

## RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: 31 AUGUST 2023  
 title: REVENUE OUTTURN 2022/23  
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES  
 principal author: LAWSON ODDIE

- 1.1 To report on the outturn for the financial year 2022/23 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, of maintaining critical financial management controls, ensuring the authority provides council tax payers with value for money'.
  - ❖ Other Considerations – none identified.

### 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Our full Statement of Accounts were signed off for audit by the Director of Resources on 2 June 2023 and are now subject to audit.
- 2.2 The Statement of Accounts are expected to be submitted for approval to Accounts and Audit Committee at their meeting on 27 September 2023.

### 3 REVENUE OUTTURN 2021/22

- 3.1 Shown below, by cost centre, is a comparison of the 2022/23 actual outturn with the revised estimate budget for this Committee. You will see an overall underspend of £343,943 on the net cost of services. After transfers to and from earmarked reserves, the overall underspend is £69,825. This has been added to General Fund Balances.

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Revised Estimate 2022/23 £	Actual 2022/23 £	Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
AFHOU	Affordable Rent Properties	-4,870	2,662	7,532	-8,370	-838
APLAC	Alma Place Unit	2,680	745	-1,935		-1,935
AWARM	Affordable Warmth	270	-33,933	-34,203	34,203	0
CLAIR	Clean Air	2,350	2,296	-54		-54
CLAND	Contaminated Land	7,750	7,819	69		69
CLCEM	Clitheroe Cemetery	54,770	45,515	-9,255		-9,255
CLDCY	Closed Churchyards	6,740	6,749	9		9

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Revised Estimate 2022/23 £	Actual 2022/23 £	Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
CLMKT	Clitheroe Market	-27,550	-30,733	-3,183		-3,183
CMGHH	Community Groups - Health & Housing	7,590	7,372	-218		-218
COMNL	Common Land	3,620	2,929	-691		-691
CTBEN	Localised Council Tax Support Admin	187,770	182,559	-5,211		-5,211
DOGWD	Dog Warden & Pest Control	172,660	168,207	-4,453	3,980	-473
ENVHT	Environmental Health Services	278,740	251,970	-26,770	11,710	-15,060
HFORU	Homes for Ukraine	-125,350	-327,998	-202,648	202,648	0
HGBEN	Housing Benefits	200,940	209,208	8,268		8,268
HOMEE	Home Energy Conservation	6,470	6,284	-186		-186
HOMES	Homelessness Strategy	57,080	22,931	-34,149	5,252	-28,897
HSASS	Housing Associations	8,220	7,982	-238		-238
HSTRA	Housing Strategy	54,690	51,923	-2,767		-2,767
IMPGR	Improvement Grants	112,820	112,386	-434		-434
JARMS	Joiners Arms	49,030	40,201	-8,829		-8,829
SHARE	Shared Ownership Rents	-350	-378	-28		-28
SUPPE	Supporting People	5,730	-18,839	-24,569	24,695	126
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>		<b>1,061,800</b>	<b>717,857</b>	<b>-343,943</b>	<b>274,118</b>	<b>-69,825</b>

#### 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 or to meet known or predicted requirements.

4.3 Our earmarked reserves are accounted for separately but remain legally part of the General Fund.

4.4 The table below provides a comparison of the 2022/23 actual movements in earmarked reserves with the movements in earmarked reserves that were planned at revised estimate stage. The main reasons for the variations on the movements in earmarked reserves are explained.

	Revised Estimate 2022/23 £	Actual 2022/23 £	Variance £	Main reasons for the variations on the Movements in Earmarked Reserves
<b>Committee Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>1,061,800</b>	<b>717,857</b>	<b>-343,943</b>	
<b>HGBAL/H337 Equipment Reserve</b> Where funds are set aside to fund essential specific purchases for Health and Housing service areas.	-5,980	-2,000	3,980	£3,980 was budgeted to be released from the reserve to fund updated/improved dog control signage expenditure. The expenditure was not incurred during the year, and so the monies remain within the reserve.
<b>CPBAL/H330 Capital Reserve</b> Used to fund the capital programme	11,770	3,400	-8,370	The revised estimate allowed for the receipt of £11,770 S106 monies in the Affordable Rent Properties cost centre to fund the estimated cost of the Clitheroe Affordable Housing capital scheme in-year. The capital scheme spend was only £3,400 and so only this amount of S106 monies were released.
<b>HGBAL/H339 Housing Related Grants Reserve</b> Where housing related grants received but not spent at the end of each financial year are set aside to be committed to grant related expenditure in future years.	117,420	384,218	266,798	<p>The amounts shown relate to 5 different grants.</p> <p>£270 was budgeted to be released in respect of Affordable Warmth funding, however the outturn position shows £33,933 being added to the reserve due to an underspend on the additional funding that was received in year.</p> <p>£125,350 was budgeted to be set aside in respect of Homes for Ukraine funding. As all of the funding had not been spent the actual amount set aside at year end was £327,998.</p> <p>£7,600 was budgeted to be released from the reserve in respect of a grant repayment to Pendle Council for accommodation for ex-offenders grant payments. Only £4,625 was needed to be paid in year.</p> <p>At year at, a grant payment of £2,217 was received from DLUHC for Tenant Satisfaction survey. This was set aside at year end to fund such work at a future date.</p> <p>Funding received in respect of domestic abuse support to victims was received in year from DLUHC. Not all of the funding as spent in year and so the balance of £24,695 was set aside in the earmarked reserve for future use.</p>

	Revised Estimate 2022/23 £	Actual 2022/23 £	Variance £	Main reasons for the variations on the Movements in Earmarked Reserves
<b>HGBAL/H308 Air Quality New Burdens Grant Reserve</b> Reserve to hold New Burdens funding received in respect of new enforcement measures.	0	11,710	11,710	Grant funding that was awarded for Air Quality new burdens in respect of new enforcement measures has been set aside for future use. This funding was not known about at the time of setting the revised estimate.
<b>Committee Net Cost of Services After Movements in Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>1,185,010</b>	<b>1,115,185</b>	<b>-69,825</b>	

## 5 MAIN VARIATIONS 2022/23

5.1 The main income and expenditure variations are explained at Annex 1. However, a summary of the main variations is set out in the table below.

Cost Centre	Description of Variance	Variance amount £
<b>AWARM</b> Affordable Warmth	<b>Grants to Individuals</b> – There has been a low level of spend on the affordable warmth scheme. This has meant that much of the additional funding received in year has been set aside in earmarked reserves to allow the funding to be distributed in future years.	-34,961
<b>Various Cost Centres</b>	Lower than budgeted support service recharge costs across most Health and Housing Committee cost centres due to reductions in net expenditure in the Chief Executive's department due to residual costs charged to Covid	-27,478
<b>ENVHT</b> Environmental Health	<b>DEFRA Air Quality New Burden Grant</b> – New grant to be received in respect of 2022/23. The funding has been set aside in earmarked reserves for use in the 2023/24 financial year.	-11,710
<b>HFORU</b> Homes For Ukraine	<b>Employee Costs and Grant Payments:</b> A lower level of spend than budgeted for, particularly in respect of Housing Grants and Sponsor Grants. Any unused grant has been set aside in earmarked reserves for use in 2023/24  <b>Funding received:</b> Anticipated income has largely been received as expected, although as shown above, not all of this funding has then been used in year.  The total of this variance has been set aside in earmarked reserves for use in 2023/24	-202,313
<b>HOMES</b> Homelessness Strategy	<b>Asylum Dispersal Scheme:</b> Funding was received from the government in respect of the asylum dispersal scheme of £21,000. There was also a budget of £21,000 brought in for potential associated expenditure, however this was not needed.	-21,000
<b>SUPPE</b> Supporting People	<b>Domestic Abuse Victim Support:</b> Grant funding was received and budget for in year, together with expenditure budgets in respect of work connected to the grant funding. Not all of this was funding was used resulting in the variance shown. The balance was set aside in an earmarked reserve at year end to allow the funding to be used in 2023/24 onwards.	-24,370

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 £343,943 on the net cost of services. After transfers to and from earmarked reserves there is an overall underspend of £69,825.

HEAD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

HH11-23/LO/AC  
23 August 2023

BACKGROUND PAPERS – None.  
For further information please ask for Lawson Oddie.

**HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE  
MAIN VARIANCES 2022/23**

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
<b>AFHOU: Affordable Housing</b>						
<b>Use of Commuted Sums</b> – Lower level of S106 monies needed to be released as there was a lower level of spend that expected on the Clitheroe Affordable Housing capital scheme, which these monies then go to fund through a transfer to the Capital Reserve.		8,370		8,370	-8,370	0
<b>Total Affordable Housing</b>	0	8,370	0	8,370	-8,370	0
<b>AWARM: Affordable Warmth</b>						
<b>Grants to Individuals</b> – There has been a low level of spend on the affordable warmth scheme. This has meant that much of the additional funding received in year has been set aside in earmarked reserves to allow the funding to be distributed in future years.	-34,961			-34,961	34,203	-758
<b>Total Affordable Warmth</b>	-34,961	0	0	-34,961	34,203	-758
<b>CLCEM: Clitheroe Cemetery</b>						
<b>Interment Fees income</b> - Higher income than budgeted for, due to greater activity than anticipated in this demand led service area in-year.		-7,946		-7,946		-7,946
<b>Total Clitheroe Cemetery</b>	0	-7,946	0	-7,946	0	-7,946
<b>CLMKT: Clitheroe Market</b>						
<b>Repairs and Maintenance</b> – Significant overspends on cabin repairs, including painting doors, shutter repairs and electrical works.	4,871			4,871		4,871

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
<b>Publicity and Equipment and Materials</b> – general low levels of spend in year	-4,065			<b>-4,065</b>		<b>-4,065</b>
<b>Cabins, Stalls and pitches income</b> – Due to a higher level of uptake in the use of the market cabins stalls and pitches		-2,079		<b>-2,079</b>		<b>-2,079</b>
<b>Total Clitheroe Market</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>-2,079</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1,273</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1,273</b>
<b>CTBEN: Localised Council Tax Support Admin</b>						
<b>Overpayments of Council Tax Benefits income</b> - Following the introduction of Local Council Tax Support in 2013/14, the Council can retain any overpayments of the now abolished Council Tax Benefit that have been recovered in-year. Recovery of such overpayments in 2022/23 was higher than the budget set for this income.		-2,588		<b>-2,588</b>		<b>-2,588</b>
<b>Total Localised Council Tax Support Admin</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-2,588</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-2,588</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-2,588</b>
<b>DOGWD: Dog Warden &amp; Pest Control</b>						
<b>Repairs and Maintenance – On-costed Wages</b> – Less on-costed time input to dog bins repairs and replacement works and dog bin emptying cover work in-year.	-2,485			<b>-2,485</b>		<b>-2,485</b>
<b>Non-Recurring Purchases</b> - Planned spend on updated/improved dog control signage related to the updated Dog Control Public Space Protection Order did not take place in 2022/23. This underspend is offset by not needing to transfer the planned £3,980 from the Dog Warden Signs (Equipment) Reserve to fund this budgeted spend in 2022/23.	-3,980			<b>-3,980</b>	3,980	<b>0</b>

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
<b>Domestic Rodent Pest Treatment</b> – Lower demand to date than budgeted for in this demand led service area.		3,750		3,750		3,750
<b>Support Services recharges</b> - Lower than budgeted support services recharges due to reductions in net expenditure in several support service areas, with the biggest reduction being in the Chief Executive's department (-£3,458) particularly due to residual time charged to Covid.			-3,507	-3,507		-3,507
<b>Total Dog Warden &amp; Pest Control</b>	-6,465	3,750	-3,507	-6,222	3,980	-2,242
<b>ENVHT: Environmental Health Services</b>						
<b>Support Services recharges</b> - Lower than budgeted support services recharges due to reductions in net expenditure in several support service areas, with the biggest reduction being in the Chief Executive's department (-£10,272) particularly due to residual time charged to Covid.			-10,345	-10,345		-10,345
<b>DEFRA Air Quality New Burden Grant</b> – New grant to be received in respect of 2022/23. The funding has been set aside in earmarked reserves for use in the 2023/24 financial year.		-11,710		-11,710	11,710	0
<b>Total Environmental Health Services</b>	0	-11,710	-10,345	-22,055	11,710	-10,345

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
<b>HFORU: Homes For Ukraine</b>						
<b>Employee Costs and Grant Payments:</b> A lower level of spend than budgeted for, particularly in respect of Housing Grants and Sponsor Grants. Any unused grant has been set aside in earmarked reserves for use in 2023/24	-195,613			<b>-195,613</b>	195,613	<b>0</b>
<b>Funding received:</b> Anticipated income has largely been received as expected, although as shown above, not all of this funding has then been used in year.		-6,700		<b>-6,700</b>	6,700	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Homes for Ukraine Service</b>	<b>-195,613</b>	<b>-6,700</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-202,313</b>	<b>202,313</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>HGBEN: Housing Benefits</b>						
<b>Rent Allowance payments</b> - Rent Allowance payments were higher than budgeted for.	8,114			<b>8,114</b>		<b>8,114</b>
<b>Discretionary Housing Payments</b> – More discretionary payments made to housing benefits claimants in-year than originally budgeted for. Payments made in-year were above the Discretionary Housing Payments grant funding received from DWP.	4,153			<b>4,153</b>		<b>4,153</b>
<b>Rent Allowance Grant income</b> - More Housing Benefits subsidy grant received than budgeted for.		-25,243		<b>-25,243</b>		<b>-25,243</b>
<b>Recovery of Rent Allowance Payments:</b> Lower level of recovery than anticipated when the budget was set.		25,054		<b>25,054</b>		<b>25,054</b>
<b>Total Housing Benefits</b>	<b>12,267</b>	<b>-189</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,078</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,078</b>
<b>HOMES: Homelessness Strategy</b>						
<b>Asylum Dispersal Scheme:</b> Funding was received from the government in respect of the asylum dispersal scheme of £21,000. There was also a budget of £21,000 brought in for potential associated expenditure, however this was not needed.	-21,000			<b>-21,000</b>		<b>-21,000</b>

	Variance in Expenditure £	Variance in Income £	Variance in Support Services £	Total Variance £	Associated Earmarked Reserves Variance £	Net Variance £
<b>Tenant Satisfaction New Burdens Funding:</b> Income received in respect of new requirements around tenant satisfaction. This funding was set aside at year end to allow an assessment of the impacts of this new requirement		-2,217		-2,217	2,217	0
<b>Total Homelessness Strategy</b>	-21,000	-2,217	0	-23,217	2,217	-21,000
<b>JARMS: Joiners Arms</b>						
<b>Electricity:</b> Usage levels at the Joiners Arms have been lower than anticipated in the budget	-3,857			-3,857		-3,857
<b>Rent Income:</b> Income levels have been slightly higher than anticipated, including adjustments for arrears at the year end position. This is due to higher occupancy rates, even though Flat 2 was out of use towards the end of the year.		-1,836		-1,836		-1,836
<b>Total Joiners Arms</b>	-3,857	-1,836	0	-5,693	0	-5,693
<b>SUPPE: Supporting People</b>						
<b>Domestic Abuse Victim Support:</b> Grant funding was received and budget for in year, together with expenditure budgets in respect of work connected to the grant funding. Not all of this was funding was used resulting in the variance shown. The balance was set aside in an earmarked reserve at year end to allow the funding to be used in 2023/24 onwards.	-24,370			-24,370	24,695	325
<b>Total Supporting People</b>	-24,370	0	0	-24,370	24,695	325
<b>Subtotal</b>	-273,193	-23,145	-13,852	-310,190	270,748	-39,442
<b>Other variances</b>	-14,297	-5,830	-13,626	-33,753	3,370	-30,383
<b>Total Variances for Health and Housing Committee</b>	-287,490	-28,975	-27,478	-343,943	274,118	-69,825