

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

meeting date: 21 OCTOBER 2021
 title: REVENUE MONITORING 2021/22
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
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1 PURPOSE

1.1 To let you know the position for the period April 2021 to August 2021 of this year's original 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 original estimate for the period to the end of August. You will see an overall underspend of £64,481 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 there is an underspend of £54,790.

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Net Budget for the Full Year	Net Budget to the end of period	Actual including Commitments to the end of the period	Variance	
AONBS	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	16,150	0	0	0	G
BCFEE	Building Control Fee Earning	23,500	-68,757	-82,953	-14,196	R
BCNON	Building Control Non Fee Earning	74,210	1,125	1,430	305	G
CINTR	Clitheroe Integrated Transport Scheme	7,160	2,225	0	-2,225	A
CONSV	Conservation Areas	8,710	0	0	0	G
COUNT	Countryside Management	54,270	4,162	8,988	4,826	A
ECPLA	Economic Development and Planning Dept	0	417,415	370,621	-46,794	R
LPLAN	Local Plan	250,660	58,370	43,567	-14,803	R
PLANG	Planning Control & Enforcement	30,800	-251,427	-241,172	10,255	R
PLANP	Planning Policy	110,510	-950	-2,613	-1,663	G

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Net Budget for the Full Year	Net Budget to the end of period	Actual including Commitments to the end of the period	Variance	
PLSUB	Grants & Subscriptions - Planning	10,790	10,790	10,603	-187	G
	Sum	586,760	172,953	108,472	-64,481	

Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves					
	Building Control Fee Earning Reserve	-23,500	68,757	82,953	14,196
	Whalley Moor Woodland Grant Earmarked Reserve	0	0	-4,505	-4,505
	Total after Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves	563,260	241,710	186,920	-54,790

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 included in the red shaded cost centres and shown them with the budget holder's comments and agreed action plans, in Annex 1.

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

2.5 In summary the main areas of variances that are **unlikely** to rectify themselves by the end of the financial year are shown below:

Description	Variance to end August 2021 £
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Economic Development & Planning Department (ECPLA) – Salaries	
Underspend on departmental salaries for the period to August. An element of the variance will resolve following completion of national pay negotiations. Salary forecasts will be reviewed and updated at revised estimate to incorporate salary underspends to date and changes to the establishment that were approved by Personnel Committee in March 2021.	-34,627

3 CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The comparison between actual and budgeted expenditure shows an underspend of £64,481 to August 2021 of the financial year 2021/22. After allowing for transfers to/from earmarked reserves there is an underspend of £54,790.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

PD13-21/LO/AC
8 October 2021

Planning and 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
LPLAN/3085	Local Plan/ Consultants	134,000	55,863	42,306	-13,557	Spend on local plan consultancy support is lower than the budget for the period to August.	An order for £20k has been placed in September for consultancy support in respect of the Economic and Employment Land Needs Evidence Study. The overall 3-year budget profile is currently under review and is to be restated at revised estimate in line with the approved Local Development Scheme.
ECPLA/0100	Economic Development and Planning Dept/ Salaries	730,900	304,712	270,085	-34,627	Actual vacancies through the April to August period generated underspends above that built into the budget and the pay award has yet to be finalised.	An element of the variance will resolve following completion of national pay negotiations and payroll processing of any backpay due. The salary estimates will be updated at revised estimate to adjust for underspends and changes to the establishment.
BCFEE/8583z	Building Control Fee Earning/ Rechargeable Works (Non Vatable)	0	0	-7,519	-7,519	Recovery of tuition fees.	The budget will be updated at revised estimate.
PLANG/8404u	Planning Control & Enforcement/ Planning Fees	-678,920	-283,039	-274,243	8,796	Planning income levels fluctuate month to month and vary greatly depending on whether applications are received in respect of major developments. Income for the period to August is lower than the budget by 3%.	We will continue to monitor the level of planning fee income received, and will review the budget level to best reflect the latest forecasts at the time of the Revised Estimate.

Planning and 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
ECPLA/0109	Economic Development and Planning Dept/ Superannuation Salaries	124,980	52,103	47,389	-4,714	Lower employer superannuation scheme costs than budgeted due to the salary underspends as detailed at ECPLA/0100
CINTR/2884	Clitheroe Integrated Transport Scheme/ Maintenance	5,340	2,225	0	-2,225	This budget has been set aside as a contingency to meet revenue costs of the Clitheroe Interchange building which is due to be returned to the council following Lancashire County Council's decision to discontinue the service. Correspondence has recently been issued to LCC concerning a date for the final handover which at this time is expected to take place in October.
COUNT/2409	Countryside Management/ Non Recurring Maintenance Items	0	0	4,505	4,505	One off expenditure on footpath maintenance works at Whalley Community Woodland. To be funded from residual grant monies held in the Whalley Moor Woodland Grant earmarked reserve.
PLANG/8495n	Planning Control & Enforcement/ Pre Application Advice	-56,250	-23,450	-18,597	4,853	Due to vacancies and a redeployment within the planning section the pre-application advice service is currently being offered in respect of major planning applications only. Whilst resources are being redirected towards the provision of mandatory services, the income budgeted for under this budget heading will not be achieved. It is expected that the full service will resume in due course, but the timing for this is uncertain as it is dependent upon recruitment and training timescales within the planning section.