reported to this Committee in due course. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report. It is recommended that the 2017/18 revised estimate is reduced to nil and the £100,000 budget is moved to 2018/19.

July 2017: Development opportunities to bring forward land for employment are being reviewed and will be reported to this Committee. It is anticipated that this capital scheme be considered to help support any emerging initiatives that arise as a result of that report.

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December 2016: There are no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot before the year-end. It is recommended that the revised estimate is reduced to nil and the £100,000 budget is moved to 2017/18.

September/October 2016: No change from July 2016 comments - There are no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot.

July 2016: There are no appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot.

May/June 2016: The one site acquisition proposal being seriously considered will not now go ahead, as resolved by Policy and Finance Committee. There are no other appropriate economic development opportunities in progress currently which are likely to be funded from this economic development capital pot.

March 2016: One site acquisition investment was being considered in 2015/16, but no confirmation was in place for the acquisition to go ahead at year-end. Slippage of the 2015/16 underspend is requested to fund both the pump prime costs associated with the site acquisition being considered and any further economic development opportunities that may arise.

January 2016: The site acquisition approved by this Committee in October 2015 is the one economic development opportunity in progress currently that will require investment support funding from the Economic Development Initiatives budget. At this stage, the actual timing of the site acquisition and any support costs to be funded from this budget is not confirmed. Any unused budget from 2015/16 will be moved into 2016/17 as slippage.

September 2015: The District Valuer has secured initial agreement with land owners on values and details are being progressed to acquire a site. Expenditure has been drawn from other revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works so far.

July 2015: The Council has instructed the District Valuer to negotiate the purchase of some land on one scheme and we are currently awaiting the outcome of this. Expenditure has been drawn from other revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works so far.

September 2014: The Council continues to seek land for potential economic development. Expenditure has been drawn from revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works to date.

July 2014: The Council continues to seek land for potential economic development.

March 2014: Projects have not reached a stage where capital is required. Expenditure has been drawn from other revenue budgets to fund pre-investment works.

September 2013: Work on the scheme has been undertaken, however expenditure has been revenue based rather than capital.

July 2013: An area of land has been identified and measures are being taken to secure the land for industrial development.

March 2013: The Council is continuing pursuing the acquisition of land for employment purposes.

September 2012: No further progress since June 2012.

June 2012: Initial discussions have been held with relevant landowners. The District Valuer has been instructed to prepare valuation advice on potential sites. This advice has been received and is being given further consideration. The Asset Management Group has considered site options. An options report will be prepared once options are determined. Expenditure will be required on feasibility reports once an option is agreed and on pre-acquisition and due diligence processes.

Economic Development Committee – Capital Programme 2021/22

Gateway Signs for Whalley, Longridge and Clitheroe (Slippage from 2020/21)

Service Area: Tourism and Events

Submitted by: Mark Beveridge

Brief Description of the Scheme:

The Economic Development Committee has requested that a bid be submitted for gateway signs to be erected on the major roads into the three settlements. These signs are approx 1.5m high x 1m wide, they can have an iconic image which represents an area plus a tag line, such as "Welcome To..". The exact number of signs would need to be determined following a site visit by an approved contractor. The signs have to meet Highway Authority regulations which mean that some smaller roads would not be suitable for these large signs. Costs include the cost of the signs, fitting of the signs, foundations work, making good the ground and traffic management.

Economic Development Committee approved an updated scheme in January 2020, which was two new Gateway Signs and the replacement of one existing sign.

Revenue Implications:

These signs would be RVBC responsibility and cleaning and maintenance would fall to the Council, approx £1,000 per annum broad estimate.

Timescale for Completion:

2019/20.

Capital Cost:

	£	Actual Expenditure including commitments as at end of September 2021 £	Remaining Budget as at end of September 2021 £
Original Estimate 2021/22	0		
Slippage from 2020/21	20,000		
Total Approved Budget 2021/22	20,000	7,950	12,050
Actual Expenditure in 2019/20	0		
Actual Expenditure in 2020/21	0		
ANTICIPATED TOTAL SCHEME COST	20,000		

Progress – Budget Holder Comments:

September 2021: The supply and installation of the two new welcome signs, including associated traffic management costs, is to be undertaken by Lancashire County Council (LCC). This work was ordered in September 2021 at a cost of £7,950. The damaged sign at Simonstone has been replaced at no cost to this scheme. We are currently waiting for LCC to schedule in the new signs installation work, but at this stage it is expected that the work will be completed before financial year-end.

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July 2021: No spend to date on this scheme for the installation of two new welcome signs and replacement of a damaged sign at Simonstone. At this stage, it is unclear whether installation will be completed within this financial year, as this is subject to gaining the required permissions from Lancashire County Council before work can be undertaken.

March 2021: There was no spend in 2020/21 on this scheme because officers are still to obtain permissions from Lancashire County Council to allow installation of the signs. Slippage of £20,000 into 2021/22 is requested to fund the planned installation of the two new welcome signs and replacement of a damaged sign at Simonstone.

December 2020: No spend to date on this scheme to fund the installation of two new welcome signs and the replacement of a damaged sign at Simonstone. At this stage, it is hoped that installation will be completed within this financial year. However, this is subject to gaining the required permissions from Lancashire County Council, supplier delivery timescales and any impact from the on-going Covid-19 restrictions.

September 2020: No spend to date on this scheme. As reported to members in January 2020, the budget will be used to fund the installation of two new welcome signs and replacement of a damaged sign at Simonstone. At this stage, it is expected that installation will be completed within this financial year, but this is subject to gaining the required permissions from Lancashire County Council and supplier delivery timescales.

March 2020: The signs installation work was still to be undertaken and it is subject to gaining the required permissions from Lancashire County Council. Slippage of £20,000 into 2020/21 will fund the signs installation work in that year.

December 2019: A proposal for two Gateway Signs and replacement of one existing sign has been reported to this Committee, elsewhere on this agenda. If the proposal is approved by Committee, the aim is to complete the work by the end of March 2020, subject to gaining the required permissions from LCC and supplier delivery timescales.

September 2019: The Council is still in dialogue with Lancashire County Council (LCC) to provide site locations for LCC to assess and grant site permissions. Following this, quotes will be obtained for the signs and they can be purchased and installed. At the present time, the aim is still to complete the scheme by March 2020.

July 2019: The Council is engaged in a dialogue with Lancashire County Council (LCC) regarding the process and the permissions required which will determine the number and location of the signs. Following this, quotes will be obtained for the signs and they can be purchased and installed. The aim is to complete the scheme by March 2020, dependent on the time taken to obtain permissions from LCC.