

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: 21 MARCH 2024
 title: REVENUE MONITORING 2023/24
 submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
 principal author: LAWSON ODDIE

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide this Committee with information relating to the progress of the 2023/24 revenue budget, as at the end of January 2024.

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 needs, whilst ensuring the Council provides council tax payers with value for money.
- Other Considerations – none identified.

2 REVENUE MONITORING 2023/24

2.1 Shown below, by cost centre, is a comparison between actual expenditure and the revised estimate budget for the period April 2023 to January 2024. You will see a net overspend of £22,312, 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	Net Budget for the Full Year £	Net Budget to the end of January 2024 £	Actual including Commitments to the end of January 2024 £	Variance £	
AFHOU	Affordable Rent Properties	1,240	-5,046	-4,729	317	G
APLAC	Alma Place Unit	2,510	-562	-99	463	G
AWARM	Affordable Warmth	-12,550	22,618	20,490	-2,128	A
BURCR	Burials and Cremations	0	0	1,465	1,465	G
CLAIR	Clean Air	4,800	650	1,359	709	G
CLAND	Contaminated Land	7,690	0	0	0	G
CLCEM	Clitheroe Cemetery	72,420	13,626	25,319	11,693	R
CLDCY	Closed Churchyards	4,570	4,570	4,559	-11	G

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Net Budget for the Full Year £	Net Budget to the end of January 2024 £	Actual including Commitments to the end of January 2024 £	Variance £	
CLMKT	Clitheroe Market	-41,900	-120,071	-122,505	-2,434	A
CMGHH	Community Groups - Health & Housing	3,830	0	0	0	G
COMNL	Common Land	4,600	642	435	-207	G
CTBEN	Localised Council Tax Support Admin	174,600	-36,532	-40,428	-3,896	A
DOGWD	Dog Warden & Pest Control	157,580	24,440	22,351	-2,089	A
ENVHT	Environmental Health Services	404,370	-17,684	-18,544	-860	A
HFORU	Homes for Ukraine	-58,170	-78,910	18,027	96,937	R
HGBEN	Housing Benefits	193,610	40,095	88,381	48,286	R
HOMEE	Home Energy Conservation	7,440	190	187	-3	G
HOMES	Homelessness Strategy	-1,760	-96,309	-106,004	-9,695	R
HSASS	Housing Associations	9,190	0	0	0	G
HSTRA	Housing Strategy	52,520	6,570	6,281	-289	G
IMPGR	Improvement Grants	103,890	-30,436	-33,612	-3,176	A
JARMS	Joiners Arms	39,430	12,212	11,161	-1,051	G
SHARE	Shared Ownership Rents	-300	-1,510	-1,507	3	G
SUPPE	Supporting People	5,250	-14,896	-32,697	-17,801	R
Net Cost of Services		1,134,860	-276,343	-160,110	116,233	
Capital Reserve		8,370	0	0	0	
Equipment Reserve - Dog Warden Signs Reserve		-3,980	-3,980	-2,750	1,230	
Equipment Reserve - Joiners Arms Furniture and Equipment Reserve		-500	-500	-500	0	
Equipment Reserve – Clitheroe Cemetery		-6,060	-5,050	-5,392	-342	

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Net Budget for the Full Year £	Net Budget to the end of January 2024 £	Actual including Commitments to the end of January 2024 £	Variance £
	Housing Related Grants Reserve - Affordable Warmth Grant Reserve	12,550	-22,618	-20,490	2,128
	Housing Related Grants Reserve – Housing Strategy	-2,220	-2,220	-2,220	0
	Pensions Triennial Revaluation Reserve	2,500	2,500	2,500	0
	Housing Related Grants Reserve - Homes For Ukraine Reserve	58,170	78,910	-18,027	-96,937
	Net Cost of Services after transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	1,203,690	-229,301	-206,989	22,312

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 There are no specific major variances that are anticipated to remain at the end of the year at this stage.
- 2.5 Some of the largest variances currently showing relate to grant funding and these will be offset by movements in earmarked reserves. It is important that officers work with LCC to ensure that the necessary invoices are raised for the Homes For Ukraine funding as soon as possible.
- 2.6 The other larger variance is in respect of housing benefits, and again, the housing subsidy claim at the end of the year should resolve any of these variances net overall, as funding through subsidy will largely match expenditure.

3 CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The comparison between actual expenditure and the revised estimate budget for this Committee at the end of January 2024 shows a net overspend of £22,312, after allowing for transfers to and from earmarked reserves.
- 3.2 At this stage, it is expected that this Committee's net expenditure outturn for the full year will be largely within the 2023/24 revised estimate.

HEAD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
AND DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

HH6-24/LO/AC
8 March 2024

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None
For further information please ask for Lawson Oddie

Health and Housing Committee Revenue 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
CLCEM/8441u	Clitheroe Cemetery/Interment Fees	-51,060	-41,344	-30,979	10,365	Decreased income to date in this demand-led fluctuating service area. At this stage it is anticipated that there may be an under-recovery of income for the full year.	The budget will be closely monitored until the year end.
HFORU/3014	Homes for Ukraine/HFU Housing Grants	15,000	12,500	1,265	-11,235	Following approval of a scheme at a previous committee. The take up of the grant has not been as great as expected.	Any unspent resources will be set aside in earmarked reserves at year end.
HFORU/3015	Homes for Ukraine/HFU Community Integration Grants	12,000	10,000	-11,583	-21,583	We are currently waiting for LCC to invoice us. Once received, this should reduce the variance shown.	Invoice from LCC will be chased.
HFORU/8493z	Homes for Ukraine/LCC - Ukrainian Housing Funding	-132,000	-132,000	6,500	138,500	Invoices for funding for the year to date have yet to be raised with LCC. There have been ongoing conversations with LCC as processes have changed.	Invoice to be raised against LCC following final confirmation of invoicing arrangements. LCC to be contacted so that the issue can be resolved as soon as possible.

Health and Housing Committee Revenue 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
HFORU/8552z	Homes for Ukraine/LCC - Ukrainian Community Integration Funding	0	0	-7,000	-7,000	Corrections to invoices raised still need to be carried out by the housing team. There are ongoing discussions with LCC.	LCC to be contacted so that the issue can be resolved as soon as possible.
HGBEN/4652	Housing Benefits/Rent Allowance Payments	5,238,330	4,498,154	4,565,866	67,712	Rent Allowance payments are higher than budgeted for the year to date, after adjusting for recovery of benefits overpayments and non-cash transactions.	Adjustments through the final subsidy claim will negate the majority of this variance.
HGBEN/8814z	Housing Benefits/Recovery of Rent Allowance Payments	-41,720	9,803	-5,464	-15,267	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.	

Health and Housing Committee Revenue 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
HOMES/3016	Homelessness Strategy/HFU Homelessness Prevention Grants	10,000	8,334	2,860	-5,474	The take up of the grant has not been as great as expected.	A review of the position at the year end will be undertaken and consideration given at that times as to whether unspent resources can be set aside for future use.
SUPPE/2809	Supporting People/Non Recurring Purchases of Equipment etc	21,290	17,744	0	-17,744	This budget is in respect of non-specified spend around domestic abuse support to victims	Any unspent resources will be set aside in earmarked reserves at year end for use in future years.

Health and Housing Committee Revenue 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
AWARM/4676	Affordable Warmth/Grants to Individuals	33,930	28,278	20,490	-7,788	Grant payments to date have been lower than anticipated against the budget. Any unspent resources at the end of the year will be set aside in earmarked reserves
CLMKT/2402	Clitheroe Market/Repair & Maintenance - Buildings	11,160	7,526	11,097	3,571	Increased costs of some items of work above that expected, including additional unplanned work that was need to some roofing.
CLMKT/8824n	Clitheroe Market/Cabins	-124,560	-124,560	-126,781	-2,221	Income is slightly ahead of budget. Most of this income is invoiced for the full year at the commencement of the financial year. Should there be any vacancies resulting in refunds before the end of the year, then this variance will reduce.
HGBEN/8093z	Housing Benefits/MHCLG - Homelessness Prevention Grant	-11,980	-11,980	-15,670	-3,690	This funding may change when the final subsidy claim is submitted, due to the nature of the costs that this is offsetting in respect of the homelessness unit which impact subsidy.

Health and Housing Committee Revenue 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
HOMES/2450	Homelessness Strategy/Homelessness Temporary A	25,340	21,118	17,533	-3,585	This budget was increased substantially at the revised estimate to reflect increased costs in this area – which are being seen across the whole of Lancashire. Spend to date is lower than allowed for within the budget.
IMPGR/8716m	Improvement Grants/Admin charge - Disabled	-34,180	-28,486	-33,452	-4,966	This budget represents the administration grant taken on the completion of disabled facility grants through the capital programme. This is largely driven by the progress of individual schemes. At this point income levels are ahead of the budget, the budget being profiled on an even monthly basis.