

Environment & Urban Renewal PPB Priority Based Monitoring Report

Reporting Period: **Quarter 3 – Period 01st October to 31st December 2013**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1** This report provides an overview of issues and progress against key service objectives/milestones and performance targets, during the third quarter of 2013/14.
- 1.2** Key priorities for development or improvement in 2013-16 were agreed by Members and included in Directorate Plans, for the various functional areas reporting to the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy & Performance Board i.e.:
- Development & Investment Services
 - Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement
 - Highways, Transportation & Logistics and Physical Environment
 - Housing Strategy
- 1.3** The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within Section 8 of this report.

2.0 Key Developments

There have been a number of developments during the period which include:

Development & Investment Services (WR)

Sci-Tech Daresbury

- A bid for £3.57m was submitted to Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) for EZ Capital Grant via Liverpool LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership). The grant will support the current gap in funding for Project Tech Space alongside works for the preparation of Phase 2 at the Lord Daresbury and Hostel plots and on-site broadband infrastructure.

ERDF Funding bid

- A bid for European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funding was submitted in June 2013, a final decision is due before the end of March 2014.

The External funding team continues to support the Joint Venture (JV) Partnership at Sci-Tech Daresbury: claim 3 to the Regional Growth Fund is due in February 2014. The Growing Places Fund due diligence work is on-going, it is expected the first claim will be submitted by the end of January 2014.

Johnsons Lane

- Works required to clear the area of the site required for Ballast Phoenix, Tarmac and the access road of vegetation and Japanese Knotweed are due to commence at the beginning of January 2014. The Council are liaising with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) regarding Due Diligence for the Growing Places Funding for the access road. It is anticipated that the loan can be repaid from the land sale to Ballast Phoenix.

Gorse Lane former Bayer site

- The selection of Gazeley as development partner was approved at Executive Board on 5th September 2013. There are still a number of outstanding issues which will take time to resolve before the development agreement can be finalised. Discussions are also on-going with Department for Business, Innovation & Skills (BIS) to keep them up to date and get the required approvals relating to the development agreement as well as the ring fenced account (the historical charges and future ones).
- The Council have met with LEP representatives regarding the Due Diligence for the Growing Places Funding loan for the groundwater remediation. It is anticipated that the loan will be repaid from the land receipt along with the ring fenced account from the land receipt. This needs to be formally agreed with BIS. It is expected the Council will receive confirmation of the GPF loan in January 2014 subject to the Due Diligence. Work will be required to agree the process for the repayment with BIS.

Venture Fields – Barwood

- The phase 1 planning application has been approved. The lease with Pure Gym has been agreed and construction work is due to start on site in the New Year.

St Michael's Golf Course

- Mersey Valley Golf Course are working towards satisfying the conditions in their agreement to lease including the environmental bespoke permit and waste recovery plan.

Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement (CP)

Waste & Environmental Improvement

- In December, the Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (MRWA) signed contracts with a consortium led by SITA UK for the 30-year Resource and Recovery Contract (RRC) on behalf of the Merseyside and Halton Waste Partnership. The RRC will provide a sustainable and cost effective solution for dealing with residual waste produced in Halton and across Merseyside. The facilities provided by the RRC are expected to be operational in 2016 and will enable Halton to divert more than 92% of its residual waste from landfill.
- Council officers were involved in a successful multi-agency partnership operation to prevent and reduce unauthorised bonfires and other forms of environmental nuisance and damage to property across Halton during the 'Bonfire Period'. Activities included increased patrols in identified 'hot spot' areas, the deployment of a mobile CCTV Camera and information leaflets being delivered to householders.

Other preventative measures included the erection of metal fencing around open spaces in residential areas that have previously been subject to unauthorised bonfires. Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service reported that there was a 46% decrease in small deliberate fires recorded in 2013 compared to the same time period of 2012, equivalent to a reduction of 86 incidents.

- Corporate Services PPB received an annual report on Area Forums for 2012/13 in October 2013, the report detailed the expenditure across the seven area forums and external funding levered in to support projects, for every £1 of area forum funding a further £1.36 was levered in to match fund projects. A total of 181 projects were delivered in the period with community initiatives and environmental improvements being the largest categories of activity. The PPB received case studies to demonstrate the impacts on the projects supported which also highlighted the collaborative approaches generated to deliver on community identified needs.

Open Space Services

- During Q3 2013/14 design work on the new pavilion for Runcorn Hill & Heath Park was completed and tenders went out for its construction and for the renovation of the existing lakeside pavilion (which will be used by the Runcorn Model Boat Club) and bowling green hut. Adverts were also placed for an operator of the pavilion.
- Practical conservation tasks have begun at Runcorn Hill & Heath Park as part of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) project using volunteers who attend weekly sessions. Restoring the heathland on the hill is the first priority.
- The car park at Halton Sports was resurfaced during Q3. The car park is used quite intensely and the old surface had broken up.
- The contract for the installation of two new cremators at Widnes Crematorium was signed off in Q3. The winning company was ATI. Work will commence on the installation of the cremators in Q4 and will take ten months to complete.
- During Q3 four mystery shopper visits were carried out to Green Flag Award parks all of which were found to be within the standards required.
- The winter work programme of the parks and Streetscene sections began in Q3 2013/14 and will continue through to Q4 2013/14. The annual programme concentrates on tree and shrub coppice, thinning and pruning as well as general neighbourhood tidy ups.

Highways, Transportation & Physical Environment (MN)

Highways

- Construction work has now commenced on Local Pinch Point Schemes to improve traffic capacity and access to Sci-Tech Daresbury with planning approval for site connectivity work being granted prior to works commencing later this financial year.

Bridge & Highway Maintenance

- As part of the additional funding to local highway authorities which was announced by the Chancellor in his Autumn Statement Halton will now receive an additional £355k (2013/14) and £187k (2014/15) to help renew and repair the highways network.
- A major funding bid to the Liverpool City Region Local Transport Body for SJB Bridge Maintenance has been included in the shortlist of 12 regional projects recommended for progressing to the next stage of the bid process. Further information concerning the outcome of the process will be provided as and when this becomes available.
- The winter maintenance scheme commenced in October 2013 and by the end of December 220 tonnes of grit had been used, which is similar to that of 2010/11 although representing a 50% reduction over 2011/12 consumption. At present 950 tonnes are stockpiled with an additional 500 tonnes being delivered in January.
- A winter maintenance working group has now been established with Lafarge Tarmac and Warrington Borough Council to identify opportunities for further efficiencies across both authorities.

Traffic, Risk and Emergency Planning / H&S

- Following a number of collisions, the street lighting has been switched back on the junction of the A558 Daresbury Expressway and Pitts Heath Lane in Runcorn.

Physical environment

- Historically Halton has been heavily reliant upon and successful in applying for contaminated land funding totalling £3.4M since 2002. However the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has now announced that it will no longer be funding the Contaminated Land Capital Projects Programme. Whilst the Council will continue to have a responsibility to investigate contaminated land, and publish a strategy as to how this will be done, the announcement by DEFRA will limit the future means by which such duties can be fulfilled.
- Work is progressing on the Widnes and Hale Green Belt Study with the initial site visits due for completion by the end of the January and initial sustainability assessments being undertaken.
- The Mid Mersey Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) continues to work with companies based at Sci-Tech Daresbury to encourage travel by sustainable transport. Funding from the LSTF to extend the route and time the 200 bus service has proven successful with patronage on the overall service doubling. Additionally the launch of a Smart Travel Application for PC's and Smartphones is scheduled during Quarter 4.

Housing Strategy (PMcW)

- Government has published additional statutory guidance on social housing allocations aimed at dispelling the perception that people with no local connection too often get priority over local people. The Guidance recommends the introduction of a 2 year minimum residency test to join the housing register. Exemptions apply to armed forces personnel, and further exemptions are suggested for those who can demonstrate strong association to an area through for example family association or employment.

- The current sub regional lettings policy, which is itself the subject of an ongoing consultation exercise in respect of other proposed changes, will be reviewed to determine what changes may be necessary.

3.0 Emerging Issues

A number of emerging issues have been identified during the period that will impact upon the work of the Council including:

Development & Investment Services (WR)

Land Remediation Funding

- Lord de Mauley announced to all English local authorities that DEFRA will no longer be supporting the costs of investigating and remediating contaminated land under Part 2A. Local authorities have a statutory duty to identify “contaminated land” posing unacceptable risks and to then secure remediation.

HBC have secured funding through these grants to investigate and remediate St Michaels Golf Course. The budget for this national scheme had already undergone significant cuts, decreasing from £17.5 million in 2009/10 down to £2m for 2013/14. From 1 April 2014 for a three-year period only £500,000 will be accessible annually for high priority cases. Funding then completely stops in 2017.

Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement (CP)

Waste and Environmental Improvement

- Officers have undertaken a procurement exercise for the provision of services to divert residual waste from landfill during the interim period up to the commencement of the Merseyside and Halton Resource Recovery Contract. Details of the outcome of the procurement exercise will be presented to Members at a future meeting of the Board.

Open Space Services

- During Q3 the country experienced a period of storms and gales which resulted in a number of trees being blown over and others were badly damaged. This has put pressure on the planned works of the tree team. For obvious reasons emergency works always take precedence. Presently a large number of planned works have had to be rescheduled in the programme for later in Q4.

Highways Transportation & Physical Environment (MN)

Highways

- Phase 2 of the 2013/14 carriageway structural reconstruction has been delayed due to poor weather conditions and has been rescheduled for completion in February 2014.

Physical Environment

- The Department for Transport (DfT) launched guidance for the next round of LSTF in late December 13. Funding will be available for 1 year (2015-16) and is for revenue projects only with an overall value of a bid is set a £1m, or for the Liverpool City Region (LCR) as a whole £5m. Applications to this fund need to be submitted by the end of March 2014 and currently there are discussions taking place amongst the Liverpool City Regions on how best to proceed.

4.0 Risk Control Measures

Risk control forms an integral part of the Council's Business Planning and performance monitoring arrangements.

As such progress concerning the implementation of all high risk mitigation measures will be monitored in Quarter 2 and Quarter 4.

5.0 Progress Against Equality Actions

Equality issues continue to form a routine element of the Council's business planning and operational decision making processes. Additionally the Council must have evidence to demonstrate compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which came into force in April 2011.


As a result the Board will receive further information following the completion of the Annual Equality Assessment which will be undertaken during Quarter 3.

6.0 Performance Overview

The following information provides a synopsis of progress for both milestones and performance indicators across the key business areas that have been identified by the Directorate.

6.1 Development and Investment Services

Key Objectives / Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
EEP 01	Continue to market the Lakeside and Canalside development sites Continue the development of Mossbank Park Commence development of SciTech Phase 1 by June 2013	

Supporting Commentary

Phase 1: On the 11th November 2013 the Council completed on the disposal of the site of the former Barge Public House and adjoining land to Keepmoat Homes. This was followed by an immediate start on site by the developer. The scheme comprises a total of 86 two, three and four bedroom homes starting at £90,000. Joint publicity with Keepmoat was gained in early December 2013, with the Executive Board Member for Physical Environment taking a leading role.

The site is progressing well and a sales office is scheduled to open in the new year with show homes following in Spring 2014. A number of early bird reservations have already been placed. The scheme is expected to take 3 years to complete. For further information about the development see: <http://www.keepmoat.com/development/bridgewater-gardens-runcorn>
Phase 2 - 3: Building lease complete, developer has started on site.









Mossbank Park is to now be known as Venture Fields. The leisure element now drawn down funds and works start on site at the end of January 2014.

Both planning applications for Tech Space and Site Connectivity at Sci-Tech Phase 1 received approval on 2nd December 2013. The programme is on target for a start on site in Spring 2014.

Scottish Power works are continuing to programme. The purchase of two buses has been committed and work is on-going to agree the final design.

Positive discussions have been held with DCLG to identify a series of actions for the Enterprise Zone.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	12/13 Actual	13/14 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of travel
DIS LI 05	Number of inward investment enquiries per annum	246	180	233 (cumulative)		
DIS LI 06	Inward investment enquiry conversion rate percentage	15%	10%	26%		
DIS LI 01	Occupancy of HBC Industrial Units.	86%	85%	85%		
DIS LI 02	Occupancy of Widnes Market Hall.	92%	90%	88%		

Supporting Commentary

The number of investment enquiries for the 2013 calendar year (306) is greatest since 2004 and represents a significant rebound since the onset of the global recession in 2008. During quarter 3 there were 66 enquiries.

The upward trend in investment enquiries is reflected in the number of conversions which, at 46 in 2013, is the highest level since 2001.


Occupancy of our industrial estates remains high and recent upturn in the market suggests that the target for 2013/14 will be met.

A number of traders have given notice to leave the market in this quarter, however there are five new applications which will be considered in the next quarter therefore it is anticipated that this target will be met.

6.2 Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement

6.2.1 Open Spaces



Key Objectives / Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
CE 05	Runcorn Hill Park (Parks for People bid) – Deliver project subject to success of funding bid. March 2014. Woodland Expansion - Additional 200m2 of Woodland planted Borough wide - March 2014.	

Supporting Commentary

The Runcorn Hill Park project is underway and target dates are being met. Major physical works will start on the ground in Q4 2013/14. The planting for the woodland expansion is now underway and the target date for completion of March 2014 will be met.

Key Performance Indicators



Ref	Measure	12/13 Actual	13/14 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of travel
CE LI 19	Number of Green Flag Awards for Halton.	12	12	12		

Supporting Commentary

Twelve green flag award parks have been retained. A mystery shopper visit in Q3 demonstrated that green flag parks are still within the standards required.

6.2.2 Waste Management

Key Objectives / Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
CE 6	Continue to review and assess the effectiveness of projects and initiatives to help improve energy efficiency and reduce CO ₂ emissions - March 2014 . Develop and publish a Waste Communications Plan and implement actions arising from the Plan - March 2014 .	
CE 7	Continue to develop Action Plans and Protocols with External Agencies to effectively prevent and tackle a range of waste and environmental offences - March 2014 .	







Supporting Commentary

Opportunities to reduce energy usage in corporate buildings continue to be explored. Individual building performance charts, comparing all monitored sites, now provide building managers with feedback on relative progress towards the achievement of energy usage targets.

A Waste Communications Plan has been produced and will be published. A number of actions arising out of the Plan have already been completed or implemented, including the development of specific Waste Management Facebook and Twitter accounts and the delivery of an interactive education programmes to primary schools.

Officers are continuing to work on joint operations with external organisations and enforcement agencies such as local Housing Associations, Cheshire Police and the Environment Agency to tackle waste and environmental related nuisance. In October the Council undertook a further joint 'roadside check' with Cheshire Police seeking to tackle unregistered waste carriers.

Key Performance Indicators






Ref	Measure	12/13 Actual	13/14 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of travel
CE LI 14	Residual household waste per household (Previously NI191). (Kgs)	633 kgs	700 kgs	473 kgs (Estimated)		
CE LI 15	Household waste recycled and composted (Previously NI192). (%)	37.3%	40%	39.38% (Estimated)		
CE LI 16	Municipal waste land filled (Previously NI193). (%)	58%	60%	56.36% (Estimated)		

Supporting Commentary

The figures relating to how waste in Halton and how it is processed are currently estimated figures with early indications showing that these targets will be met.

6.3 Highways, Transportation & Logistics (MN)

Key Objectives / Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
PPT 01	Review progress, revise SJB maintenance strategy document and deliver 2013/14 major bridge maintenance works programme. March 2014	
PPT 02	To deliver the 2013/14 LTP Capital Programme. March 2014	
PPT 03	Develop and consult on a local flood risk strategy for Halton by November 2013 and progress to adoption by March 2014 .	
PPT 06	Progress the Delivery and Site Allocations Local Plan (DALP) towards adoption. March 2014	
PPT 07	Mersey Gateway - Enter into Project Agreement and Demand Management Participation Agreement – November 2013 . Mersey Gateway – Full business case approval, Financial close and Contract award and mobilisation – November 2013 .	

Supporting Commentary

2013/14 major bridge maintenance works programme is underway with individual work delivery being adjusted in line with budget availability as Target Costs for individual Task Orders are agreed.

In relation to the Local Transport Plan (LTP) Capital Programme the delivery of integrated transport schemes is well underway with around 10 schemes at various locations having been completed.

Construction of further transport and highway improvement schemes is due to commence in January at local neighbourhood centres at Moorfield Road and Ditchfield Road, Widnes.

With regard to the Road Maintenance element the programme of footway reconstruction is nearing completion for this year. Phases 1 & 2 of the Carriageway reconstruction & resurfacing schemes are complete with Phase 3 works imminent in February 2014.

Programme and Design work for next year's Phase 1 Footway and Carriageway schemes are well underway in line with the Annual Plan.









The draft Local Flood Risk Strategy has been reviewed by the Environment Agency and a formal partner / stakeholder consultation is currently in progress. It is anticipated that the public consultation will be undertaken during February 2014 and completed by the end of March 2014.

Initial scoping of DALP and necessary evidence base underway. The scoping report was presented to Environment and Regeneration PPB in November 2013. Public consultation of the Scoping Report starts on the 10th February 2014.

Whilst the Mersey Gateway Business Case was submitted to the Department for Transport in November 2013 the Financial Close has now been deferred until the end of February 2014.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	12/13 Actual	13/14 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of travel
PPT LI 01	Number of third party compensation claims received due to alleged highway / footway defects.	150	110	94		
PPT LI 11	Damage to roads and pavements (% dangerous damage repaired within 24 hours).	74	98	99		
PPT LI 04	% Processing of planning applications as measured against targets for:					
	a) 'major' applications > 13 weeks	66.7	60	56.3		
	b) 'minor' applications > 8 weeks	30.9	83	51.5		
	c) 'other' applications	70.4	83	91.1		
PPT LI 05	To ensure a five year rolling supply of housing land available for 2, 760 homes over 5 years. Measure as supply of ready to develop housing sites (%).	119*	100	N/A		N/A

Ref	Measure	12/13 Actual	13/14 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of travel
PPT LI 15	Bus service punctuality:					
	a) Percentage of buses starting route on time	97.74	97.80	97.48		
	b) Percentage of buses on time at intermediate timing points	89.31	97.40	90.46		
PPT LI 17	No. of passengers on community based accessible transport	275,518	255,000	189,039		
PPT LI 19	Number of local bus passenger journeys originating in the authority area in one year (000's)	5,491	5,500	3,979		

Supporting Commentary

There have been 94 3rd party claims by Q3. Although this is less than the Q3 total in 2012/13 (105), it would appear unlikely that the 2013/14 target will be met.

Damage to roads and pavements is now being undertaken through the new Highways term contract with Lafarge Tarmac undertaken under a new suite of incentivised performance indicators. This greater degree of contractual control in combination with new methods of reporting and instructing Priority 1 & Priority 2 work has brought performance back in line with target.

Performance in determining planning applications continues to improve in line with the team now being fully staffed.


*2011/12 figure quoted. Indicator produced as part of Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). The 5 year requirement is becoming increasingly difficult to achieve as cumulative undersupply since 2010 due to market conditions inflates the 5 year requirement i.e. 2012 target = 3,368 units (2,760 policy figure + 608 undersupply).

Bus service punctuality continues to improve as we move throughout the year and it is anticipated that the annual target will be achieved.

Halton Community Transport has indicated that the fall in journeys is due to a reduction in coach journeys being undertaken within the current year. It is anticipated that journeys will remain static for the remainder of 2013/14. Additionally bus patronage within Halton continues to decline overall. However, Q3 has improved greatly on the Q2 figure of 2,640 with a 50% increase in passenger numbers.

6.4 Housing Strategy (P.McW)

Key Objectives / Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
CCC 3	Continue to negotiate with housing providers and partners in relation to the provision of further extra care housing tenancies, to ensure requirements are met (including the submission of appropriate funding bids). March 2014	

Supporting Commentary

The construction of Halton Housing Trust's 50 unit extra care scheme at Pingot on Dundalk Rd in Widnes, is scheduled to begin in January 2014.

7.0 Financial Statements

POLICY, PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2013

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	4,958	3,822	3,875	(53)
Other Premises	236	80	73	7
Hired & Contracted Services	438	208	208	0
Supplies & Services	309	250	248	2
Street Lighting	1,791	1,070	1,070	0
Highways Maintenance	2,223	1,337	1,337	0
Bridges	96	48	38	10
Fleet Transport	1,235	945	945	0
Lease Car Contracts	622	622	622	0
Bus Support – Halton Hopper Tickets	231	182	182	0
Bus Support	531	356	341	15
Out of Borough Transport	51	34	33	1
Capital Financing	406	307	307	0
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	68	68	68	0
NRA Levy	62	62	59	3
Mersey Gateway	4,966	3,262	3,262	0
Total Expenditure	18,223	12,653	12,668	(15)
<u>Income</u>				
Sales	-310	-248	-271	23
Planning Fees	-506	-354	-373	19
Building Control Fees	-81	-71	-80	9
Other Fees & Charges	-519	-351	-387	36
Rents	-8	-4	-2	(2)
Reimbursements & Other Grants	-171	-128	-138	10
School SLAs	-39	-39	-44	5
Recharge to Capital	-2,736	-995	-995	0
	-2,567	-2,267	-2,267	0
Transfer from Reserves				
Total Income	-6,937	-4,457	-4,557	100
Net Controllable Expenditure	11,286	8,196	8,111	85

Recharges				
Premises Support	770	333	332	1
Transport Recharges	568	430	430	0
Asset Charges	7,432	0	1	(1)
Central Support Recharges	3,200	2,400	2,401	(1)
Departmental Support Recharges	446	0	0	0
Support Recharges Income – Transport	-4,699	-2,823	-2,823	0
Support Recharges Income – Non Transport	-2,925	-806	-805	(1)
Net Total Recharges	4,792	-466	-464	(2)
Net Departmental Total	16,078	7,730	7,647	83

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms revenue spending at the end of quarter 3 is below budget profile. This is due to a number of expenditure and income budget areas.

Expenditure on staffing is above the budget to date, this is linked to the staff savings turnover target not being met for the year to date.

Planning fees are currently above the income target to date due a number of individual developments across the borough. These consist of one off large fee applications which cannot be guaranteed in the future. At this stage income on planning fees for the year is forecast to be in line with the annual budget

Schools SLA income is above target in Risk Management due to higher than anticipated demand for the service for the year.

The increase in other fees and charges is mainly due to extra income being generated in the MOT bay; however as this is customer lead it cannot be guaranteed.

The increase in sales is mainly due to increased fuel sales and highway searches.

At this stage of the year it is anticipated that overall spend will be within the Departmental budget at the financial year-end.

POLICY, PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION

Capital Projects as at 31st December 2013

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (overspend) £'000
Local Transport Plan				
Bridges & Highway Maintenance				
Bridge Assessment, Strengthening & Maintenance	3,060	1,700	1,635	1,425
Road Maintenance	1,715	1,100	1,025	690
	4,775	2,800	2,660	2,115
Total Bridge & Highway Maintenance				
Integrated Transport	725	210	205	520
Total Local Transport Plan	5,500	3,010	2,865	2,635
Early Land Acquisition Mersey Gateway	15,378	9,016	9,016	6,362
Development Costs Mersey Gateway	3,500	995	995	2,505
Street lighting – Structural Maintenance	105	22	22	83
Risk Management	118	26	26	92
	950	400	366	584
Fleet Replacement	20,051	10,459	10,425	9,626
Total Halton Borough Council				
<u>Grant Funded</u>				
	214	0	0	214
Surface Water Management Grant				
	150	9	9	141
Mid Mersey Local Sustainable Transport	364	9	9	355
Total Grant Funded				
<u>Local Pinch Point Fund</u>	1,805	36	36	1,769
A558 Access Improvements				
	1,805	36	36	1,769
Total Local Pinch Point Fund				
Total Capital Programme	27,720	13,514	13,335	14,385

ECONOMY ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

Summary Financial Position as at 31st December 2013

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget to Date £'000	Expenditure to Date £'000	Variance to Date (overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	4,419	3,521	3,572	(51)
Repairs & Maintenance	2,703	2,048	2,040	8
Energy & Water Costs	606	421	413	8
NNDR	637	621	622	(1)
Rents	376	355	355	0
Marketing Programme	128	23	17	6
Promotions	84	34	27	7
Supplies & Services	1,251	839	823	16
Agency Related Payments	168	145	145	0
Total Expenditure	10,372	8,007	8,014	(7)
<u>Income</u>				
Fees & Charges	-587	-471	-471	0
Rent - Markets	-758	-577	-580	3
Rent - Industrial	-965	-615	-610	(5)
Rent – Commercial	-533	-452	-450	(2)
Government Grant Income	-914	-559	-559	0
Transfer from Reserves	-361	-361	-361	0
Recharges to Capital	-420	-207	-207	0
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-659	-577	-585	8
Schools SLA Income	-494	-494	-494	0
Total Income	-5,691	-4,313	-4,317	4
Net Operational Budget	4,681	3,955	3,958	(3)
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Support Costs	1,498	1,133	1,133	0
Transport Support Costs	38	22	22	0
Central Support Service Costs	1,706	1,289	1,289	0
Asset Rental Support Costs	2,390	0	0	0
Repairs & Maintenance Recharge Income	-2,185	-1,639	-1,639	0
Accommodation Recharge Income	-2,759	-2,070	-2,070	0
Central Supp. Service Rech. Income	-1,891	-1,419	-1,419	0
Total Recharges	-1,202	-2,684	-2,684	0
Net Expenditure	3,478	1,010	1,013	(3)

Comments

The overspend to date on the Employee budget has reduced this quarter due to vacancies within the Operations and Investment & Development Division. Spend to date is still over budget, as staff savings targets are not being achieved within the Building and School Cleaning Service as these services need to be fully staffed at all times.

In order to ease budget pressures spending has been restricted in year on Supplies & Services. Promotions and Marketing has also been kept to a minimum in an effort to achieve in year savings for the Department.

Income levels for industrial and commercial rent has improved as a result of renegotiation of contracts and compensation payments from Mersey Gateway for loss of rental income.

Work has continued with managers during the last quarter to look at budget pressures. This has resulted in realignment of budgets and this is reflected in the variances above.

In overall terms it is anticipated that net expenditure will be slightly above the overall Departmental budget by year-end, primarily as a result of the Staff Savings target.

COMMISSIONING & COMPLEX CARE DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2013

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	7,152	5,148	5,119	29
Premises	233	178	182	(4)
Supplies & Services	2,080	1,667	1,675	(8)
Emergency Duty Team	103	51	50	1
Carers Breaks	471	401	394	7
Transport	170	128	150	(22)
Contracts & SLAs	199	138	83	55
Payments To Providers	3,839	2,696	2,689	7
Other Agency Costs	828	616	615	1
Total Expenditure	15,075	11,023	10,957	66
<u>Income</u>				
Sales & Rents Income	-218	-193	-204	11
Fees & Charges	-169	-69	-58	(11)
CCG Contribution To Service	-846	-519	-507	(12)
Reimbursements & Grant Income	-914	-657	-670	13
Transfer From Reserves	-245	0	0	0
Total Income	-2,392	-1,438	-1,439	1
Net Operational Expenditure	12,683	9,585	9,518	67
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Support	304	229	229	0
Central Support Services	1,958	1,327	1,327	0
Transport Services	440	223	223	0
Asset Charges	79	0	0	0
Internal Recharge Income	-1,747	0	0	0
Net Total Recharges	1,034	1,779	1,779	0
Net Departmental Total	13,717	11,364	11,297	67

Comments on the above figures:

Net operational expenditure is £67,000 below budget profile at the end of the third quarter of the financial year.

Employee costs are currently £29,000 below budget profile. This results from savings made on vacant posts, specifically in relation to Day Services and the Supported Housing Network. The majority of these posts were appointed to in September and October, and it is not anticipated that the underspend will increase beyond the current level.

Expenditure on Contracts and Service Level Agreements is projected to be £75,000 below budget at the year-end. This relates to savings in respect of payments to bed & breakfast providers for homelessness support, and savings made on the Bredon Respite Care contract. There has historically been significant variations in demand for the bed and breakfast service, although current expenditure patterns are stable, and the projected underspend seems realistic. It should be noted that £50,000 of the bed and breakfast accommodation budget has been proposed as a saving from the 2014/15 budget year onwards.

Income projections take into account the fact that £50,000 of rental income relating to Grangeway Court will not be recovered whilst the building is in the process of being refurbished. However, income above target from trading services supplied by ALD Services (specifically catering, hairdressing, the tea room and micro-brewery) should result in the overall Departmental income target being met at the year-end.

At this stage, it is anticipated that expenditure will be approximately £60,000 below budget by the end of the financial year.

Capital Projects as at 31st December 2013

	2013/14 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
Choice Based Lettings	7	5	5	2
Bredon Respite Unit	13	13	13	0
Bungalows At Halton Lodge	400	0	0	400
Grangeway Court Refurbishment	347	0	0	347
Contingency	29	0	0	29
Total Spending	796	18	18	778

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Revenue Budget as at 31 December 2013

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure				
Employees	12,206	9,205	9,370	(165)
Other Premises	1,363	969	876	93
Supplies & Services	1,549	1,083	1,023	60
Book Fund	225	186	187	(1)
Promotional	290	206	205	1
Other Hired Services	991	528	542	(14)
Food Provisions	773	499	460	39
School Meals Food	1,660	917	887	30
Transport	70	52	33	19
Other Agency Costs	877	145	153	(8)
Waste Disposal Contracts	4,799	2,697	2,667	30
Leisure Management Contract	1,492	1,011	1,042	(31)
Grants To Voluntary Organisations	333	290	287	3
Grant To Norton Priory	222	222	224	(2)
Rolling Projects	185	42	42	0
Capital Financing	33	0	0	0
Total Spending	27,068	18,052	17,998	54
Income				
Sales Income	-2,216	-1,508	-1,431	(77)
School Meals Sales	-2,224	-1,154	-1,192	38
Fees & Charges Income	-2,729	-1,750	-1,676	(74)
Rents Income	-156	-97	-94	(3)
Government Grant Income	-111	-31	-43	12
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-510	-291	-330	39
Schools SLA Income	-278	-254	-226	(28)
Internal Fees Income	-104	-59	-48	(11)
School Meals Other Income	-2,265	-1,883	-1,916	33
Meals On Wheels	-188	-132	-135	3
Catering Fees	-173	-130	-62	(68)
Capital Salaries	-103	-77	-39	(38)
Transfers From Reserves	-247	-185	-185	0
Total Income	-11,304	-7,551	-7,377	(174)
Net Controllable Expenditure	15,764	10,501	10,621	(120)

Recharges				
Premises Support	1,491	924	925	(1)
Transport Recharges	2,242	1,384	1,398	(14)
Departmental Support Services	9	0	0	0
Central Support Services	3,119	2,362	2,362	0
Asset Charges	3,052	0	0	0
HBC Support Costs Income	-375	-375	-374	(1)
Net Total Recharges	9,538	4,295	4,311	(16)
Net Departmental Total	25,302	14,796	14,930	(136)

Comments on the above figures:

Net operational expenditure is £136,000 over budget profile at the end of the third quarter of the financial year.

Employees' expenditure is over budget profile by £165,000, primarily due to savings targets for premium pay of £256,400 for this financial year. Agency staffing is approximately £58,000 less than at the same stage last year, which is helping to keep the overspend on staff costs to a minimum. To date, with the exception of the Stadium, all other divisions with the department are under budget profile contributing to the achievement of the staff turnover saving targets of £461,625.

The main budget pressure is income received and the targets set for the department and budgets are underachieving in several areas particularly Sales, Fees & Charges, Catering Fees and Capital Salaries. Sales and Fees and Charges for the Stadium as a whole are still struggling to meet targets and changes to capital salaries criteria has added further pressure to the underachieving income targets.

Expenditure on other premises and supplies and services is currently £153,000 under budget profile. This is due to savings on equipment budgets, hired services, lower than expected utility bills within the Community Centres and savings on consumables budgets.

The Leisure management contract is over the budget profile and is expected to overspend by approximately £ 40,000 by year end.

Waste disposal contract invoices have been fluctuating during the year with amounts being higher than expected earlier in the year but recent invoices are lower, resulting in overall spend being less than anticipated for this stage of the financial year. It is possible that increases will occur in the next few months so revisions to projections will continue to be monitored regularly.

School Meals is still performing well against budget, with sales and food costs both having favourable variances.







The final year end position for the Department is expected to be approximately £180,000 over budget which will be contained within the Directorates budget.

Capital Projects as at 31 December 2013

Project	Capital Allocation 2013/14 £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
<u>Community & Environment Division</u>				
Stadium Minor Works	30	8	8	22
Stadium Disability Works	30	0	0	30
Stadium Gym Equipment	30	0	0	30
Widnes Recreation Site	2,680	110	108	2,572
Childrens Playground Equipment	81	25	24	57
Playground Third Party Funding	340	13	13	327
Arley Drive (Upton)	66	2	2	64
Crow Wood	13	0	0	13
Open Spaces Schemes	72	72	71	1
Runcorn Cemetery Extension	9	1	1	8
Cremators At Widnes Crematorium	396	5	5	391
Runcorn Hill Park	120	52	52	68
Runcorn Busway Works for Gas Powered Buses	30	30	30	0
Litter Bins	50	30	29	21
	3,947	348	343	3,604

8.0 Appendix - Explanation for use of symbols

Symbols are used in the following manner:

<u>Progress</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
Green 	Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.	Indicates that the annual target <u>is on course to be achieved</u> .
Amber 	Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> , whether the milestone/objective will be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> whether the annual target is on course to be achieved.
Red 	Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain</u> that the objective will not be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	Indicates that the target <u>will not be achieved</u> unless there is an <u>intervention or remedial action</u> taken.
Direction of Travel Indicator		
<i>Where possible <u>performance measures</u> will also identify a direction of travel using the following convention:</i>		
Green 	<i>Indicates that performance is better as compared to the same period last year.</i>	
Amber 	<i>Indicates that performance is the same as compared to the same period last year.</i>	
Red 	<i>Indicates that performance is worse as compared to the same period last year.</i>	
N/A	<i>Indicates that the measure cannot be compared to the same period last year.</i>	

Key for Operational Director lead:

(MN)	Mick Noone	Operational Director, Policy, Planning & Transportation
(CP)	Chris Patino	Operational Director, Community & Environment
(PMcW)	Paul McWade	Operational Director, Commissioning & Complex Care
(WR)	Wesley Rourke	Operational Director, Economy Enterprise & Property