

Public Document Pack



Corporate Policy and Performance Board

Tuesday, 6 September 2016 6.30 p.m.
Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David WR'.

Chief Executive

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Robert Gilligan (Chair)	Labour
Councillor Alan Lowe (Vice-Chair)	Labour
Councillor John Abbott	Labour
Councillor Ellen Cargill	Labour
Councillor Harry Howard	Labour
Councillor Chris Loftus	Labour
Councillor Angela McInerney	Labour
Councillor Norman Plumpton Walsh	Labour
Councillor Joe Roberts	Labour
Councillor Gareth Stockton	Liberal Democrat
Councillor Kevan Wainwright	Labour

*Please contact Gill Ferguson on 0151 511 8059 or gill.ferguson@halton.gov.uk for further information.
The next meeting of the Board is on Tuesday, 1 November 2016*

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Part I

Item No.	Page No.
1. MINUTES	
2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (INCLUDING PARTY WHIP DECLARATIONS)	
<p>Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Other Disclosable Interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached or as soon as the interest becomes apparent and, with Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, to leave the meeting during any discussion and voting on the item.</p>	
3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	1 - 3
4. EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES	4 - 14
5. DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY ISSUES	
(A) LOCAL AREA FORUMS - 2015/16 ANNUAL REPORT	15 - 35
6. PERFORMANCE MONITORING	
(A) COUNCIL TAX COLLECTION UPDATE	36 - 43
(B) PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS FOR QUARTER 1 OF 2016/17	44 - 69

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

REPORT TO: Corporate Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 6th September 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources

SUBJECT: Public Question Time

WARD(s): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider any questions submitted by the Public in accordance with Standing Order 34(9).
- 1.2 Details of any questions received will be circulated at the meeting.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That any questions received be dealt with.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Standing Order 34(9) states that Public Questions shall be dealt with as follows:-
- (i) A total of 30 minutes will be allocated for dealing with questions from members of the public who are residents of the Borough, to ask questions at meetings of the Policy and Performance Boards.
 - (ii) Members of the public can ask questions on any matter relating to the agenda.
 - (iii) Members of the public can ask questions. Written notice of questions must be given by 4.00 pm on the working day prior to the date of the meeting to the Committee Services Manager. At any one meeting no person/organisation may submit more than one question.
 - (iv) One supplementary question (relating to the original question) may be asked by the questioner, which may or may not be answered at the meeting.
 - (v) The Chair or proper officer may reject a question if it:-
 - Is not about a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or which affects the Borough;
 - Is defamatory, frivolous, offensive, abusive or racist;
 - Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months; or

- Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.
- (vi) In the interests of natural justice, public questions cannot relate to a planning or licensing application or to any matter which is not dealt with in the public part of a meeting.
- (vii) The Chairperson will ask for people to indicate that they wish to ask a question.
- (viii) **PLEASE NOTE** that the maximum amount of time each questioner will be allowed is 3 minutes.
- (ix) If you do not receive a response at the meeting, a Council Officer will ask for your name and address and make sure that you receive a written response.

Please bear in mind that public question time lasts for a maximum of 30 minutes. To help in making the most of this opportunity to speak:-

- Please keep your questions as concise as possible.
- Please do not repeat or make statements on earlier questions as this reduces the time available for other issues to be raised.
- Please note public question time is not intended for debate – issues raised will be responded to either at the meeting or in writing at a later date.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 **Children and Young People in Halton** - none.

6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton** - none.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton** – none.

6.4 **A Safer Halton** – none.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal** – none.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

**8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO: Corporate Policy and Performance Board
DATE: 6th September 2016
REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive
SUBJECT: Executive Board Minutes
WARD(s): Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Minutes relating to the Corporate Services Portfolio which have been considered by the Executive Board are attached at Appendix 1 for information.
- 1.2 The Minutes are submitted to inform the Policy and Performance Board of decisions taken in their area.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Minutes be noted.

3.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 None.

4.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

5.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None

5.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

5.3 A Healthy Halton

None

5.4 A Safer Halton

None

5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 None.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

Extract of Executive Board Minutes relevant to the Corporate Policy and Policy and Performance Board**16th June 2016****RESOURCES PORTFOLIO****EXB9 2015/16 FINANCIAL OUTTURN**

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, on the final revenue and capital spending position for 2015/16.

The Board was advised that the final accounts for 2015/16 were near completion; the revenue spending for each Department, which would be subject to external audit, was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

It was reported that the budget savings for 2016/17 were implemented over three tranches, the first and second of which consisted of savings of £11.4m and approved by Council in October and December 2015. As a result of some of these savings being implemented early, it provided part-year savings in 2015/16.

The report provided details on the key variances (which were in addition to the overall net underspend) in the following services:

- Children and Families;
- Economy, Enterprise and Property;
- Education, Inclusion and Provision;
- Community and Environment;
- Finance;
- Legal and Democratic Services;
- Policy, Planning and Transportation; and
- Corporate and Democracy.

Members were advised that the Council's Reserves and Balances had been reviewed in accordance with the Reserves and Balances Strategy. The Council's General Reserve stood at £5.391m. It was noted that the general reserve was now at its lowest level since 2003. Given the financial challenges and spending pressures the Council faced, the balance was considered to be at a reasonable level, but it was not considered prudent to make any further reductions to balance future budgets.

With regards to Capital Spending, details of spending against the 2015/16 Capital Programme were attached to the report at Appendix 2. It was noted that spending was £2.096m below the revised Capital Programme of £30.639m, which represented 93% delivery of the revised Capital Programme. Members were advised that although there had been slippage on several large projects, spend would be incurred into 2016/17.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted; and
- 2) the information within the report be taken into account when reviewing the medium term forecast and saving proposals for future years.

EXB10 TREASURY MANAGEMENT QUARTER 4 2015/16

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which updated them on activities undertaken on the money market as required by the Treasury Management Statement.

The report provided supporting information on the economic outlook, interest rate forecast, short term borrowing rates, long term borrowing rates, borrowing and investments, budget monitoring, new long term borrowing and treasury management indicators. It was noted that no debt rescheduling had been undertaken during the quarter.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

EXB11 LIVERPOOL CITY REGION – 100% BUSINESS RATES RETENTION PILOT AREA

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which related to the Liverpool City Region 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot Area.

The Board was advised that as part of the 2015 Spending Review, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced plans that would involve councils retaining 100% of the business rates they collect. The Government's stated aims in making this change were set out in the report.

In March 2016, the Department for Communities and

Local Government (DCLG) approached the Liverpool City Region councils to act as a pilot area for the development of the new 100% business rates retention system. It was reported that the development of the pilot areas would include discussions regarding which additional service and funding responsibilities the councils might adopt and the timescales for doing so. DCLG would ensure that appropriate measures were developed to mitigate any financial risks and ensure that the new system was sustainable.

The report also advised that the offer of a four year Grant Settlement option, which had been offered by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in March 2016, provided a commitment to provide “minimum” grant allocations for each year up to 2019/20. The intention was to provide some degree of financial certainty and some assurance that each council’s grant allocations would not fall below a minimum level. Members were advised that, as part of the discussions regarding the LCR rates retention pilot area proposal, DCLG had guaranteed that during the pilot period each of the six councils would be financially no worse off than if they had taken up the four year grant settlement offer.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the proposal for the Liverpool City Region to be a pilot area for 100% business rates retention, as presented in the report, be noted; and
- 2) the decision taken by the Chief Executive under urgency powers to agree to Halton’s inclusion within the Liverpool City Region pilot arrangement, be noted.

EXB12 DISCRETIONARY BUSINESS RATES RELIEF REQUEST

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Community and Resources, which detailed a request for discretionary business rates relief.

In April 2013, the Government introduced the Business Rates Retention Scheme, whereby the Council retained 49% of the business rates income collected up to a baseline level and also 49% of any growth in business rates income above that baseline. It was noted that the Scheme offered Councils a financial incentive to promote economic

growth.

The report set out the details of a request from a company based in Christleton Court, Manor Park in Runcorn. Members were advised that Officers of the Council had visited the company to evaluate their growth plans and to agree a series of realistic and deliverable outputs which would be conditional upon the award of any discretionary business rates relief.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) 100% Discretionary Business Rates Relief be granted "in principle" for Unit 8, Christleton Court, Manor Park, Runcorn, initially for a period of six months, based upon the economic and job creation opportunities outlined in the report and subject to the conditions detailed in paragraph 3.8 of the report;
- 2) Subject to resolution 1, at the end of the first six month period, if satisfactory progress is evidenced towards the creation of at least six new sustainable jobs within twelve months, a further six months relief be awarded as set out in paragraph 3.8 of the report; and
- 3) the Strategic Director, Community and Resources, in liaison with the Resources Portfolio holder, be authorised to action the initial six months and subsequent six months Discretionary Business Rates Relief in respect of Unit 8, Christleton Court, Manor Park, Runcorn, once the premises have been added to the rating list and subject to the conditions detailed in paragraph 3.8 of the report.

Strategic Director
- Community &
Resources

EXB13 DIRECTORATE OVERVIEW REPORTS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Community and Resources, on progress against key objectives/milestones and performance targets for the fourth quarter year-end to 31 March 2016.

The Board was advised that the Directorate Performance Overview Report provided a strategic summary of key issues arising from performance in the relevant quarter for each Directorate, being aligned to Council priorities or functional areas. The Board noted that such

information was key to the Council's performance management arrangements, with the Board having a key role in monitoring performance and strengthening accountability.

It was reported that each report contained an update concerning the implementation of mitigation measures for all high risks contained within each Directorate Risk Register.

RESOLVED: That the report and progress and performance information be noted.

EXB14 ICT & SUPPORT SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Community and Resources, which outlined the ICT and Support Services Capital Programme.

The Board was advised that, supported by last year's capital programme, the authority's technology infrastructure had undergone a considerable upgrade with major changes to the internal structure, wi-fi, server and storage infrastructure and server infrastructure licensing. It was noted that these changes had given the authority a multi-site resilient technology architecture that would enable the delivery of a true cloud based service to all of its users.

The report set out the key programme areas for the 2016/17 ICT Capital Programme, which was split into three distinct areas of Licensing, Desktop Development and Cloud Services. It also set out details of the financial spend profile for Members' consideration.

RESOLVED: That the Board notes and approves the programme and IT Capital Programme spend profile for 2016/17.

EXB15 CORPORATE SECURITY CONTRACT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, People and Economy, which advised of a tender opportunity for Corporate Security Services to be published via The Chest.

The Board was advised that Select Security (North West) Limited were awarded the Corporate Security Contract following a procurement exercise in 2015, for a three year period. It was reported that the company was placed into Administration on 19 January 2016. The company was sold and a change of company name had

taken place, with the new company known as Select Security (NW) Limited.

It was reported that, following a meeting, it was acknowledged that as an interim measure the Council had little option but to continue with the current provider of the security contract. However, this was subject to the new company demonstrating that they had everything in place to deliver such a service. This was confirmed and the Board was advised that the Chief Executive had used emergency powers to approve a waiver of procurement standing orders under Procurement Standing Order 1.8.1 in respect of the interim security arrangements.

The Board noted the new contract would be for a three year period with the provision for a twelve month extension subject to satisfactory performance giving a maximum contract length of four years.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Board note the intention to procure a new corporate security contract in line with EU Public Procurement Regulations 2006 and Procurement Standing Orders; and
- 2) note that the Chief Executive approved a waiver of Standing Orders under Procurement Standing Order 1.8.1, in respect of the provision of interim security arrangements until such time that a new contract is awarded.

Strategic Director
- People and
Economy

14th July 2016

RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

(N.B. Councillor Jones declared a Disclosable Other Interest in the following item of business, as he was a Governor at Fairfield Primary School)

EXB22 2016/17 TO 2018/19 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, on the Council's total forecast Capital Programme expenditure and associated funding over the next three years.

The report updated Members on the latest position on the Council's Capital Programme, including confirmed and indicative capital grant allocations for 2016/17 and future

years. Table 1 provided details of the planned Capital Programme for 2016/17 onwards, based on current information for approved schemes. Table 2 summarised how the Capital Programme would be funded.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the updated Capital Programme for 2016/19, including forecast spend and funding, as set out in Table 1 and 2, be approved; and
- 2) the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, in consultation with the Transportation Portfolio holder, be authorised to agree a detailed implementation programme of Highways and Transportation schemes to be delivered in 2016/17.

Strategic Director
- Enterprise,
Community &
Resources

EXB23 DISCRETIONARY NON DOMESTIC RATE RELIEF

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, on an application for non-domestic rate relief.

The Board was advised that under the amended provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the Council was able to grant discretionary rate relief to any business ratepayer. Significant changes came into effect from 1 April 2013 in the funding of non-domestic rate reliefs and exemptions, with the Business Rates Retention Scheme. It was noted that the Council was now responsible for funding 49% of any award or relief granted, whereas before, the Government fully funded such arrangements.

A new application from The Cyrenians Limited had been received for top-up discretionary rate relief from 1 April 2016. However, the Board noted that historically, the Council had chosen not to provide top-up discretionary rate relief for national charities, and a previous application from The Cyrenians Limited in 2015 for similar relief had been rejected on this basis.

RESOLVED: That, under the provisions of Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the application for 15% discretionary rate relief from The Cyrenians Limited, be refused on the grounds of it being a national organisation.

Strategic Director
- Enterprise,
Community &
Resources

EXB24 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO

INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- (1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

EXB25 PARKLANDS, CHAPEL LANE, WIDNES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, on the Parklands Club, Chapel Lane, Widnes.

The report sought Members' approval to take forfeiture action by the Council to recover the possession of the premises known as Parklands.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the taking of forfeiture action by the Council as a Operational

result of breaches of the Lease covenants be approved; and

Director, Legal
and Democratic
Services

- 2) the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services, be authorised to take the necessary action to require the Tenants to comply with the terms of the Lease, and failing this, to seek forfeiture of the Lease.

REPORT TO:	Corporate Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	6 th September 2016
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director - Enterprise, Community & Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Community and Sport
SUBJECT:	Local Area Forums - 2015/16 Annual Report
WARDS:	Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with details of the Local Area Forums project delivery for the period 1st of April 2015 to 31st March 2016.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Members consider and comment upon the report.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Local Area Forums provide a mechanism for Councillors to respond to community needs and aspirations by supporting the provision of funding to deliver community projects and initiatives. These project and initiative are often delivered collaboratively with other partner organisations and provide a mechanism for securing additional funding from a variety of sources.

- 3.2 Each year, funding is allocated to support the projects programme. In 2015/16, the budget allocation was £550,000 which was split on a 'per capita' basis across the seven Local Area Forums in the Borough:-

AF1 – Broadheath, Ditton, Hough Green and Hale

AF2 – Appleton, Kingsway and Riverside

AF3 – Birchfield, Farnworth and Halton View

AF4 – Grange, Heath, Halton Brook and Mersey,

AF5 – Halton Castle, Norton North, Norton South and Windmill Hill

AF6 – Beechwood and Halton Lea

AF7 – Daresbury

- 3.3 The local community are invited to contribute ideas for the delivery of projects and initiatives that will enhance their local neighbourhood or benefit residents in the area. These ideas are developed and applications are then submitted for Area Forum Members' consideration. In order to be considered, initiatives must have community support and must not result in a long-term financial commitment for the Council.

- 3.4 The Community Development Team provides support to Local Area Forums; engaging local community groups in developing initiatives and co-ordinating project delivery. The Team supports community groups to engage with Members, Council departments and partner agencies and assists with leveraging in additional funds to deliver projects.
- 3.5 Case study information and resident feedback is set out in Appendix 1 to demonstrate the impact that Area Forum projects have for Halton's communities.
- 3.6 A full breakdown of projects across the seven Area Forum areas is detailed in Appendix 2.

4.0 LOCAL AREA FORUM EXPENDITURE

- 4.1 The projects funded through the Local Area Forums are wide and varied and are categorised into a number of key areas, which are listed below:-

- 4.1.1 **Children and Youth Facilities**

This category covers activities, support and improvements to facilities for children and young people.

- 4.1.2 **Community Events**

This category is for community events organised by local groups. This supports participation and vibrant communities throughout Halton.

- 4.1.3 **Community Resources and Equipment**

This category is for much needed equipment and resources to support the community in Halton.

- 4.1.4 **Community Initiatives**

This category includes community activity and pilot initiatives in our neighbourhoods.

- 4.1.5 **Improved Parks**

This category includes initiatives which support the provision of weekend gardeners in parks which can deter vandalism, improves public reassurance and the general appearance of the parks. It also includes additional planting and improved facilities such as benches in our parks.

- 4.1.6 **Landscapes**

This category includes increased planting and any support to the green spaces.

- 4.1.7 **Pedestrian and Highway Improvements**

This category captures improvements to the local physical infrastructure, such as pathways and any facilities on the highways for example road safety improvements, traffic calming and speed surveys.

4.1.8 Security

This category covers initiatives that deter crime and anti-social behaviour, i.e. fencing, lighting and alley-gating.

5.0 BREAKDOWN OF FUNDING

5.1 The budget is allocated per capita on the population levels for each area. Budget allocation and spend for each Area Forum is detailed below;

2015/16	Approved Budget	Actual Spend	% Spend
Local Area Forum			
Broadheath, Ditton, Hough Green and Hale	£97,233.47	£90,301.16	93%
Appleton, Kingsway and Riverside	£81,821.07	£77,923.62	95%
Birchfield, Farnworth and Halton View	£93,478.61	£90,086.75	96%
Grange, Heath, Halton Brook and Mersey	£116,881	£68,900.99	59%
Halton Castle, Norton North, Norton South & Windmill Hill	£95,967.29	£91,363.31	95%
Beechwood and Halton Lea	£44,752.72	£44,480.65	99%
Daresbury	£19,865.84	£19,865.84	100%
Totals	£550,000	£482,922.32	88%

5.2 The actual spend has also been broken down by the category of spend as described in section 4.0 and summarised in the table below:-

5.2.1 Expenditure by Category for 2015/2016

Expenditure for all Area Forums for April 2015 to March 2016									
	Children and Youth Facilities	Community Events	Community Resources/ Equipment	Community Initiative	Improved Parks	Landscapes	Pedestrian and Highways Improvements	Security	Totals
AF 1	£0.00	£21,399.24	£29,601.92	£8,000.00	£31,000	£0.00	£0.00	£300.00	£90,301.16
AF 2	£0.00	£9,409.50	£31,718.48	£900.00	£11,850	£6,344.41	£5,000.00	£12,701.23	£77,923.62
AF 3	£0.00	£1,744.00	£8,960.75	£0.00	£22,480	£1,200.00	£35,582.00	£20,120.00	£90,086.75
AF 4	£6,847.57	£4,763.63	£24,489.12	£4,376.00	£9,000	£0.00	£10,056.76	£9,367.91	£68,900.99
AF 5	£4,268.00	£2,304.10	£22,646.21	£1,650.00	£44,180	£5,000.00	£11,315.00	£0.00	£91,363.31
AF 6	£0.00	£3,000.04	£5,665.61	£24.00	£16,588	£0.00	£19,203.00	£0.00	£44,480.65
AF 7	£0.00	£0.00	£11,756.91	£708.93	£0.00	£0.00	£7,400.00	£0.00	£19,865.84
Total	£11,115.57	£42,620.51	£134,839.00	£15,658.93	£135,098.	£12,544.41	£88,556.76	£42,489.14	£482,922.32
	2%	9%	28%	3%	28%	3%	18%	9%	100%

5.2.2 Broadheath, Ditton, Hough Green & Hale

This forum approved 18 projects with spend of £90,301.16. The highest category of spend was improved parks.

5.2.3 Appleton, Kingsway & Riverside

This forum approved 28 projects with expenditure of £77,923.62. The highest category of spend was community resources and equipment.

5.2.4 Birchfield, Farnworth & Halton View

This forum approved 26 projects with expenditure of £90,086.75. The highest category of spend was pedestrian and highways improvements.

5.2.5 Grange, Halton Brook, Heath & Mersey

This forum approved 37 projects with expenditure of £68,900.99. The highest category of spend was community resources and equipment.

5.2.6 Halton Castle, Norton North, Norton South & Windmill Hill

This forum approved 23 projects with expenditure of £91,363.31. The highest category of spend is community resources and equipment.

5.2.7 Beechwood & Halton Lea

This forum approved 16 projects with expenditure of £44,480.65. The highest category of spend is pedestrian and highways improvements.

5.2.8 Daresbury

This forum approved 6 projects with a total expenditure of £19,865.84. The highest category of spend is community resources and equipment.

5.2.9 Overall, the highest categories of expenditure were community resources & equipment and improved parks at 28% each with pedestrian and highways improvement next at 18%.

5.2.10 The table below shows project delivery by priority area for 2015/2016:-

Projects by Halton Priorities						
	1 A Healthy Halton	2 Environment and Regeneration in Halton	3 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton	4 Children and Young People in Halton	5 A Safer Halton	Total
AF 1	4	5	2	6	1	18
AF 2	10	6	1	4	7	28
AF 3	7	6	1	1	11	26
AF 4	12	8	4	9	4	37
AF 5	6	9	3	5	0	23
AF 6	6	4	2	3	1	16
AF 7	0	4	2	0	0	6
Total	45	42	15	28	24	154
	29%	27%	10%	18%	16%	100%

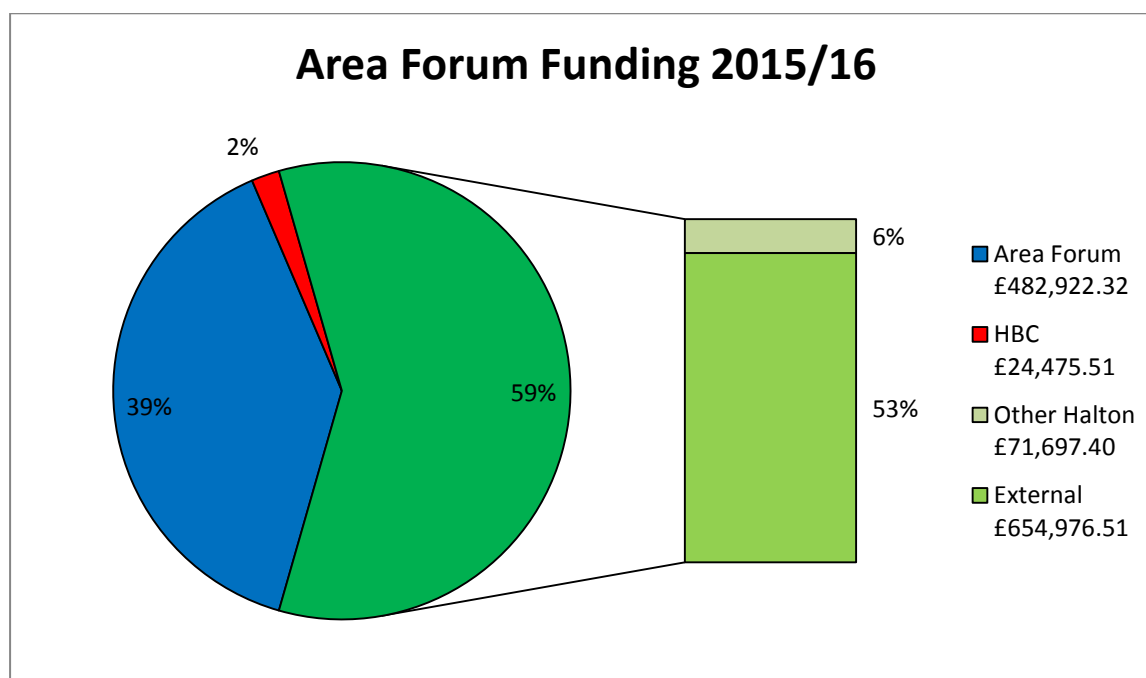
5.3 Supporting Funding

5.3.1 The Area Forum projects support partnership working and enable the leverage of funding from other organisations and grant giving bodies.

Overall, an additional amount of £751,149.42 (compared to £316,630 in 2014/15) was levered in to support area forum projects providing a total budget of £1,234,071.74 (compared to £833,440 in 2014/15). Full details are set out below. This means that for every £1 of Area Forum funding a further amount of £1.55 was secured from other funding sources (compared to 0.61p in 2014/15). It should be noted this significant increase is due to large grants for two projects being successful in this period. Levels of external funding can fluctuate depending on the scale and timeframe's of projects.

Funding Source	Amount 2015/16
Area Forums	£482,922.32
Halton Borough Council (HBC)	£24,475.51
Other Halton	£71,697.40
External	£654,976.51
Total	£1,234,071.74

5.3.2 In the chart below, 'HBC' refers to funding provided by other departments within the Council such as Highways and Landscapes. 'Other Halton' refers to funding provided direct by applicants or other agencies such as the Housing providers within Halton. 'External' refers to funding coming from outside of Halton from organisations for example, WREN, Biffa and Big Lottery Fund.



6.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Local Area Forum projects programme provides a means of funding neighbourhood schemes in response to local needs and aspirations. In addition, Area Forum grants often provide much needed third party or match funding to support larger schemes; helping to lever in much larger pots of external funding as demonstrated in 5.4.1. The Forums provide a platform for community engagement at a neighbourhood level which can be utilised to inform the decision making process in respect of strategic objectives and help shape policy development.
- 6.2 The projects support safer neighbourhoods; generating an increased satisfaction for local residents with their area and a willingness to participate in community life. Area Forums contribute to building cohesion in Halton's communities through projects and initiatives that encourage community connectedness.
- 6.3 To be supported and funded, all projects are required to demonstrate a contribution to the Council's priorities.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 These are contained within the report.

8.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 8.1 There are no significant risks associated with this report.

9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 9.1 The Local Area Forums and grant support are open and accessible to all Members of Halton's community.

10.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

10.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The expenditure profiles for each of the LAF's demonstrates a significant proportion of funding is allocated to supporting activities and facilities for children and young people.

10.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

The expenditure that supports community initiatives includes accessing learning & skills opportunities through locally delivered courses. Many of the community initiatives have volunteer opportunities either with the Management Committees or as part of delivering activities i.e community cafés.

10.3 A Healthy Halton

Many of the community initiatives have a wellbeing impact supporting the ethos of a whole area approach to community life. Enabling community led activity builds community resilience.

10.4 A Safer Halton

A sense of community and community connectedness reduces residents fear of crime where they live, they are likely to feel a stronger sense of belonging and safety in an environment where the communities know each other, are active and there are established links to other stakeholders.

10.5 Environment and Regeneration in Halton

Local area forums provide a mechanism for residents to be involved in local decision making impacting on place shaping for their local area. Halton's residents can influence expenditure to improve their local environment and work jointly with the Council towards the communities aspirations.

11.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act

Area Forum Case Studies/Feedback

Area Forum 1: Broadheath, Ditton, Hale & Hough Green

Broadheath

St Michael's: Garden project - £8,000.00

There are many benefits to the school community:
The grant has enabled us to turn a derelict unusable and overgrown space into a visually stunning multi use area. There is an outdoor classroom/meeting area which can be used for small group work, pastoral sessions, counselling and collective worship.

In addition, the children are working on art projects throughout the next year and on a project to grow vegetables and wild flowers.
Further nature and forest school work will be taking place enabling all of our pupils to have the opportunity to be involved with nature and experience working in an outdoor environment.

Ditton

Halebank Youth Club: Super Hero Fun Day - £750.00

Halebank is quite a disadvantaged area and fun days such as the one held last August help to build community spirit and feelings of wellbeing. All the activities were offered free or at a very low charge and this meant that they were affordable to all families.

The event provided a good opportunity for service providers to engage with residents, e.g. staff from Children Centres took the opportunity to consult with parents and carers during the event and Halton Housing Trust talked to customers about the services they receive.

The event raised the profile of the Parish Council who had a bricabrac stall and was a great fundraiser for Halebank Youth Club who ran the tombola and cake stall.

The fun day is now an established annual event and the whole community look forward to it with excitement.

Hale

Hale Village Hall: Redevelopment - £10,500.00

Hale Village Hall is planning a complete rebuild of the Hall as it is no longer fit for purpose; the Hall was built 40 years ago with a lifespan of 20 years. It has been patched up over the last decade, but now needs a complete rebuild and reconfiguration to serve the needs of the Village through a wide range of activities.

The match funding of £10,500.00 from the Area Forum in turn has helped bring in c £100,000 in Landfill Communities funding and also generated a new build worth in the region of £700,000.

Hough Green

Upton and Ditton Children's Centres: Breakfast and Tea with Santa - £631.25

Parents requested this activity to be available as they were saying how expensive it is for families to be able to have their child's photograph taken with Santa for example in garden centre. Parents explained that they would struggle to pay and they don't allow a family photograph to be taken, it has to be each individual child which would cost more.

Families brought their children for a healthy breakfast (or dinner), they wrote a letter to Santa, drew pictures and did other craft activities and then families got to see Santa. They had their photograph taken and were given a copy of the photograph to take home in a presentation wallet to keep.

Area Forum 2: Appleton, Kingsway & Riverside

Appleton

VPET: Butterfly House - £3,000.00

We had c 10,000 visitors over the period May-Sept 2015; the grant enabled the Butterfly House to open to the public on three half days during the week and will also be used for recreational seating for visitors to relax and lunch on.

Kingsway

Widnes Fellowship Centre: Memory garden - £601.00

We have developed a memory garden for all our members who have passed away. The memory garden is for our current thirty members and their families as a place of reflection and comfort, as well as people in the local community.

Riverside

Loose: The Studio sound elimination - £2,393.02

The Studio building is owned by LOOSE a registered local charity, and is run by volunteers for the benefit of the community. We have to pay the bills and maintenance etc. Windows providing daylight instead of electric lights will improve daytime use for local user groups which include Riverside College, Halton Daycare Services, Halton Health Improvement Team, SPARC, Mind etc. It is also used for charity fund raising events organised by local people and local support groups. Keeping the building open and in use by the community benefits everyone.

Area Forum 3: Birchfield, Farnworth & Halton View

Birchfield

Widnes Cricket Club: Cricket Community Day - £1,462.00

Widnes Cricket Club celebrated its 150 anniversary during 2015 and worked hard to mark the occasion. Celebrations included a Jazz night, a Celebration Ball and a Community Day, which targeted all the people with links into the club over several generations, as well as the wider community.

We are producing a booklet looking at the history of the club over the years and a schools project for 2015/16 with local primary and secondary schools – the pupils have relatives, friends and links back to the club at some point. We wanted also to show how important the club has been as a community Hub. The Area Forum funding enabled us to have a heritage celebration event, including a marquee, pa system and bands to bring entertainment and fun to the event.

Farnworth

Operation Shield: Smart Water - £5,000.00

So far in the two wards 1382 addresses have been issued with kits. They have been very well received and a reduction in acquisitive crime has been noted. Whilst the Police can't absolutely confirm that the two are completely linked, there is a view that it has certainly helped.

Halton View

Moorfield Sports and Social Club: Car park resurfacing - £3,500.00

The safety of the children being taken to school was being seriously compromised due to their parents not being able to use the car park. It was also causing the problem of parents having to park outside school neighbourhood houses while dropping off and picking up. With funding from Area Forum, the club and school, we have been able to resurface a large part of the car park, enabling parents to park again during drop off and pick up times. This has ensured both the club and school have maintained a good relationship with its neighbours and children are again safe during these busy peak times in driving.

Area Forum 4: Grange, Halton Brook, Heath & Mersey

Grange

St Andrew's: Heater improvements - £3,200.00

The renovated heating system has made it possible for parents to change nappies in a comfortable environment and has restored the two anterooms to use during the winter for groups such as Job Club, as changing rooms for pupils in school concerts and as a further available community meeting facility. Thank you Area Forum.

Halton Brook

Halton Brook Community Centre: Christmas entertainer - £70.00

The party was full of laughter, dancing and singing with good food and great company. Having it in the early evening gave the event a real party atmosphere and all those attending had a marvellous time and continued to talk about it over the following days. People were helped to feel happy and socially active.

Heath

Vicarage Lodge pre-school: Roof replacement - £4,289.00

We have been able to renew the whole roof, which has ensured that our pre-school can continue to operate from Vicarage Lodge. The building is now safe, members of the public are no longer at risk from falling tiles and the roof no longer leaks. The building is now safe, thus saving on gas/electricity. This would not have been possible without match funding from the Forum.

Mersey

Brunswick Residents Association: Garden equipment - £1,740.00

Please extend our sincere thanks to the Area Forum for all their help and interest in the garden project, it is most appreciated. Please feel free to visit us any time and have a look at our garden, which we are very proud of, and have worked very hard on for the last eighteen months.

Area Forum 5: Halton Castle, Norton North, Norton South & Windmill Hill

Halton Castle

Canal Boat Adventure Project: Floating grotto - £184.10

The Floating Grotto was an activity for local people across Halton where they were able to meet Santa and create festive decorations and cards. On the second day, at Phoenix Park, we had a constant queue of families lining up to meet Santa, whilst the other boat, with the arts and crafts, was full of families to. Thanks to the support we received from Area Forum and local organisations, the total amount of participants recorded was 261.

Norton North

Murdishaw Board of Directors: Bench and events - £700.00

The Bench has enabled people to sit and enjoy the open green space within the Community Centre. The events offered quality time for families and enabled people to participate in new activities.

Norton South

Kyujutsu UK: Archery equipment - £2,223.41

This grant has helped both ourselves as an archery club and the community in a massive way, we have had people of all walks of life and ability, we are working with autistic children, disabled people and people who are not great in social environments and have been told by members and members parents that we have impacted on their lives in a way that no other sport has. Our aim was to make this a community club with a great social scene where people can come and make friends whilst taking part in an amazing sport.

We have been working with H.A.L.D.S running sessions for their members. We have some amazing reviews from members and parents on our Facebook page and to top it all off we have been approached by CHAPS to run an archery activity for their charity for autistic people of all ages.

Windmill Hill

St Berteline's: Shed storage and tables - £487.93

St Bert's Cafe is open each Wednesday in term time from 10.15 to 11.30 serving homemade cakes and fresh coffee. This is run by St Bert's volunteers and is not for profit. The Cafe is growing in popularity within the local Windmill Hill community and a steady and regular group of visitors attend. The extra tables have been necessary to seat all our visitors. The shed is essential storage and has helped with setting up the cafe.

In addition to the Cafe the church is hosting the monthly Big Local luncheon club for older and vulnerable people in the Windmill Hill area and all of the tables and catering equipment are in use. Without the shed it would not have been possible to store all the tables and other equipment.

Area Forum 6 Beechwood & Halton Lea

Beechwood

Beechwood Community Centre CIC: Crockery - £1,000.00

We are extremely grateful to the Area Forum for the grants. Whilst the funding has helped us practically the fact that the Forum believed in what we were doing has endorsed our credibility as an accountable and transparent group of people who have a vision for the community...financial support of Beechwood has provided comfort to owners in a way that perhaps even I had not envisaged - because there is a perception around that says if the Council's Area Forum is backing what is going on then what we are doing must be doing the right thing.

Halton Lea

Palace Fields Park: Opening Ceremony - £2,000.00

Runcorn prepares to open its new £124k skateboard park, courtesy of Halton Borough Council. Cash came from a £75,000 Wren grant, Halton Borough Council's Beechwood and Halton Lea Local Area Forum which has provided £25,627 and £26,700 from Halton Borough Council's Capital Playgrounds budget.

The opening ceremony will include an exhibition event for the community to showcase the new facility and demonstrate what tricks and skills can be performed, utilising a professional exhibition team. In addition to the demonstrations we would like the exhibition team to provide engagement workshops with local children, young people and their families so they can learn and participate in the event.

Area Forum 7 Daresbury

Daresbury

Daresbury District Heritage Group: Presentation resources - £860.00

The projector and screen has greatly enhanced our presentation skills, allowing us to display copies of older photographs and illustrations at several local events. The acquisition of large maps has allowed us to explain the situation of each village in the parish, how they have changed over the years and allowing group members and visitors to our workshops to identify local landmarks and dwellings of soldiers during the First World War. These resources have greatly enhanced our workshop events and will enable us to make more informative presentations at local schools and groups.

APPENDIX 2

Area Forum Projects List 2015/16

Area Forum: Broadheath, Ditton, Hale and Hough Green		
Amount	Ward	Details
£4,040.00	All	Uniforms for Krystalaries
£414.00	All	Sankey Canal Restoration Society equipment
£417.48	All	Umbrella Halton insurance
£20,000.00	All	Skip schemes
£7,995.47	All	Locality
£300.00	Broadheath	Fencing at Cradley
£8,000.00	Broadheath	St Michaels garden project
£434.97	Broadheath	Naughton Fields equipment
£3,000.00	Ditton	Weekend Gardener: Hough Green
£5,000.00	Ditton	Boxing Club
£750.00	Ditton	Super Hero fun day
£300.00	Ditton	Years Ahead arts supplies
£3,000.00	Hale	Weekend Gardener: Hale
£10,500.00	Hale	Hale Village Hall redevelopment
£631.24	Hough Green	Breakfast and Tea with Santa at Upton and Ditton CC
£25,000.00	Hough Green	Play facilities enhancement
£500.00	Hough Green	Halton Ambassadors iPods and music equipment

Area Forum: Appleton, Kingsway and Riverside		
Amount	Ward	Details
£6,694.00	All	Locality
£3,000.00	Appleton	Butterfly House for VPET
£850.00	Appleton	Playground equipment
£3,000.00	Appleton	Reindeers
£6,000.00	Appleton	Park railings for Victoria Park
£5,000.00	Appleton	Improvements at Lockett Road
£5,000.00	Appleton	Meadow at Bowling Green
£2,000.00	Appleton	Plaque for cemetery
£4,285.37	Kingsway	Alley gating Stewards Avenue
£1,737.87	Kingsway	Squires Avenue fencing to improve security
£1,458.99	Kingsway	Alley gate at Bradshaw
£600.97	Kingsway	Widnes Fellowship Centre memory garden
£743.44	Kingsway	Tree planting in Kingsway
£282.00	Kingsway	Breakfast with Santa at Kingsway Learning Centre
£198.00	Kingsway	Additional security features at Sharpe Street
£550.00	Kingsway	Security Fencing at Stewards Avenue
£5,000.00	Kingsway	Skip scheme
£4,471.00	Kingsway	Alley gate at Milton Avenue
£4,526.50	Kingsway	Pavilion Sports Equipment
£200.00	Kingsway	Ditton Nursery defibrillator contribution
£4,053.13	Riverside	Catalyst Boiler Replacement Project
£900.00	Riverside	St Mary's architect drawings and consultation
£2,393.02	Riverside	Sound improvement work at The Studio
£150.00	Riverside	Trophies for Widnes Academy
£827.00	Riverside	Sankey Canal Restoration Society equipment
£1,127.50	Riverside	St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival
£9,330.28	Riverside	West Bank drama group
£3,544.55	Riverside	West Bank Boat Club pump

Area Forum: Birchfield, Farnworth and Halton View		
Amount	Ward	Details
£414.00	All	Sankey Canal Restoration Society equipment
£5,000.00	All	Operation SHIELD
£898.50	All	Knights Choir jackets
£7,648.25	All	Locality
£3,000.00	Birchfield	Weekend Gardener: Upton Rocks
£1,462.00	Birchfield	Cricket community day
£7,000.00	Birchfield	Speed sign at Upton bridle path and Julian Way
£4,999.50	Birchfield	Operation SHIELD
£15,000.00	Birchfield	Fencing on Upton Rocks near local centre
£400.00	Farnworth	Litter bin on Moorfield Road
£400.00	Farnworth	Litter bin on Coroners Lane
£120.00	Farnworth	Home Watch signs for Lancaster Estate
£50.00	Farnworth	Repair of speed slow sign at the top of Moorefield
£4,999.50	Farnworth	Operation SHIELD
£800.00	Farnworth	Road signage at Lunts Heath School
£3,000.00	Halton View	Weekend Gardener: Crow Wood
£450.00	Halton View	Repair road damage to rear of Hilary Close
£400.00	Halton View	Litter bin on School Road
£1,480.00	Halton View	Warrington Road entrance and garden
£282.00	Halton View	St Ambrose Church: Exterior notice board
£14,000.00	Halton View	Two electronic speed signs on Barrows Green Lane
£7,000.00	Halton View	One electronic speed sign for Moorfield Lane
£2,500.00	Halton View	Refuge at the junction of Chorley Lane and Barrows Green Lane
£5,001.00	Halton View	Operation SHIELD
£282.00	Halton View	Breakfast with Santa at Warrington Road
£3,500.00	Halton View	Moorfield Sports and Social Club car park resurfacing

Area Forum: Grange, Halton Brook, Heath and Mersey		
Amount	Ward	Details
£9,562.99	All	Locality
£3,000.00	All	Weekend Gardener: Runcorn Hill Park
£3,000.00	All	Weekend Gardener: Town Hall Park
£3,000.00	All	Weekend Gardener: Rock Park
£417.48	All	Umbrella Halton Insurance
£4,000.00	All	Runcorn Locks Restoration Society promotional video
£3,200.00	Grange	St Andrew's heater improvements
£1,000.00	Grange	Years Ahead drama group
£376.00	Grange	Grange Community Forum job club
£300.00	Grange	Active Pensioners coach trip
£400.00	Grange	Halton Lodge Children's Centre family fun day
£4,195.00	Grange	Halton Lodge Children's Centre pram store
£1,088.00	Grange	Grange Community Centre chairs
£367.50	Grange	Grange Community Forum post-Christmas children's party
£367.02	Grange	Halton Zipper club coach trip and 10 pin bowling game
£400.00	Grange	Years Ahead art trip
£1,750.00	Halton Brook	The Grange Link Club outdoor play equipment and benches
£125.00	Halton Brook	Halton Brook Children's Centre animal fun day
£8,956.76	Halton Brook	Boston Avenue road widening
£1,100.00	Halton Brook	Welcome to Halton Brook road sign
£300.00	Halton Brook	Children's Centre Christmas party
£70.00	Halton Brook	Halton Brook Community Centre Christmas entertainer
£489.05	Halton Brook	Dishwasher at Halton Brook Community Centre
£341.70	Halton Brook	Halton Brook Residents Association tablecloths
£500.00	Halton Brook	Halton Brook Children's Centre under 5's physical play session
£4,289.00	Heath	Vicarage Lodge pre-school roof replacement

£2,250.00	Heath	Runcorn Carnival Group mobile stage unit and road management
£308.57	Heath	Bridge Park Rangers football equipment
£645.00	Heath	Runcorn Cricket Club mower
£2,799.31	Mersey	Old Town bin storage alley gate
£1,740.00	Mersey	Brunswick Residents Association garden equipment
£510.16	Mersey	Alley gate Wellington Street
£810.00	Mersey	Victoria Music Ltd. Music recording equipment
£899.90	Mersey	Churchill Bowlers indoor bowling matt
£6061.44	Grange, Heath and Mersey	Castle Rise anti-motorbike gates
£100.00	Halton Brook and Mersey	Runcorn Community Choir scarves and folders
£181.11	Halton Brook, Heath and Mersey	Canal Boat Adventure Project floating Christmas grotto

Area Forum: Halton Castle, Norton North, Norton South and Windmill Hill		
Amount	Ward	Details
£7,851.87	All	Locality
£400.00	Halton Castle	Village Life: Christmas and summer events 2015
£375.00	Halton Castle	Castlefields Community Centre: Christmas grotto
£184.10	Halton Castle	Canal Boat Adventure Project: Floating grotto
£3,768.00	Halton Castle	The Brow C.P School: Woodland development
£4,110.00	Halton Castle	St Mary's: Repair and installation of pathways
£500.00	Halton Castle	Halton Brook Children's Centre: Under 5's physical play session
£150.00	Halton Castle	Cheshire Constabulary: School road safety posters
£11,634.00	Norton North	St Martin's: Replacement shutters
£1,180.00	Norton South	Picnic unit at Sanders Hey
£2,223.41	Norton South	Kyujutsu UK: Archery equipment
£3,300.00	Norton South	Brookvale Primary and Northwich Road: Hatchings and bollards
£15,000.00	Norton South	Town Park: Footpath improvements
£449.00	Norton South	Brookvale and Manor Fell Residents Association: PC and monitor
£645.00	Norton South	Brookvale and Manor Fell Residents Association: Pensioners coach trip
£800.00	Windmill Hill	Fencing: Southwood Avenue
£1,500.00	Windmill Hill	Windmill Hill: Community skip scheme
£487.93	Windmill Hill	St Berterline's: Shed storage and tables
£5,000.00	Windmill Hill	Windmill Hill Children's Centre: Sensory garden
£25,000.00	Halton Castle and Norton North	Town Park: Car park and entrance improvements
£3,000.00	Halton Castle and Windmill Hill	Weekend Gardener: Phoenix Park
£700.00	Norton North and Norton South	Murdishaw Board of Directors: Community events
£3,105.00	Norton North and Norton South	Murdishaw Local Centre Environmental Improvement Group: Litter and recycling bin upgrade

Area Forum: Beechwood and Halton Lea		
Amount	Ward	Details
£3,661.59	All	Locality
£1,000.00	Beechwood	Beechwood Community Centre: Crockery
£7,000.00	Beechwood	Beechwood Playground: Match funding
£15,000.00	Beechwood	Beechwood Avenue: Speed sign replacements
£900.00	Beechwood	Bin replacement
£415.54	Halton Lea	Beechcroft Care Home: Community event
£24.00	Halton Lea	Care Activities Network: Meeting
£2,000.00	Halton Lea	Bethesda Church: Car park resurfacing work
£503.00	Halton Lea	Replacement bin in Halton Lodge
£514.50	Halton Lea	Beechcroft Care Home: Community event
£70.00	Halton Lea	Palace Fields Community Centre: Christmas entertainer
£800.00	Halton Lea	Palace Fields Park: Pedestrian signage
£504.02	Halton Lea	Bethesda Church: Craft group resources
£500.00	Halton Lea	Four Estates: Maintenance for community garden
£2,000.00	Halton Lea	Palace Fields Park: Opening ceremony event
£9,588.00	Halton Lea	Palace Fields Park: Phase three development

Area Forum: Daresbury		
Amount	Ward	Details
£1,625.39	Daresbury	Locality
£708.93	Daresbury	Daresbury District Heritage Group: Commemorative field
£9,271.52	Daresbury	Daresbury Parish Council: Village Hall repairs
£6,000.00	Daresbury	Moore Parish Council: Heritage lighting columns
£1,400.00	Daresbury	Preston Brook Village Hall: Footpath improvements
£860.00	Daresbury	Daresbury District Heritage Group: Presentation resources

REPORT TO: Corporate Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 6 September 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: Council Tax Collection Update

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide an update regarding the collection of council tax, as requested by the Board on 7 June 2016.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the latest position regarding the billing and collection of council tax, as set out in the report, be noted.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

- 3.1 Council tax income is one of the main sources of funding for the Council's services. For the 2016/17 financial year the opening balance of council tax due to be collected was £73m. This total includes the council tax liability where discounts or exemptions may subsequently be applied, the liability to be met from council tax support and the outstanding liability for arrears from previous years.
- 3.2 The scale of income involved means that any fluctuation in the collection rate can have a significant effect upon the Council's cashflow and the funding of its services.
- 3.3 In recent years there have been two significant legislative changes, which have directly impacted upon the collection rate and the level of arrears, as follows;
- (i) Changes which enabled the Council to vary the period and amount of discounts provided and charges made in respect of empty properties;
 - (ii) Abolition of council tax benefit and its replacement with a local council tax support scheme.

Collection of Council Tax

- 3.4 Council tax collection rates in Halton over the past ten years have been amongst the best in the North West.
- 3.5 As shown in Table 1 below, collection rates improved steadily up until 2012/13 when in-year collection exceeded 97%. But they subsequently reduced following the abolition of council tax benefit and its replacement with the local council tax support scheme.

Table 1 – Council Tax Collection Rates

Year	06/07 %	07/08 %	08/09 %	09/10 %	10/11 %	11/12 %	12/13 %	13/14 %	14/15 %	15/16 %
In-year collection	95.96	96.41	96.77	97.00	97.00	97.11	97.11	95.82	95.47	95.21
Total collected to date	99.18	99.26	99.14	99.21	99.21	99.12	99.00	98.34	97.60	95.78

Council Tax Arrears

- 3.6 Table 2 below shows the council tax arrears position for each of the past seven years. There had been a broadly consistent level of arrears, which had been the case ever since the abolition of the Poll Tax.
- 3.7 However, there has been a significant increase in arrears following the abolition of council tax benefit in 2012/13 and its replacement with the local council tax support scheme from 2013/14. Despite increased recovery activity, the arrears have still increased significantly each year and this trend is expected to continue.

Table 2 – Council Tax Arrears

	2009-10 £	2010-11 £	2011-12 £	2012-13 £	2013-14 £	2014-15 £	2015-16 £
Gross Arrears C/F	3,612,230	3,555,944	3,721,853	3,761,990	4,759,997	5,585,849	6,283,068
Increase/Decrease	111,766	-56,286	165,909	40,137	998,006	825,852	697,219
In-year Collection Rate	97.00%	97.00%	97.11%	97.11%	95.82%	95.47%	95.21%
Increase/Decrease on Previous Year	0.23%	0.00%	0.11%	0.00%	-1.29%	-0.35%	-0.26%
Assumed eventual Collection Rate	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%	97.93%	96.50%	96.50%

Recovery Action

- 3.8 The collection of council tax is a key financial priority for the Council. After excluding discounts, exemptions and council tax support payments, a 1% reduction in the collection rate amounts to around £460,000 of lost income.
- 3.9 There are over 55,000 properties in the Borough, so it is essential that a systematic but equitable approach is taken to the collection of council tax debt. Failure to ensure maximum collection of council tax impacts upon the funding for all of the Council's services. However, it is acknowledged that debt problems are one of the major causes of family breakdown, although experience has shown there is a difference between people who are struggling to pay and those who won't pay. For some households payment of council tax is not always considered a priority debt.
- 3.10 The staff in the Council's Revenue and Benefits Team are trained to negotiate with council taxpayers in order to find an agreeable basis for payment of their council tax liability. It is important for the taxpayer to make contact with the council tax section as soon as they begin to experience difficulties with paying their bill. Staff will attempt to find a fair arrangement with taxpayers to clear their debt and avoid the imposition of costs. However, many taxpayers in arrears only contact the council tax section after they have been issued with a liability order or the enforcement agents contact them, by which time costs will have already been added to their arrears.
- 3.11 From the Council's point of view, court action or enforcement action is always the last resort and the preference is to find an agreeable solution before reaching these stages. The approach taken to recovery is considered fair and equitable and is similar to the approach taken by many councils. As far as possible assistance is given to taxpayers to help them meet their financial responsibilities in terms of their council tax liability.
- 3.12 Over 124,000 individual bills and reminders are currently sent out from the council tax section each year. When the first stage of recovery action was required for this financial year, around 48,500 (88%) households were up to date with their council tax payments. Of these almost 35,000 households pay by direct debit. Therefore the vast majority of the Borough's households require no form of recovery action.
- 3.13 The increase in council tax arrears has led to a significant increase in the amount of recovery action required to be taken. Table 3 below shows the increased activity in terms of reminders, summons etc. and highlights that in certain areas recovery action has almost doubled compared with previous years.

Table 3 – Recovery Action

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
First Reminder	18,275	18,387	29,672	28,645	27,248
Second Reminder	3,740	3,613	5,699	6,116	5,678
Final Notice	11,921	11,813	20,475	20,361	19,500

Summons	7,671	7,583	13,366	13,297	13,327
Liability Orders Granted	5,615	5,261	9,203	9,163	9,365
Pre-Bailiff / Enforcement Letters	6,188	6,409	9,848	9,086	10,547
Issued to Bailiff / Enforcement Agents	3,263	4,381	3,888	3,039	3,248
Attachment of Earnings	1,670	1,451	1,282	2,006	1,925
Attachment of Benefit	1,898	1,857	3,363	4,162	3,136
Arrangement Default Letters	3,226	3,111	3,536	4,882	7,546
Total	54,589	54,224	87,241	88,555	88,907

- 3.14 This increase in recovery action places significant extra demands upon the Council Tax Section, Halton Direct Link Shops and the Contact Centre, when households contact the Council regarding their arrears. The Council also provides support through the Welfare Rights Service and the Money Advice Team, but in many cases there is no alternative other than proceeding to court and obtaining an Attachment of Benefit or Attachment of Earnings.
- 3.15 Increased recovery action also means that residents are contacting the Council in a distressed state, concerning very difficult situations such as Court summons or Enforcement Agents letters, leaving the Council Team dealing with many difficult circumstances.

The Impact of Localisation of Council Tax Support

- 3.16 From April 2013 the Government abolished council tax benefit and introduced localised support for council tax whereby the Council established its own Council Tax Support Scheme. As part of this transfer of responsibilities the Government grant funding for such support was reduced by 10%.
- 3.17 During the last year of council tax benefit the Council paid out in excess of £11m. The reduction in Government grant funding for the new localised scheme was in the region of £1.4m.
- 3.18 In order to address this shortfall in funding, the local scheme introduced in Halton was based upon the premise that everyone, excluding pensioners, would pay a minimum of 21.55% of their council tax liability. This brought approximately 6,300 households into paying council tax for the first time, in addition to those who are partial benefit claimants.
- 3.19 Since 2014/15 the grant funding for the Council Tax Support Scheme has been included within the Council's general Government grant funding, which in total has also been reduced each year by around 10%. The total cost of the Council Tax

Support Scheme in 2016/17 will be approximately £9.2m and will relate to 13,500 households.

- 3.20 Table 4 below demonstrates the minimum council tax payment required for a band C property, whose council tax liability was fully met from council tax benefit prior to 2013/14.

Table 4 – Council Tax Support

	2012/13 £	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	2016/17 £
Band C charge	1,204.06	1,227.10	1,247.88	1,271.73	1,319.17
Minimum payment	Nil	264.44	268.91	274.05	284.28

- 3.21 At the same time many of these households were also affected by other welfare benefit changes, such as the Under Occupancy Charge (Bedroom Tax), which would have seen additional cuts in their household income.
- 3.22 Council tax arrears have started to increase significantly since the abolition of council tax benefit. Although this situation was expected, there are an increasing number of households who are not clearing their in-year arrears before the following year's council tax liability is added to their account.
- 3.23 This can be illustrated by looking at an example for an individual taxpayer as shown in Table 5 below. This is an example of a taxpayer who has been billed the minimum 21.55% each year for a band C property. It highlights the on-going debt problem which some households in the Borough will have, as a result of the abolition of council tax benefit and the subsequent reduction in council tax support.
- 3.24 On the basis that a recovery plan is in place for this account, the outstanding debt will continue to rise, until such time as the taxpayer is able to increase their household income.

Table 5 – Attachment of Benefits Example

	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	2016/17 £
Band C council tax charge	1,227.10	1,247.88	1,271.73	1,319.17
Minimum (21.55%) amount charged	264.44	268.91	274.05	284.28
Plus liability order costs	77.00	77.00	77.00	77.00
Total due to be paid	341.44	345.91	351.05	361.28
Attachment of benefits (AOB) monthly deduction	14.60	14.60	14.60	14.60
AOB expected to commence	August 2013	September 2015	October 2017	November 2019
AOB expected to	August	September	October	December

terminate	2015	2017	2019	2021
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- 3.25 Before a taxpayer can be given an attachment of benefits to recover the council tax which is owed, the Council must first obtain a liability order, which currently carries an additional cost for the taxpayer of £77.00.
- 3.26 Therefore, in the example above the taxpayer will not clear their 2013/14 arrears until August 2015 some 17 months after the year-end. They will then not clear their 2014/15 arrears until 2 years 5 months after year-end and similarly their 2016/17 arrears until 4 years 8 months after the relevant year-end.
- 3.27 As a liability order must be obtained in these circumstances, one option would be when the initial attachment has been paid in full, for the costs element for the second attachment to be written-off by the Council. This may help to avoid the current situation whereby some households may never be able to clear their council tax arrears, unless their circumstances and household income changes significantly.

Cash Collection

- 3.28 Whilst there has been a significant increase in the level of council tax arrears as outlined above, the total amount of cash collected by the Council since April 2013 has increased as shown in Table 6 below. This is due to an increased number of households being billed and having to meet the minimum 21.55% of their liability, plus the additional charges introduced for empty properties.

Table 6 – Council Tax Cash Collected

	2012/13 £	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	2015/16 £
Cash Collected	41,880,978	45,127,199	46,805,989	48,531,889
Increase on previous year	348,626	3,246,221	1,678,789	1,725,899

- 3.29 The on-going collection of council tax year-on-year, including that relating to previous year's arrears, has historically meant that the eventual collection rate in most years exceeds 99%. This is as opposed to the in-year collection rate. However, the impact of the council tax support scheme has meant that this will become more difficult as the level of arrears continues to increase. Table 7 below shows the latest position regarding the in-year collection rate and the eventual collection rate for each year.

Table 7 – Eventual Collection Rate

	06/07 %	07/08 %	08/09 %	09/10 %	10/11 %	11/12 %	12/13 %	13/14 %	14/15 %	15/16 %
In-year collection rate	95.96	96.41	96.77	97.00	97.00	97.11	97.11	95.82	95.47	95.21
Eventual collection rate (to	99.18	99.26	99.14	99.21	99.21	99.12	99.00	98.34	97.60	95.78

date)										
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Conclusions

- 3.30 Council tax is one of the Council’s main sources of funding for delivery of its services.
- 3.31 The localisation of council tax support has had a significant impact upon the collection of council tax, the number of households falling into arrears, and the amount of recovery action having to be taken as a result.
- 3.32 A significant number of households, where attachment of earnings or attachment of benefits have been applied, will not be able to clear their arrears in-year unless there is a significant change in their circumstances and household income.
- 3.33 The Council takes all possible steps to assist taxpayers in meeting their council tax liability and recovery action is fair and equitable. The use of court action or enforcement agents is always the last resort and the preference is to find an agreeable solution with taxpayers before reaching these stages.
- 3.34 An increased amount of cash is now being collected because a greater number of households are liable to pay all or part of their council tax and additional charges are also being levied for empty properties.
- 3.35 Many households are suffering from other reductions in welfare benefits at the same time as having council tax arrears.
- 3.36 There is increased pressure for staff within the Council Tax Section, Halton Direct Link and the Contact Centre, as a result of the increased amount of billing and recovery activity having to now be undertaken.

4.0 POLICY AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL’S PRIORITIES

5.1 There are no direct implications, however, council tax is a major source of funding for the Council’s revenue budget.

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 None.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1072

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO: Corporate Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 6th September 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Enterprise, Community and Resources

SUBJECT: Performance Management Reports for Quarter 1 of 2016/17

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider, and to raise any questions or points of clarification, in respect of performance management for the first quarter period to 30th June 2016.
- 1.2 Key priorities for development or improvement in 2015-16 were agreed by Members and included in Directorate Plans, for the various functional areas reporting to the Board as detailed below:
- Finance
 - Human Resources & Organisational Development
 - ICT and Administrative Support
 - Legal and Democracy
 - Policy & Performance
 - Property Services
 - Catering, Stadium and Registration Services

The report details progress made against objectives and milestones and performance targets and provides information relating to key developments and emerging issues that have arisen during the period.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the Policy and Performance Board

- 1) Receive the first quarter performance management report;**
- 2) Consider the progress and performance information and raise any questions or points for clarification; and**
- 3) Highlight any areas of interest and/or concern where further information is to be reported at a future meeting of the Board.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Departmental objectives provide a clear statement on what services are planning to achieve and to show how they contribute to the Council's strategic priorities. Such information is central to the Council's performance management arrangements and the Policy and

Performance Board has a key role in monitoring performance and strengthening accountability.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no policy implications associated with this report.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no other implications associated with this report.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Departmental service objectives and performance measures, both local and national are linked to the delivery of the Council's priorities. The introduction of a Thematic Priority Based Report and the identification of business critical objectives/ milestones and performance indicators will further support organisational improvement.

6.2 Although some objectives link specifically to one priority area, the nature of the cross - cutting activities being reported, means that to a greater or lesser extent a contribution is made to one or more of the Council priorities.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 Not applicable.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 Not applicable.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTIONS 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Not applicable

Corporate Policy and Performance Board– Priority Based Monitoring

Reporting Period: **Quarter 1 – 1st April 2016 – 30th June 2016**

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 2016/17 for service areas within the remit of the Corporate 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 the Board in relation to the Council's priority of Corporate Effectiveness and Business Efficiency i.e.:
- Financial Services
 - Policy, People, Performance and Efficiency
 - ICT and Support Services
 - Legal and Democracy
 - Catering, Stadium and Registration Services
 - Property 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 within the period which include:-

Finance

- a) Following closure of the 2015/16 year-end accounts, the draft Statement of Accounts was signed off as required by the Operational Director, Finance on Thursday 30 June 2016 and passed to Grant Thornton UK LLP for them to start the audit of the accounts. Findings of the audit will be reported to the Business Efficiency Board on 28 September 2016.
- b) The 2015/16 financial outturn was reported to the Executive Board on 16 June 2016. Net expenditure for the year was £67,000 below the approved budget of £101.5m. Capital spending for the year was £28.7m, which represented 93% delivery of the revised capital programme. There was slippage during the year to some of the larger capital projects, which have since been rolled forward to 2016/17.
- c) Implementation of the Income Manager module of Agresso was undertaken on schedule from 1 March 2016. The system provides the Council with improved online payments functionality and will deliver revenue savings through lower support and maintenance costs. Additionally Service Level Agreement with the National Consortium for Examination Results (NCER) went live on 1 April 2016 and is operating well. Under the SLA the Council will process invoices, collect income and prepare the financial statements for NCER.

- d) The draft Annual Governance Statement for 2015/16 was approved by the Business Efficiency Board on 8 June 2016. The Statement provides a summary of the Council's governance arrangements, the governance issues facing the Council, and the action being taken to address those issues. The document will be signed by the Leader and Chief Executive and will be published alongside the Council's financial statements.
- e) From 27th July 2016, Universal Credit Full Service commences in Halton Jobcentre Plus offices, which means that access to new claims for Housing Benefit (as well as other DWP benefits) will be closed off for many working-age claimants. Universal Credit claims must be made on-line and the Council is providing on-line access and support for claimants within Halton Direct Link. New Housing Benefit claims from pensioners are still made to the Council, as are claims from working age people residing in supported accommodation, such as YMCA and Brennan Lodge.
- f) Halton Registration Service submitted its Annual Performance report for 15/16 to the General Registry Office (GRO) and the GRO responded with some very positive comments about the service and in particular were keen to congratulate the team on the High Level of service achieved. The Contact Centre has always had a key role in the delivery of Halton's registration process for births and deaths including the booking of all appointments, ordering of replacement certificates etc. and over the years this has been developed further taking on marriages and streamlining processes whilst trying to maintain a high level of customer service which has clearly been recognised in the GRO report.

Policy, People, Performance and efficiency

- g) The Division has successfully implemented a range of nationally negotiated pay awards across the workforce in quarter 1. These ensure that the legislative requirements of the National Living Wage are encapsulated within revised pay points, and the HR service was able to successfully move affected employees away from the temporary pay structure that had been implemented to ensure compliance with the new legislation on 1st April 2016.
- h) Work has continued on the development of a Council wide Apprenticeship Policy, which will form the basis of a framework in within which the Council can meet the obligations of the forthcoming apprenticeship target (from April 2017), and draw some return from the Apprenticeship Levy (also April 2017). Additionally the Policy team is now working in conjunction with HR to review HR policies on an ongoing basis, with the aim of ensuring that they are up to date and meet the needs of managers, school leaders and employees, whilst being accessible and effective in use.
- i) The Efficiency Programme Office implemented agreed organisational processes around the acquisition, use of and costs of agency workers. Since late April 2016 these processes have been introduced universally.

ICT and Support Services

- j) The establishment of the project to provide Agresso financial services management to Merseytravel is now underway with the workshop process expecting to start mid-August 2016. This long-term relationship will encompass financial systems for both Merseytravel and the Combined Authority and will result in a collaboration and income investment opportunity for a number of years.
- k) Work is still underway negotiating the terms of the NHS/North West Authority network connection into the authority and it is expected that these link's will be in fully operational within the next quarter.
- l) Negotiations with Microsoft have now been completed and the authority now has a fully compliant Enterprise Agreement for all desktop and server based software covering the next 5 years. This will complement the work carried out late last year to gain a 5 year license for all virtual services.

Legal and Democratic Services

- m) The Local and Police & Crime Commissioner Elections were successfully carried out in May, and the EU referendum was held seamlessly in June. The new Council Constitution was also approved by Council in May.
- n) Legal Services hosted and facilitated a very positive inspection of the Council's policies & procedures under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 in May.
- o) 77% of press releases issued in the quarter were taken up by the media, resulting in 641 items of coverage, including TV & Radio, and the recently launched fortnightly News in Brief email has been well received by staff.

Community and Environment (Catering, Stadium and Registration Services)

- p) In relation to school meals the current provider AllPay decided in 2015 that they would no longer be providing an online payment system to schools. This directly affected 8 of our primary schools. Over the last 6 months we have sourced a new provider and implementing the change from AllPay to School Comms in September. We also have another 3 schools keen to use the SchoolComms system and we will look to implement their requests over the October break.
- q) The school meals services re-introduced the training programme offer to all Kitchen Assistants that were interested in becoming catering supervisors. In partnership with Riverside College we successfully trained 10 staff to NVQ Level 2 and 2 staff to NVQ Level 3. We have just started another course with 14 staff currently enrolled which will be completed in July 17.
- r) A considerable amount of promotion work has been undertaken for Stadium Fitness and the Ladies Gym in particular is proving to be popular. Additionally Legends Bar is seeing increasing footfall both at lunchtime and in the evening and a recent pink collar boxing event was very well attended with participating boxers raising money for their chosen charities.
- s) A comprehensive stadium redecoration programme has now commenced which will see all internal corridors and function rooms being repainted and rebranded. The installation of new floodlighting began in June and will result in a lighting capacity that is at the same level of most Premier Football League venues.

Economy, Enterprise and Property (Property Services)

- t) Works to complete the Monastery to Museum 900 at Norton Priory have progressed well since inception in August 2015 and are due to complete in July with the Museum opening to the public in August.
- u) Following the discovery of additional asbestos on site works to demolish the Police Station / Magistrates Court have been unavoidably delayed and the revised completion date is August 2016. Additionally the Fairfield Primary development is progressing well with Phase 2 commencing when school closes for summer break with completion planned by April 2017.
- v) Various other property matters are currently at the proposal stage including Linnets Club House facilities and Hough Green Park pavilion and various upgrading works to Widnes Market are in progress or have been scheduled.
- w) The new Integrated Front Door team have now moved into the 1st floor of the Municipal Building, the new team consists of a mixture of Police, Health and Council Officers.
- x) It has now been confirmed that approximately 90 staff currently based in Runcorn Magistrates Court working for HM Courts & Tribunal Service (HMCTS) will be relocated within Rutland House following agreement by HMCTS to take on a lease of part of the building. The details of the arrangement will be

finalised over the coming months, but the expectation is that they would take up occupation in January 2017. This fits well with our accommodation strategy of making Rutland House our income generation hub in terms of our current accommodation.

3.0 Emerging Issues

- 3.1 A number of emerging issues have been identified during the period that will impact upon the work of the Council including:-
1. Work is underway in revising the Medium Term Financial Strategy; this is being continually updated as new information is received on a frequent basis. The Budget Working Group (BWG) will meet shortly to consider the process for identifying future savings. Directorates are being asked, with support from the Financial Management Division, to identify saving proposals to be considered by the BWG.
 2. Through contributions to both the Liverpool City Region (LCR) and Special Interest Group of Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA) submissions the Council will be responding to consultation and discussion papers recently released in respect of future 100% Business Rates Retention Scheme and a future needs assessment formula. In addition, focus over the next quarter will be on the design of the business rate retention pilot programme to be operated by the Liverpool City Region councils from April 2017.
 3. The Government have provided further information on the national roll out of Universal Credit (UC). The national UC rollout of working age claims is expected to be completed by September 2018. Migration of existing legacy benefits (including Housing Benefits) should begin in July 2019 and be completed in March 2022, which is a year later than previously planned. They have also announced that the incorporation of Housing Benefit for pensioners into Pension Credit will not begin until UC is fully rolled out. So local authorities can expect to be delivering Housing Benefit for pensioners into the next Parliament beyond 2020.
 4. The number of calls to the Contact Centre has increased significantly during quarter 1, which in turn has increased telephone waiting times. To alleviate the situation, work has been on-going to increase the availability of information and functions via the Council's website, such as the on-line reporting of missed refuse collections. In addition, the telephone system now includes messages to inform people of the expected waiting time and what information and actions are available via the website, so that callers can make an informed choice to either go on-line or call back later.

Policy, People, Performance and Efficiency

5. The recent decision on exiting the European Union is likely to have an impact upon UK employment law to some degree. Whilst any legislative changes are unknown at the present time, once the UK government begins to negotiate an exit, careful monitoring of decisions will be required to ensure that any HR related changes are prepared for and implemented into policy and practice affectively. The HR service will work closely with our professional advisors and networks to keep up to date on any developments.
6. *Economy, Enterprise and Property (Property Services)*
7. A number of agile working hubs across the borough are in the process of being created to compliment the agile working strategy. Sites where these will be located include, Grangeway, Ditton and Castlefields Community Centres, Murdishaw Play Centre and Halton Stadium. In addition to the above it is intended to create further agile hubs at Kingsway Learning Centre, and Widnes Market.

8. The funding available to The One Public Estate (OPE) initiative has increased to £31m in 2016/17. The next round of bidding is soon to open which will allow public sector bodies to submit bids for revenue funding to help with the development of property assets within their borough subject to meeting certain criteria around creating efficiencies, increased inward investment, promoting jobs & housing, generating capital receipts etc. We are currently looking at potential opportunities within the borough which would meet the relevant criteria, the intention being to submit a bid once the bidding process opens later in the year.
9. The government have recently published their response (March 2016) to the consultation process in respect of 'reforming the business energy efficiency tax landscape' which includes items such as the carbon reduction energy efficiency scheme (CRC), climate change levy (CCL), climate change agreements (CCA), Greenhouse gas reporting (GHG) and a number of other energy related issues. The key outcomes which will impact on us to some degree are as follows:-
 - CRC to be closed from 2018/19
 - Main rates of the CCL to be increased from April 2019.
 - CCL discounts to CCA participants to be increased from April 2019
 - Consult later in 2016 on simplifying the energy & carbon reporting framework for introduction for April 2019

No further update has been provided on the above by government as such we await further information particularly around simplifying the energy & carbon reporting framework.

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 2016 – 17 Directorate Business Plans.

Progress concerning the implementation of all high-risk mitigation measures will be monitored in 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.

The Council's 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.

Financial Management








Key Objectives / milestones





Ref	Milestones	Q1 Progress
FS 01a	Report Medium Term Financial Strategy to Executive Board - November 2016.	
FS 01b	Report to Council - March 2017.	
FS 02c	Provide quarterly monitoring reports on the overall budget to Executive Board.	
FS 03b	Publish the Statement of Accounts by 30th September 2016.	
FS 04a	Establish Treasury Management Policy and report to Council - March 2016.	
FS 05a	Establish and report prudential indicators to Council - March 2016.	

Supporting Commentary

All milestones are progressing as planned and the 2016-17 Statement of Accounts was certified as planned and this has been shared with the Councils external Auditor and the Audit of the Statement of Accounts has commenced.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	15 / 16 Actual	16 / 17 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
FS LI 01	Receive an unqualified external audit opinion on the accounts.	Yes	Yes	N/A		N / A
FS LI 02	Receive positive comment (annually) from the External Auditor relating to the financial standing of the Council and the systems of internal financial control.	Yes	Yes	Yes		
FS LI 03	Receive confirmation from External Auditor (annually) that reliance can be placed upon the work of Internal Audit.	Yes	Yes	Yes		
FS LI 04	Proportion of Council Tax that was due that was collected.	95.21%	94.75%+	28.46%		




Ref	Measure	15 / 16 Actual	16 / 17 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
FS LI 05	The percentage of Business Rates which should have been received during the year that were received.	96.89%	95.00%+	29.42%		
FS LI 06	Average time for processing new claims (Housing & Council Tax Benefit).	18.08	20	18.62		

Supporting Commentary

The collection of Council Tax continues to be adversely affected by national reforms and a number of short-term occupations have impacted upon the collection of Business Rates although both remain above local collection rates. Although the processing of Benefit applications is showing a slightly downward trend as a result of new process demands it remains within targeted levels.

Policy, People, Performance & Efficiency Service

Key Objectives / milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q1 Progress
PPE 01	Promote and take forward the delivery of actions identified within the Organisational Development Strategy March 2017	
PPE 02	Review and refresh annual training calendar March 2017 .	
PPE 03	Report to the Business Efficiency Board on the on-going delivery of the Council's Efficiency Programme (June and November 2016 meetings).	















Supporting Commentary

Several strands of activity linked to the objectives of the recently adopted Organisational Development Strategy are in progress, these include a review of absence management (linking to healthy workforce and resourcing objectives), and the adoption of an apprenticeship policy (linked to progressive development of staff over the long term).

Programmed Learning and Development interventions scheduled, and capacity developed for tailored interventions where required.

Due to the programming of work in the Efficiency programme, and the implementation of new processes around the management of Agency Workers, a report will be made to Business Efficiency Board in September (rather than June), to enable the Board to consider an update progress in the financial year to date.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	15 / 16 Actual	16 / 17 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
PPPE LI 01	The number of working days / shifts lost due to sickness (Corporate)	9.05 days	10 days	2.28 days		
PPPE LI 02a	Total Full Time Equivalent Staffing Establishment	3,670	n/a	3,623	N/A	N/A
PPPE LI 02b	Total Staff (head count)	4,876	n/a	4,843	N/A	N/A
PPPE LI 03	% of training delegates attending as proportion of places reserved	86.00%	90.00%	84.00%		
PPPE LI 04	The percentage of top 5% of earners that are ¹					
	▪ women	54.78%	50.00%	55.56%		
	▪ from BME communities.	2.06%	1.50%	2.08%		
	▪ with a disability	0.82%	8.00%	0.82%		
PPPE LI 05	No of staff declaring that they meet the definition of disability within the Equality Act 2010 as a % of the total workforce.	1.28%	10.00%	1.30%		
PPPE LI 06	Minority Ethnic community staff as % of total workforce.	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%		

Supporting Commentary

A reduction in sickness has been secured in 2015/16, and the Q1 out-turn indicates that progress is being maintained.

Headcount figures continue to show a reducing trend which is to be expected as the organisation responds to severe funding pressures.

The numbers of staff attending training courses is influenced significantly by the small numbers of non-attendees in small cohort groups. These are generally for justifiable reasons.

The service is satisfied that L&D interventions are being appropriately targeted, and that return on investment is at required levels. Feedback shows that satisfaction with service is high.

¹ Performance targets for these measures take account of local demographic profiles

ICT and Administrative Support Services

Key Objectives / milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q1 Progress
ICT 01a	Continued Enhancement of the virtualization platform to enhanced or new technologies - March 2017 .	
ICT 01b	Further development of Cloud Services Platform - March 2017 .	
ICT 01c	SharePoint and Records Management enhancements - March 2017 .	
ICT 01e	Further development of commercial ICT opportunity within desktop, hosting and DR provision - March 2017 .	
ICT 02a	Continuing improvements, enhancements and potential commercial use of Cloud system - March 2017 .	







Supporting Commentary



Work on the Virtualisation Platform, which will realise considerable benefits over the coming years, is now at a crucial stage with major components now in place and being tested.

The Cloud services platform continues in its development and will enhance remote access and security and enhancements to SharePoint have now been successfully deployed including those to records management interfaces.

All other milestones are being delivered as planned and commercial activity will remain a focus throughout the financial year.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	15 / 16 Actual	16 / 17 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
ICT LI 01	Average availability of the Council's operational servers (%).	99.00	99.00	99.00		
ICT LI 02	Average availability of the Councils WAN infrastructure (%).	99.00	99.00	99.00		
ICT LI 03	School Support SLA: % of calls responded to within <u>agreed</u> target*:					
	▪ Priority 1	100%	85%	85%		
	▪ Priority 2	100%	90%	95%		
	▪ Priority 3	100%	95%	97%		
	▪ Priority 4	100%	100%	100%		



Ref	Measure	15 / 16 Actual	16 / 17 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
ICT LI 04	Average working days from delivery to completion of a new PC.	8	10	10		

Supporting Commentary

Progress against all measures has been maintained within targeted levels.

Legal & Democracy







Key Objectives / milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q1 Progress
LD 01	Review constitution - May 2016 .	
LD 02b	To induct all new members by October 2016 .	

Supporting Commentary

Constitution was reviewed as planned and all new members are being inducted.

Key Performance Indicators



Ref	Measure	15 / 16 Actual	16 / 17 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
LD LI 02	Average Time taken to issue prosecutions from receipt of full instructions (working days).	10	10	7		
LD LI 03	Average time taken to file application for Care proceedings at Court from receipt of all written evidence from client department (working days).	1	3	1		
LD LI 04	% of Executive Board, Executive Board Sub-Committee and Mersey Gateway Executive Board minutes published within 5 working days after the meeting.	100%	100%	100%		

Supporting Commentary

Performance at this point in the financial year remains at expected levels

Community & Environment

Key Objectives / milestones







Ref	Milestones	Q1 Progress
CE 02	Identify areas for improvement in line with the Business Plan and Marketing Plan (this will drive the development of milestones for 2017/18) - January 2017 .	
CE 03	Deliver a promotion and educational campaign (school meals) - September 2016 and January 2017 .	

Supporting Commentary

Areas for improvement are being developed for in 2016–17 with work now being undertaken for the rest of the financial year.

The active promotion of the Schools Meals offer will hopefully have a positive impact on the number sales.

Key Performance Indicators






Ref	Measure	15 / 16 Actual	16 / 17 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
CE LI 01	No. of meals served versus hourly input of labour.	11.39	10.00	11.05		
CE LI 02	Diversity – number of community groups accessing stadium facilities.	28	15	22		
CE LI 03	Number of catering staff achieving a formal qualification.	60	30	15		

Supporting Commentary

Productivity in schools meals has seen an increase over the same period in the preceding year with food costs being contained through the effective procurement of provisions.

The take up of school meals as a whole is extremely positive and exceeds national rates. It also should be noted that catering staff remain active in regards to personal development and make use of the local college as a hub for learning.





Economy, Enterprise & Property**Key Objectives / milestones**

Ref	Milestones	Q1 Progress
EEP 01a	Commence development of Beyer Site by - March 2017 .	
EEP 01b	Complete Asset Review by – June 2016 .	
EEP 01c	Complete Widnes Market Hall refurbishment by - March 2017 .	
EEP 01d	Complete Phase 1 of Fairfield Primary by - March 2017 .	
EEP 01e	Start Term Contracts by – June 2016 .	

Supporting Commentary

All objectives remain on target for the forthcoming year. At Widnes Market some electrical works are ongoing, with roofing to start in September. The final completion of all works will be later in 2017.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	15 / 16 Actual	16 / 17 Target	Q1 Actual	Q1 Progress	Direction of travel
EEP LI 03	Occupancy of HBC industrial Units	94.00%	90.00%	84.00%		
EEP LI 04	Occupancy of Widnes Market Hall	85.00%	95.00%	79.00%		

Supporting Commentary

The Retail Market Research Group, Springboard points to a fall in retail footfall counts in town centres for June 2016, showing a 12.2% fall compared to June 2015 across UK markets. Recent changes to small businesses e.g. employee pension contributions also make this a difficult environment for traders in which to operate.

7.0 Financial Statements

FINANCE DEPARTMENT**Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2016**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance to Date
	£'000	£'000	£'000	(Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	6,642	1,660	1,653	7
Supplies & Services	356	159	151	8
Other Premises	69	50	46	4
Insurances	1,456	707	707	0
Concessionary Travel	2,120	530	539	(9)
Rent Allowances	53,100	11,212	11,212	0
Non HRA Rebates	77	10	10	0
Discretionary Housing Payments	387	34	34	0
Local Welfare Payments	150	31	31	0
Total Expenditure	64,357	14,393	14,383	10
<u>Income</u>				
Fees & Charges	-292	-41	-31	(10)
SLA to Schools	-796	-796	-801	5
NNDR Administration Grant	-166	0	0	0
Hsg Ben Administration Grant	-731	-160	-160	0
Council Tax Admin Grant	-232	-232	-233	1
Rent Allowances	-52,700	-11,506	-11,506	0
Clerical Error Recoveries	-398	-139	-139	0
Non HRA Rent Rebates	-77	-9	-9	0
Discretionary Housing Payments Grant	-387	-130	-130	0
Reimbursements & Other Grants	-313	-78	-156	78
Liability Orders	-421	-251	-251	0
Transfer from Reserves	-410	0	0	0
Total Income	-56,923	-13,342	-13,416	84
Net Operational Expenditure	7,434	1,051	967	84
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises	340	85	85	0
Transport	8	2	2	0
Central Support Services	2,511	628	628	0
Support Services Income	-6,189	-1,547	-1,547	0
Net Total Recharges	-3,330	-832	-832	0
Net Department Expenditure	4,104	219	135	84

Comments on the above figures

In overall terms spending is slightly below the budget profile at the end of the first quarter.

Reimbursements & other grant income is in excess of the budget profile due to the receipt of a number of one-off Revenues and Benefits new burdens grants.

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

POLICY, PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE & EFFICIENCY DEPARTMENT**Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2016**

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance to Date (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	1,717	423	418	5
Employee Training	133	21	21	0
Supplies & Services	122	29	33	(4)
Total Expenditure	1,972	473	472	1
<u>Income</u>				
Fees & Charges	-88	-62	-63	1
Reimbursements & Other Grants	-10	-3	-4	1
School SLA's	-408	-386	-386	0
Transfers from Reserves	-98	0	0	0
Total Income	-604	-451	-453	2
Net Operational Expenditure	1,368	22	19	3
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Support	67	17	17	0
Central Support Recharges	265	66	66	0
Support Recharges Income	-1,700	-425	-425	0
Net Total Recharges	-1,368	-342	-342	0
Net Department Expenditure	0	-320	-323	3

Comments on the above figures

In overall terms spending is slightly below the budget profile at the end of the first quarter.

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

ICT & SUPPORT SERVICE DEPARTMENT**Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2016**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance to Date
	£'000	£'000	£'000	(Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	5,440	1,359	1,253	106
Supplies & Services	773	158	150	8
Computer Repairs & Software	615	245	247	(2)
Communications Costs	385	130	130	0
Other Premises	32	5	5	0
Other Transport	6	1	2	(1)
Capital Financing	356	106	106	0
Transfers to Reserves	29	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	7,636	2,004	1,893	111
<u>Income</u>				
Fees & Charges	-848	-105	-107	2
SLA to Schools	-514	-484	-489	5
Total Income	-1,362	-589	-596	7
Net Operational Expenditure	6,274	1,415	1,297	118
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises	353	88	88	0
Transport	8	2	2	0
Central Support Services	626	156	156	0
Support Service Income	-7,259	-1,815	-1,815	0
Net Total Recharges	-6,272	-1,569	-1,569	0
Net Department Expenditure	2	-154	-272	118

Comments on the above figures

In overall terms spending is below the budget profile at the end the first quarter.

With regards to expenditure employee costs are below the budget profile due to staff turnover and vacancies that exist within the Admin Division which are currently in the process of being filled.

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

Capital Projects as at 30 June 2016

Capital Expenditure	2016/17 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation to Date £'000	Actual Spend £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
IT Rolling Programme	1,100	275	301	799
Total Capital Expenditure	1,100	275	301	799

Comments on the above figures.

It is expected that the full capital allocation will be spent by the financial year end.

LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT**Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2016**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance to Date
	£'000	£'000	£'000	(Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	1,725	512	530	(18)
Supplies & Services	444	112	110	2
Civic Catering & Functions	27	1	1	0
Mayoral Allowances	22	0	0	0
Legal Expenses	223	41	39	2
Total Expenditure	2,441	666	680	(14)
<u>Income</u>				
Land Charges	-103	-26	-21	(5)
License Income	-256	-49	-47	(2)
Schools SLA's	-66	-66	-89	23
Government Grants	-34	-34	-34	0
Other Income	-28	-10	-13	3
Transfers from Reserves	-15	0	0	0
Total Income	-502	-185	-204	19
Net Operational Expenditure	1,939	481	476	5
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Support	158	40	40	0
Transport Recharges	11	3	3	0
Central Support Recharges	361	90	90	0
Support Recharges Income	-1,867	-467	-467	0
Net Total Recharges	-1,337	-334	-334	0
Net Department Expenditure	602	147	142	5

Comments on the above figures

In overall terms spending is slightly below the budget profile at the end of the first quarter.

With regards to expenditure employee costs are in excess of the budget profile which is partly due to unachieved staff turnover savings and partly due to there being an unfunded Senior Legal Assistant post (temporary position to March 2017) within the establishment as a result of a reduction in Adult Social Care Implementation Grant.

With regards to income, Schools SLA income is in excess of the annual budget due to a higher than anticipated buy-back of Legal services.

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

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2016

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance (overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	13,736	3,492	3,525	(33)
Other Premises	2,075	855	842	13
Supplies & Services	1,727	489	467	22
Book Fund	170	56	55	1
Hired & Contracted Services	1,186	214	201	13
Food Provisions	687	172	168	4
School Meals Food	2,059	324	316	8
Transport	59	17	16	1
Other Agency Costs	557	128	59	69
Waste Disposal Contracts	5,119	468	477	(9)
Grants To Voluntary Organisations	254	100	97	3
Grant To Norton Priory	172	86	87	(1)
Transfers To Reserves	133	0	0	0
Capital Financing	96	22	20	2
Total Expenditure	28,030	6,423	6,330	93
<u>Income</u>				
Sales Income	-2,414	-578	-540	(38)
School Meals Sales	-2,179	-476	-488	12
Fees & Charges Income	-5,188	-1,575	-1,493	(82)
Rents Income	-267	-199	-200	1
Government Grant Income	-1,186	-1	-1	0
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-643	-205	-206	1
Schools SLA Income	-83	-82	-80	(2)
Internal Fees Income	-140	-18	-16	(2)
School Meals Other Income	-2,350	-1,526	-1,539	13
Meals On Wheels	-245	-61	-39	(22)
Catering Fees	-187	-47	-13	(34)
Capital Salaries	-53	0	0	0
Transfers From Reserves	-75	-67	-67	0
Total Income	-15,010	-4,835	-4,682	(153)
Net Operational Expenditure	13,020	1,588	1,648	(60)
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Support	1,916	311	311	0
Transport Recharges	2,051	376	376	0
Departmental Support Services	9	0	0	0
Central Support Services	2,483	480	480	0
HBC Support Costs Income	-449	-140	-140	0
Net Total Recharges	6,010	1,027	1,027	0
Net Department Expenditure	19,030	2,615	2,675	(60)

Comments on the above figures:

The net department budget is £60,000 over budget profile at the end of the first quarter of the 2016/17 financial year.

Employee expenditure is over budget to date mainly due to the staff turnover savings targets for the period not being achieved in full and the use of casuals in the Stadium and the Brindley. Staff savings for the year are £553,060 which will be difficult to achieve but will be monitored closely. The amount incurred on casuals for the first 3 months of the year is £152,627 compared to £133,776 in the same period last year, an increase of 14% compared to the approximate increase in salaries due to the National Living Wage of 6.5%.

Other Agency costs are £69,000 under budget profile as many Area Forums projects have not yet started. Approval has been granted for few projects so far, hence the low spend to date. However further projects need to pass through the approval process in order to fully commit budgets allocated.

Waste disposal contracts will face a significant change this year. In October new contract agreements will be entered into and it is expected that significant increases in spend will occur, however work has already been undertaken to reduce the impact of this. Currently this budget is over budget profile and will remain a pressure to be closely scrutinised throughout the year.

Sales Income, Fees & Charges and Internal Catering Fees across the Department will again struggle to achieve budgeted income targets for the year. Last year income for these specific areas underachieved by over £500,000, although this was partially offset by other income streams. Budgets will be closely monitored and if necessary will be realigned where possible.

In 2015/16 the Department reported an outturn overspend position of £290k, based on projections it is likely the outturn position for the current financial year will be of a similar value.

ECONOMY ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY**Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2016**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance to Date
	£'000	£'000	£'000	(Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	4,715	1,054	1,084	(30)
Repairs & Maintenance	2,557	347	345	2
Premises	41	39	39	0
Energy & Water Costs	690	128	118	10
NNDR	552	508	504	4
Rents	353	170	170	0
Economic Regeneration Activities	50	1	1	0
Supplies & Services	1,922	219	212	7
Grants to Non Voluntary Organisations	269	36	36	0
Surplus Property Assets	-670	-167	0	(167)
Total Expenditure	10,479	2,335	2,509	(174)
<u>Income</u>				
Fees & Charges	-252	-56	-59	3
Rent – Markets	-777	-185	-190	5
Rent – Industrial Estates	-41	-41	-54	13
Rent – Investment Properties	-871	-228	-233	5
Transfer to /from Reserves	-1,760	-916	-916	0
Government Grant – Income	-1,831	-233	-233	0
Reimbursements & Other Income	-70	-17	-20	3
Recharges to Capital	-242	-17	-8	(9)
Schools Sla Income	-496	-451	-451	0
Total Income	-6,340	-2,144	-2,164	20
Net Operational Expenditure	4,139	191	345	(154)
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Support Costs	1,916	470	470	0
Transport Support Costs	19	5	5	0
Central Support Service Costs	2,022	535	535	0
Repairs & Maintenance Recharge Income	-2,703	-676	-676	0
Accommodation Recharge Income	-2,897	-724	-724	0
Central Support Service Recharge Income	-1,934	-483	-483	0
Net Total Recharges	-3,577	-873	-873	0
Net Department Expenditure	562	-682	-528	(154)

Comments on the above figures

Economy Enterprise & Property Departmental budget is projected to be over budget at year end. The over spend in the main due to the below mentioned savings target.

The Asset Management Team will continue to work on reducing the Surplus Property Assets savings target set in 15/16. Due to the complexity of the programme and the length of time involved in implementing the programme, it is difficult to envisage the amount of savings the Department will achieve this year.

The Department will not achieve the anticipated target set for employee turnover savings. There are insignificant vacancies within the Department that can be used to offset the savings targets.

Due to the delay in the sale of the Industrial Estates rental income is above budget at the end of Quarter 1. Investment Properties rental income has remained constant and generated income remains above set targets. This is due to a minimal change in the occupancy rates.

Market rental income is slightly above budget at the end of Quarter 1. Both market hall and open market income has remained stable during the first quarter of the year.

Due to the grant conditions of capital projects we are unable to achieve the capital salary income as there is no ability to recharge staffing costs to certain projects.

Under the current financial situation, every effort will be made to ensure that expenditure on controllable budgets is kept to a minimum within the Department.

Capital Projects as at 30 June 2016

Capital Expenditure	2016/17 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation to Date £'000	Actual Spend £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
Castlefields Regeneration	179	10	10	169
3MG	2,809	150	155	2,654
Former Crossville Depot	2,618	203	229	2,389
Johnsons Lane Infrastructure	302	0	0	302
Decontamination of Land	6	0	0	6
Sci- Tech Daresbury	10,953	8,000	7,845	3,108
Police Station Demolition	341	219	219	122
Travellers Site Warrington Road	48	0	0	48
Widnes Town Centre Initiative	16	0	0	16
Widnes Carpark, 29-31 Moor Lane & Land at Halebank	235	0	0	235
Equality Act Improvement Works	150	0	0	150
Advertising Screen at The Hive	100	0	0	100
Signage at The Hive	100	0	0	100
Widnes Market Refurbishment	1,052	0	0	1,052
Total Capital Expenditure	18,909	8,582	8,458	10,451

Comments on the above figures.

Police Station Demolition – Demolition and site clearance works are on-going, the anticipated completion for the works will be towards the end of August 2016.

Sci-Tech Daresbury – Tech Space 2 is due to be completed at the end of July. The site connectivity works are partially complete – the linear park and plaza have been legally handed back to the JV.

The JV continue to develop the Masterplan and this has included detailed proposals for the Eastern Plots site (corner of A56 and Daresbury Expressway). As part of this Langtree have been negotiating with Redrow regarding their option land and Heads of Terms

3MG – The Alstom scheme is progressing well and will be built in phases. Planning consent was granted on 16 May and we are now officially out of the Judicial Review period. Alstom are in the process of issuing a letter of intent to the preferred contractor (Buckingham)




Former Crossville Site – A lot of preparatory works and studies have been undertaken and the planning permission granted. The mains works are likely to start in August 2016.

Johnson's Lane Infrastructure – The site works are completed and highways are waiting to settle the final account.





8.0 Application of Symbols

Symbols are used in the following manner:

Progress Symbols

<u>Symbol</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.	<i>Indicates that the annual target <u>is on course to be achieved</u>.</i>
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.	<i>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</i>
Red 	Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain</u> that the objective will not be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the target <u>will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</i>

Direction of Travel Indicator

Green 	Indicates that performance is better as compared to the same period last year.
Amber 	Indicates that performance is the same as compared to the same period last year.
Red 	Indicates that performance is worse as compared to the same period last year.
N / A 	Indicates that the measure cannot be compared to the same period last year.