# Employment, Learning, Skills and Community PPB – Priority Based Monitoring Report

Reporting Period: Quarter 1 – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of issues and progress against key service objectives/milestones and performance targets, during the first quarter of 2019/20 for service areas within the remit of the Employment, Learning, Skills and Community (ELSC) Policy and Performance Board.
- 1.2 Key priorities for development or improvement in 2015-18 were agreed by Members and included in Directorate Plans, for the various functional areas reporting to Employment, Learning, Skills and Community (ELSC) Policy & Performance Board i.e.
  - Employment, Learning and Skills
  - Library and Culture and Leisure Services
- 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

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

#### **Employment, Learning & Skills**

2.2 The new Head of Curriculum & Learner Services is now in post and initial tasks will include a review of the Ad

#### LCR Apprenticeship Hub Team

- 2.1 The Combined Authority are working with the Apprenticeship Hub to secure alternative funding to sustain and enhance skills and apprenticeship advice and support across the City Region. The proposed new service will build on the innovative and successful practice of this programme and provide added value through a centralised approach.
- 2.2 The Apprenticeship Hub have delivered 43 outreach meetings to over 850 individuals across the City Region this quarter and presented an evaluation of the ESF contract deliverables at the PPB on the 24th June 2019.
- 2.3 The Apprenticeship Ambassador network had a launch event in January 2019, at this launch The Hub committed to hosting 2 conferences per year to engage and support the Ambassadors. We delivered the first conference on the 21st June 2019 to over 50 delegates which included key note speakers, networking opportunities and training on Presentation skills.

#### **Adult Learning**

- 2.4 The Self-Assessment Report and Quality Improvement Plan for the Adult Learning Team was completed in Quarter 1. Both of these documents, together with a range of other documents and information, were submitted to the Combined Authority as part of the due diligence process for the devolution of the Adult Education Budget from 1st August 2019.
- 2.5 The Adult Learning Team submitted 2 Test & Learn pilot programme plans to the Combined Authority as part of the devolution of the Adult Education Budget. One will focus on digital marketing and coding for learners and the 2nd will be a reading project aimed at non-readers in the borough who will be supported by a volunteer.

#### Cross divisional

- 2.6 The Combined Authority launched its Skills Capital Prospectus (Single Investment Fund) in Q1. Closing date for applications is August 2019 and Officers are working to submit an application to enhance the facilities for learners at Kingsway Learning Centre.
- 2.7 A number of European Social Fund (ESF) calls were published during Quarter 1. Halton's external funding team supported in the bid writing for the Skills & Apprenticeship Hub call, which will help sustain the Apprenticeship Hub. Submission is 2nd July 2019.

# **Library and Culture and Leisure Services**

#### Library Service

- 2.8 Work was completed in June on an investment in replacement self-service technology in all libraries to upgrade from the outdated machines, which will enhance the customer experience and introduce tighter procedures to make sure that services are more accurate.
- 2.9 Halton's first 'Readathon' was a big success engaging schools, nurseries and communities in reading for improved wellbeing and the Summer Reading Challenge has now launched, with a space theme, and this year is accompanied by a programme of 150 family activities taking place across the 4 libraries.

#### Leisure Centres

- 2.10 Visits to Kingsway and Brookvale have increased in recent months. Continuity of service and minor improvement will all contribute to an improved customer experience and greater satisfaction. Both new and existing staff are working very well together to bring forward suggestions for further service development opportunities.
- 2.11 Centre users have also seen the benefit of new air conditioning units in the Gyms at Kingsway and Brookvale, with a new steam generator being installed at Kingsway and painting on poolside at Runcorn Pool.

# Sports Development

2.12 Stay Strong Stay Steady is a targeted class being offered as an exit route for participants on falls prevention intervention sessions. Also Mental Health awareness training for young people (14 years+) saw 13 young people from 5 different sports attended the training delivered by Street Games.

2.13 Walking is now the most popular physical activity, nationally. Halton Volunteer Health Walk Leaders continue to operate a weekly schedule of walks in various location across Halton. Shorter walks of around 30 minutes now operate from some GP practises. Red Cross staff have recently attended walk leader training and will soon be leading walks every Wednesday morning in Victoria Park. In addition mapped walking routes are available. It is pleasing to see an increase in the number of organisations and volunteers now leading regular walks and further information and walking schedules can be found on the following websites at <a href="https://www.walkingforhealth.org.uk">www.walkingforhealth.org.uk</a> and <a href="https://www.activehalton.co.uk">www.activehalton.co.uk</a>

#### Volunteer Incentive Scheme

2.14 Eight Young People have signed up the Volunteering Incentive Scheme and are currently working towards 100 volunteered hours in their clubs.

#### **Community Centres**

- 2.15 Castlefields and Upton Community Centres worked in partnership with Daresbury Science Laboratory to deliver the first, of what is hoped to be many, science shows delivered to local communities in community venues. Three 'science of the circus' shows were delivered across both venues and were attended by 200 people. More information can be found on the Councils website <a href="here">here</a>
- 2.16 The Wonky Garden project continues to make good use of the space at both Ditton and Grangeway Community Centres. Their efforts from last year were recently highlighted in an episode of BBC's Britain in Bloom, which aired on 3rd April 2019.
- 2.17 Sure Start to Later Life have continued to deliver their themed events for older people into the new financial year. The events run at both Grangeway and Upton Community Centres have attracted upwards of 80 people at each of the events. A full programme of events is in place which will see monthly themed events run at both centres until November 2019. More information can be found in the link below:
  - https://hbcnewsroom.co.uk/we-are-bringing-a-little-wonderland-to-grangeway-and-upton
  - https://hbcnewsroom.co.uk/alice-in-halton-land
- 2.18 A group, led by a member of staff from Upton community centre, have established a local community garden group. With the support of the local Area Forum, flower beds have been installed at the centre. The group has worked with the Community Payback team to clear the area from debris, making the area safe for its users and continues to work with Rainbows, Young Addaction and Halton Day Services to encourage children and vulnerable adults to participate in the initiative.

# 3.0 Emerging Issues

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

#### **Employment, Learning & Skills**

LCR Apprenticeship Hub Team

3.1 The intention of the Combined Authority is to transfer the Apprenticeship Hub Team to a central location (Mann Island) to work as part of one team that combines the Apprenticeship Hub Team and

the Skills for Growth team from October 2019. Two funding applications have been submitted that will determine the sustainability of these services/teams.

#### **Adult Learning**

3.2 The devolved Adult Education Budget will come into effect from 1st August. The Combined Authority have awarded £150k for the delivery of some test and learn pilots and have given reassurance that devolution should lessen the bureaucratic burden on providers. However a number of changes have been introduced that may not readily align with current working practices and this will be subject to ongoing dialogue with the CA concerning delivery of the programme.

#### Halton's Visitor Economy Funding

- 3.3 Funding opportunities have been announced to support the role of heritage and culture in promoting the visitor economy. The Council is now working closely with two Lottery Funders, the Arts Council and the Community Fund, to try to ensure more funding comes to the Borough and this is showing some signs of success.
- 3.4 Work is being undertaken with Liverpool City Region (LCR) colleagues on visitor economy matters to raise the profile of the Borough. Additionally a piece of work is being undertaken with the Chamber of Commerce to encourage more businesses to become involved in a visitor economy network.

#### **Library and Culture and Leisure Services**

New Private Sector Gym Facility

3.5 It is likely that the opening of a new JD Gym at a Shopping Unit at Widnes Shopping Park (formally BHS) in late summer will have an impact upon gym membership at Kingsway Leisure Centre. Consideration is now being given as to how this impact can be managed and mitigated against although it is highly probable that there will be some effect on future revenue.

#### 4.0 Risk Control Measures

- 4.1 Risk control forms an integral part of the Council's Business Planning and Performance Monitoring arrangements. As such Directorate Risk Registers were updated in tandem with the development of the suite of 2019 20 Directorate Business Plans.
- 4.2 Progress concerning the implementation of all high-risk mitigation measures relevant to the Board will be reported at Quarter 2.

#### 5.0 High Priority Equality Actions

5.1 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.

5.2 The Councils latest annual progress report in relation to the achievement of its equality objectives is published on the Council website and is available via:

http://www4.halton.gov.uk/Pages/councildemocracy/Equality-and-Diversity.aspx

#### 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.

#### **Employment, Learning & Skills**

# **Key Objectives / milestones**

Ref	Milestones	Q1 Progress
EEP 01a	To increase the Business Support Key Account Management (KAM) portfolio to 60 by September 2019	U
EEP 01b	To increase the KAM portfolio to 75 by March 2020	U
EEP 05a	To submit one bid for external funding to help sustain the service by April 2019	<b>✓</b>
EEP 05b	To extend the LCR Apprenticeship Hub Team by April 2019	✓
EEP 05c	To support 15% of those households registered on the Households into Work into work <b>by December 2019</b>	✓

# **Supporting Commentary**

#### EEP 01a

Because of competing priorities the current resource dedicated to KAM is reduced. The number of companies receiving KAM has, therefore, remained fundamentally static.

# EEP 01b

Because of competing priorities the current resource dedicated to KAM is reduced. The likelihood of meeting the target is, therefore, diminished.

#### EEP 05a

A 'change control' for ESF 1.1 Ways to Work was submitted in Q1. Test & Learn pilots as part of the devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) were approved, with £150k funding made available.

#### EEP 05b

The LCR Apprenticeship Hub have had fixed term contracts extended at HBC until the 31st October 2019.

#### **EEP 05c**

Performance is on target.

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

Ref	Measure	18 / 19 Actual	19 / 20 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
EEP LI 07	Number of companies benefitting from the Council's intensive Key Account Management Service.	55	TBC	56	U	1
EEP LI 08	Number of Enrolments (Adult Learning).	1,618	2950	2247	×	#
EEP LI 09	Number of People supported into work.	351	300	65	<b>✓</b>	1
EEP LI 10	Percentage of learners achieving accreditation.	25%	42%	23%	U	#
EEP LI 11	Total number of job starts on DWP programme (Ingeus).	51	156	16	U	1
EEP LI 12	Number of new starts into permitted/paid work for local people with disabilities (over 12 month period).	55	75	20	<b>✓</b>	1
EEP LI 13	Number of Businesses Supported.	220	ТВС	181	<b>✓</b>	<b>☆</b>

# **Supporting Commentary**

# EEP LI 07

Because of competing priorities the current resource dedicated to KAM is reduced. The number of companies receiving KAM has, therefore, remained fundamentally static

#### EEP LI 08

The academic year runs Aug – Jul, these figures are from the 18/19 academic year. Learners will continue to enrol for the 2018/19 academic year and will complete learning programmes in July 2019. The final outturn will be available in 2019 Q2.

#### EEP LI 09

More than 65 people were supported into work in Q1 but the required ESF evidence hasn't been received from employers so the additional job starts have not yet been claimed. Cumulative job starts claimed to date for 19/20 is 65.

#### EEP LI 10

447 learners are registered for an accredited course, 289 of these learners have achieved accreditation since the beginning of the academic year, and this figure will increase throughout the year as exam results have not been published. The 23% is a proportion of all learners. Learners will continue to achieve qualifications up to July 2019 and the final outturn will be available in Q2 of 2019.

#### **EEP LI 11**

16 job starts in total for qtr1

#### EEP LI 12

20 customers with health conditions/disabilities were supported into paid employment

#### EEP LI 13

Businesses supported are quantified in terms of Growth Hub brokerages in a given period. Growth Hub is delivered by Halton Growth Hub Partnership made up of the Council and Halton Chamber of Commerce & Enterprise. The Chamber is the lead partner and contract holder with respect to Growth Hub delivery

# **Community Services**

# **Key Objectives / milestones**

Ref	Milestones	Q1 Progress
CE 02a	Deliver a programme of extended informal learning opportunities meeting identified local targets - <b>March 2020</b>	✓
CE 02b	Develop a programme of cultural activity meeting identified local targets – March 2020	<b>✓</b>

# **Supporting Commentary**

#### CE 02a

Full programme of activity has been delivered in Q4 including IT Clinics, school class visits, STEM activities (science, technology, engineering, maths) such as coding, digital circuits.

#### CE 02b

Full programme of activity has been delivered in Q4 including author visits, school events, local history talks, archive exhibitions.

# **Key Performance Indicators**

Ref	Measure	18 / 19 Actual	19 / 20 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
CE LI 07	Number of active users (physical & digital resources) of the library service during the last 12 months.	614, 391	615,000	187,090	<b>✓</b>	1
CE LI 08	Number of physical and virtual visits to libraries (annual total)	636, 827	700,000	184,283	✓	1
CE LI 09	Increase in percentage of the population taking part in sport and physical activity at least twice in the last month (KPI 1 from Active Lives survey)	75.6%	76%	N/A	U	1

Ref	Measure	18 / 19 Actual	19 / 20 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
CE LI 10	Percentage of people physically inactive (KPI 2 from Active Lives survey)	27.9%	27.5%	N/A	U	1

# **Supporting Commentary**

# CE LI 07

Increase in users against last year – continued rise despite national trends around library use.

#### CE LI 08

Increase in visits against last year due to increased cultural and learning activities, expanded use of external funding to deliver projects, and improved partnerships.

# CE LI 09

The actual stated is for data captured May17/May18. The online data tool for Nov17/Nov18 for this indicator has not been updated.

# CE LI 10

The actual 2018/19 data published April 2019 and relates to data captured Nov17/Nov18. Focus is on increasing the walking opportunities in Halton. Next data expected Dec 2019

# 7.0 Financial Statement

# **COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

# Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2019

	Annual	Budget To	Actual	Variance	Forecast
	Budget	Date	£'000	(overspend)	Outturn
	£'000	£'000		£'000	Position
					£'000
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Employees	14,474	3,622	3,644	(22)	(89)
Premises	2,104	797	792	5	21
Supplies & Services	1,026	279	270	9	34
Book Fund	155	45	40	5	18
Hired & Contracted Services	929	63	87	(24)	(95)
Food Provisions	461	83	83	0	0
School Meals Food	2,010	250	250	0	0
Transport	133	27	21	6	26
Other Agency Costs	334	114	108	6	26
Waste Disposal Contracts	6,140	56	56	0	(138)
Grants To Voluntary Organisations	67	4	4	0	48
Grant To Norton Priory	172	86	87	(1)	(1)
Rolling Projects	5	5	5	0	0
Total Expenditure	28,010	5,431	5,447	(16)	(150)
<u>Income</u>					
Sales Income	-1,747	-491	-383	(108)	(433)
School Meals Sales	-2,396	-425	-428	3	12
Fees & Charges Income	-5,963	-1,684	-1,524	(160)	(640)
Rents Income	-209	-53	-52	(1)	(2)
Government Grant Income	-1,198	-31	-31	0	(209)
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-648	-44	-40	(4)	(16)
Schools SLA Income	-1,349	-1,349	-1,351	2	2
Internal Fees Income	-161	-57	-62	5	22
School Meals Other Income	-254	-37	-19	(18)	(72)
Catering Fees	-114	-16	-12	(4)	(19)
Capital Salaries	-173	-37	-44	7	27
Transfers From Reserves	-24	-12	-12	0	0
Total Income	-14,236	-4,236	-3,958	(278)	(1,328)
Net Operational Expenditure	13,774	1,195	1,489	(294)	(1,478)
Recharges					
Premises Support	1,499	375	375	0	0
Transport Recharges	2,365	580	541	39	155
Central Support Services	3,892	973	973	0	0
Asset Charges	146	0	0	0	0
HBC Support Costs Income	-426	-106	-106	0	0
Net Total Recharges	7,476	1,822	1,783	39	155
Net Department Expenditure	21,250	3,017	3,272	(255)	(1,323)

#### Comments on the above figures

The net Department spend is £0.255m over budget at the end of Quarter 1 and the estimated outturn overspend for 2019/20 is £1.323 million.

Employee spend is over budget, primarily due to staff turnover saving targets which are not being achieved in many areas due to the need to maintain front line services. This is a particular issue for Schools Catering due to the service operating over a large number of sites, with a small number of permanent staff at each site, meaning cover for staff absence is essential.

There has been a staffing restructure at the Stadium which came into effect in mid-June and should result in a reduction in spend on permanent salaries compared to last year. Spend on casual staff has decreased by £35k compared to Quarter 1 in 2018/19, despite an increase in casual pay rates. The increase in casual pay rates continues to have a significant effect on The Brindley and the Stadium which rely on large numbers of casual staff due to the uncertain nature and timing of events.

Budgeted employee spend is based on full time equivalent staffing numbers of 481.

Hired & contracted services spend is currently £0.024m over budget, mostly due to spend on acts at The Brindley. Artists performing at The Brindley are paid based on a percentage split of ticket sales. Ticket sales have been increasing year on year, and are forecast to increase again in 2019/20, therefore payments made to artists have had to increase due to the contract terms.

No invoices relating to the main waste disposal and recycling contracts have been received for 2019/20 which makes this area extremely difficult to project for. Projections based on similar tonnages to 2018/19 would lead to an overspend of approximately £138k on the contracts once reconciliations have been carried out by Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority.

Sales income has underachieved by £108k in Quarter 1. The main issues are with catering sales at the Stadium and in the Commercial Catering division. Sales income at the Stadium has been adversely affected by lower attendances at Widnes Vikings matches since their relegation from Super League. There is currently no sponsor for the Stadium, meaning that the sponsorship income target of £40k will not be achieved. Low Commercial Catering sales have been an issue for several years and the situation has not improved so far in 2019/20. There are plans to relaunch the Stadium Café once staff have migrated from Kingsway House to the Stadium, which may improve sales in the second half of the year. Registrar's income appears to be recovering after a poor year in 2018/19 which was caused by a nationwide reduction in marriage rates. The General Register Office has increased statutory registration fees this year which is likely to lead to increased income for the service.

Fees and charges income is once again the main area of budgetary pressure within the Department. There is no major concert planned at the Stadium for 2019/20, therefore the associated £105k income target will not be achieved. Stadium executive suite hire dropped significantly last year due to the relegation of Widnes Vikings, and it is impossible to project anything more positive for the new season starting in early 2020. Fees income at the leisure centres is likely to underachieve in 2019/20. A major reason for this is due to difficulties in the recruitment and retention of swimming and fitness instructors, leading to cancelled swimming lessons and a lack of fitness classes, and should therefore be considered alongside a significant staffing underspend across the three centres.

Although some areas are struggling to achieve their budgeted fees and charges income, there are other areas within the Department that are performing well. Crematorium fees are up on their Quarter 1 position last year assisted by the new resident's funeral package. The Brindley's lettings and promotions income is significantly higher than at the same point in 2018/19 due to an increase in ticket sales.

The green waste collection licence fee was increased for 2019/20 which has led to £74k more income being achieved in Quarter 1 this year in comparison to last year.

Government grant income is projected to underachieve in 2019/20 due to a shortfall in the Universal Infants Free School Meals Grant due to more schools converting to academy status. This is likely to have a significant impact on the Schools Catering budget. Other school meals income is currently £18k short of budget and is projected to be £72k short of budget at year end.

Transport recharges are currently lower than expected in Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement leading to an underspend of £39k in Quarter 1.

The outturn forecast is currently projecting an overspend at 31 March 2020 in the region of £1.3m.

#### **COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

# Capital Projects as at 30th June 2019

	2019/20	Allocation	Actual	Total
	Capital	to Date	Spend	Allocation
	Allocation			Remaining
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Stadium Minor Works	39	10	0	39
Stadium Pitch	21	0	0	21
Children's Playground Equipment	149	3	3	146
Landfill Tax Credits Scheme	20	2	2	18
Upton Improvements	13	0	0	13
Crow Wood Park Play Area	250	166	166	84
Open Spaces Schemes	143	100	66	77
Peelhouse Lane Cemetery	900	4	0	900
Peelhouse Lane Cemetery – Enabling Works	11	4	4	7
Phoenix Park	3	0	0	3
Victoria Park Glass House	305	13	13	292
Sandymoor Playing Fields	40	26	26	14
Bowling Greens	32	5	1	31
Widnes & Runcorn Cemeteries – Garage & Storage	190	60	45	145
Town Park	200	5	2	198
Litter Bins	20	0	0	20
Community Shop	50	0	0	50
Libraries IT Equipment	94	0	0	94
Total	2,480	398	328	2,152

#### Comments on the above figures.

**Stadium Pitch** - It was necessary to replace the iPitch last year as the previous pitch did not meet FIFA standards for football matches. The work is mostly complete and the pitch is now in use by Widnes Vikings and Widnes FC. The contractor needs to come back on site to complete some follow up works later this year.

**Children's Playground Equipment** - This is an ongoing project which includes spend on maintenance and improvements within the borough's playgrounds.

**Crow Wood Park** – This project comprises a replacement park building, upgrades to paths and entrances and further play provision, and is now more than 50% complete.

**Open Spaces Schemes** – This covers spending on a variety of externally funded projects, including works to Runcorn Locks, Sunnybank Park, Phoenix Park BMX Track, Runcorn Station Quarter, Hale Lighthouse Approach and Runcorn Hill Bowling Green.

**Peelhouse Lane Cemetery** – Work on the drainage at the site has now been completed. The main cemetery infrastructure works have now commenced and should be largely completed by the end of 2019/20.

**Phoenix Park** – Work at the site has been completed with a retention payment due later in 2019.

**Victoria Park Glass House** – A contractor has been appointed and it is anticipated that work will begin on site soon.

**Sandymoor Playing Fields** – The all-weather pitches and courts have now been completed and the grass pitches and planting are now in the establishment phase.

**Widnes & Runcorn Cemeteries - Garage & Storage –** Work on the storage areas is under way and is due to be completed in late July.

**Town Park** – Work on the Southern Pathways at the Town Park is in an early phase and it is hoped that this will start later in the summer.

**Community Shop** – Planning permission for change of use is due to be submitted by the end of July. It is anticipated that the Council will release the funding to Community Shop in Quarter 3.

**Libraries IT Equipment** – The equipment has recently been installed in the libraries and is now in use. It is expected that payment will be made in Quarter 2.

# **ECONOMY ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY DEPARTMENT**

# Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2019

	Annual	Budget	Actual	Variance	Forecast
	Budget	To Date	£'000	(overspend)	Outturn
	£'000	£'000		£'000	Position
					£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Employees	4,513	1,157	1,141	16	55
Repairs & Maintenance	2,149	590	590	0	0
Premises	61	53	51	2	0
Energy & Water Costs	667	131	128	3	10
NNDR	530	526	521	5	5
Rents	301	95	95	0	1
Economic Regeneration Activities	34	2	2	0	0
Supplies & Services	1,630	362	364	(2)	(2)
Grants To Voluntary Organisations	48	11	11	0	0
Total Expenditure	9,933	2,927	2,903	24	69
<u>Income</u>					
Fees & Charges Income	-172	-38	-38	0	(1)
Rent – Commercial Properties	-1,109	-166	-149	(17)	(68)
Rent – Investment Properties	-44	-11	-12	1	0
Rent – Markets	-768	-179	-178	(1)	(3)
Government Grant Income	-1,866	-17	-17	0	0
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-185	-85	-84	(1)	(3)
Schools SLA Income	-516	-369	-359	(10)	(16)
Capital Salaries	-111	-9	-9	0	0
Transfers From Reserves	-716	-242	-242	0	0
Total Income	-5,487	-1,116	-1,088	(28)	(91)
Net Operational Expenditure	4,446	1,811	1,815	(4)	(22)
Recharges					
Premises Support	1,868	467	467	0	0
Transport	28	7	7	0	0
Asset Charges	4	0	0	0	0
Central Support Services	1,943	486	486	0	0
Accommodation Income	-2,135	-533	-533	0	0
Repairs & Maintenance Income	-2,381	-595	-595	0	0
Central Support Income	-2,234	-559	-559	0	0
Net Total Recharges	-2,907	-727	-727	0	0
Net Department Expenditure	1,539	1,084	1,088	(4)	(22)

#### Comments on the above figures

Finance has worked closely with Departmental colleagues to update the projections to try and achieve a balanced budget. The department continues to identify financial resources available to support the delivery of the service and allocate resources where needed most, whilst ensuring budget pressures are met.

Whilst the department can maintain effective control over expenditure, income still remains a budget pressure as majority of the income is externally funded and difficult to project.

Budgeted employee spend is based on full time equivalent staffing numbers of 127.

Due to a number of properties becoming vacant and some subsequently being disposed of, the rental income has reduced this financial year, causing budget pressures. Operating costs continue to be incurred where commercial properties become vacant.

School SLA income will not be achieved again this financial year. Although the department has increased the SLA charges for 19/20, 100% of the costs are not being recovered because of the need to use causal/agency staff to cover sickness/leave in delivering the service. A review of SLA charges will be undertaken ahead of the next financial year.

The Department has put a hold on all vacancies within the various service areas to ensure the staff saving targets are met and also help reduce the negative variance within the income budgets.

The 19/20 savings target put forward by the Department will be achieved in year and every effort will be made to ensure that expenditure on controllable budgets is kept to a minimum within the financial year.

The outturn forecast is currently projecting an overspend at 31 March 2020 in the region of £0.022m.

#### **ECONOMY ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY DEPARTMENT**

#### Capital Projects as at 30 June 2019

Total	3,486	217	217	3,269
The Croft	30	0	0	30
Stadium changes to Karalius Suite	14	0	0	14
Broseley House	461	7	7	454
Widnes Market Refurbishment	100	32	32	68
Equality Act Improvement Works	300	77	77	223
Advertising Screen at The Hive	100	0	0	100
Linnets Club House	140	2	2	138
Former Crossville Depot	331	0	0	331
Venture Fields	41	20	20	21
Widnes Waterfront (inc Bayer)	1,000	0	0	1,000
Murdishaw Redevelopment	38	0	0	38
Solar Panel Golf Course	709	16	16	693
Sci Tech Daresbury – EZ Grant	96	40	40	56
3MG	126	23	23	103
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Allocation	to Date	Spend	Remaining
	Capital	Allocation	Actual	Allocation
	2019-20			Total

#### Comments on the above figures.

**Sci Tech Daresbury EZ Grant** – The remaining draw down for the project is being progressed by the Joint Venture. The project is currently out to tender with a contract award expected in September. Final draw down is expected in Quarter 2.

**Solar Panel Golf Course** – The department is in the process of awarding a contractor to design, build and install the solar farm.

**Linnets Club House** – New power and water supplies have been installed in the junior changing building. Quotes requested for making good works to be carried out prior to switching over to new power supply and removal of generator. New Linnets changing pavilion remedial works to the ventilation system are now complete. Final account for the snagging has been agreed.

**Widnes Market Refurb** – The re-roofing works (incl. internal decorations) are complete. Extension of Time and Loss and Expenses claim agreed; the remaining Widnes Market projects to be reviewed and prioritised in line with the remaining budget.

**Murdishaw Regeneration** – The department is exploring options for Council investment into projects which will further the masterplan way. Currently costing up bus stops on Barnfield Way, new signage and improvement to the community centre. Will also cost further highways improvements to local centre.

**Equality Act Improvement Works** – Work on Catalyst Museum and Bredon is now complete, awaiting final invoices. Work is continuing on site on Phoenix Park changing places facility and Crow Wood Park Pavilion

Karalius Suite – Works are now complete on the Karalius Suite and the enlarged venue is now in full use.

**Broseley House**- Demolition works cannot commence until all the ground floor tenants have vacated. Only 2 tenants now remain, the final lease expiring in July 2021. The oil tank store building has now been demolished and the security measures enhanced to the upper floors.

**3MG** – Alstom are in the process of approving and confirming their land take. HBC Field will be marketed in the autumn, with an aim to have all land subject to option or sale by June 2020.

Former Crossville Depot – Awaiting confirmation of retention invoices over the next quarter.

Widnes Waterfront – Budget set aside for remedial land works. Scope of timing of works still to be set out.

# 8.0 Application of Symbols

Symbols are used in the following manner:

# **Progress Symbols**

<u>Symbol</u>		<u>Objective</u>	Performance Indicator
Green	<b>✓</b>	Indicates that the <u>objective is on</u> <u>course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.	Indicates that the annual target <u>is</u> <u>on course to be achieved</u> .
Amber	U	Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too</u> <u>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</u> <u>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</u> <u>be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.

# **Direction of Travel Indicator**

Green	<b>1</b>	Indicates that performance <i>is better</i> as compared to the same period last year.
Amber	$\Leftrightarrow$	Indicates that performance <i>is the same</i> as compared to the same period last year.
Red	#	Indicates that performance <i>is worse</i> as compared to the same period last year.
N/A	N/A	Indicates that the measure cannot be compared to the same period last year.