

Environment and Urban Renewal PPB – Priority Based Monitoring Report

Reporting Period: **Quarter 2 – 1st July 2022 to 30th September 2022**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of issues and progress against key service objectives/milestones and performance targets, during the second quarter of 2022 / 23 for those service areas within the remit of the Environment and Urban Renewal (E&UR) Policy and Performance Board.
- 1.2 Key priorities for development or improvement in 2022 / 23 were agreed by Members and included in Directorate Plans, for the various functional areas reporting to the Environment & Urban Renewal Policy & Performance Board i.e.:
 - Development & Investment Services
 - Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement
 - Highways, Transportation & Logistics and Physical Environment
- 1.3 The emergence of the global COVID19 pandemic early in 2020 has had a significant and unavoidable impact upon Council services the full extent of which is yet to become known. The Council, along with key partner agencies, has prioritised its resources upon mitigating the serious risks to public health, the protection of vulnerable residents, and the social cohesion of the local community. In developing appropriate responses to emerging national and local priorities this situation is likely to remain the case for the foreseeable future.
- 1.4 The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within Section 7 of this report.

2.0 Key Developments

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

Economy Enterprise & Property

2.2 Regeneration Non-Town Centres

External Funding

The focus in the this quarter has been on:

Leading on the development of monitoring and claims processes for the Town Deal funding

Leading on the delivery of the remaining phase of the Celebrating Halton's Heritage programme; this was the last remaining project in Halton's Borough of Culture programme

Starting delivery of a Destination Marketing Programme for Halton which is part of an LCR SIF-funded initiative and runs until 2025

Supporting a range of community and voluntary sector organisations to secure funding, including St Berteline's Church Windmill Hill, Open 360 digital inclusion, Wat Phra Singh Temple, CHI and Youth Investment Fund bids

Supporting colleagues with a range of projects, including One Public Estate funding for housing, Levelling Up Fund and funding for the Brindley development

Leading on the development of a Halton Investment Plan for UKSPF

Developing a funding plan to sit alongside Halton Borough Council's Climate Action Plan

Statistics for the quarter include:

Funding secured – £294,500

New requests for support - 14

Bids submitted to the value of £17m

Monitoring programmes to the value of £34m

Sci-Tech Daresbury

- The JV continues to progress proposals for the next phases of delivery of the masterplan including Ultra Violet lab space and a new canal crossing at Keckwick Lane.
- STFC are progressing with a Development Plan focussing on potential expansion and future science projects on campus.

Murdishaw

- Partners continue to work together on environmental improvements across the estate.
- Onward continue to progress proposals with the community for a social enterprise or CIC to be established to run a community café in the Gorsewood. Lease discussions are ongoing.
- Onward are looking at the value engineering and cost increases in delivering the bungalow retrofit programme. Anticipated to start on site in September.

West Runcorn Employment Growth Area

- The Council continue to work with INOVYN (part of the INEOS Group) on their intention to improve and attract investment at their Runcorn site. This is part of a broader ambition to support longer term growth in green industry and jobs within West Runcorn.
- The Council continue to work with the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and other stakeholders, to support the case to government for establishing an Liverpool City Region Freeport;
- An orientation visit by the Combined Authority Freeport Team of sites in Halton was hosted by the Council in August 2022.
- The Council are currently preparing to undertake some design, feasibility and technical survey work to provide much needed infrastructure to unlock the Port of Weston through improved surface access to the Port to make the site more attract for investment and also reduce commercial traffic within residential areas.
- This feasibility work is intended to be funded through drawdown of an initial tranche from the provisional allocation of £6.5m of capital seed funding.

Homes Energy Retrofit Programmes

- The team continue to manage a number of grant schemes to enable Halton residents, private landlords and Registered Providers access funds to improve the energy performance and decarbonise homes within the Borough. This is being delivered with grant funding secured from Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy;
- Delivery of the Green Homes Grant, closed to new applications on 31st March 2022, with all improvement works to properties completed by the 31st September 2022

- This scheme saw 103 homes in Halton benefit from installation of energy saving measures, with a total investment of £914,000.00. This included 76 properties benefiting from solar panels;
- The Sustainable Warmth Fund was launched on the 27th August 2022. This grant scheme is available to eligible residents, with £4.65 Million of funding secured. There is a target to improve the energy performance of 442 homes in Halton. All works being completed by 31st March 2023;
- Interest in the new scheme has been high. The scheme has an improved expression of interest process. Availability of grant funding is being promoted to residents and private landlords through press releases, social media and participation at community events. Additionally front line social work staff have been briefed to enable the funding to be targeted to eligible households.

2.3 Regeneration Town Centres

Runcorn Town Deal

The Business cases for four projects were submitted at the beginning of August. These were The Brindley enhancement scheme, The creative and digital skills centre, the Health Hib and the Runcorn Station Quarter project. The outcome is currently unknown.

The renovation of 71 High Street, the first phase of the Digital and Creative Skills centre has now been completed.

Work is progressing, led by Amion, to complete the remaining project business cases for sign off by the Section 151 officer and submission to Government by the beginning of November.

DWF have been appointed to provide Subsidy Control advice for all the projects.

Halton Lea

The LCR town centre funding programme is drawing to a close. The Health Hub (phase 1) is the final project for completion and this is currently scheduled for opening end of October 2022.

A levelling up capital funding bid of £12m for Halton Lea was submitted to LUF during this quarter which was matched by approximately £35m of local funding. They have been some requests for further clarification in particular of subsidy control matters. It is hoped that the result of the bid will be communicated with the Council before the end of the year.

Policy Planning & Transportation

2.4 Highway & Transportation

Dukesfield Active Travel link works continuing. Procurement work continuing on a new Highway maintenance contract.

2.5 Highway Structures

The team continues to contribute towards the development of HBC schemes involving highway structures, such as RSQ (including Active Travel Link), East Runcorn Connectivity, Busway Cycle improvements and the Spike Island access bridge replacement.

Liaison with developers over new highway structures is ongoing at several sites in Sandymoor (Vistry and Homes England) and Daresbury (Redrow).

The annual programme of general inspections for HBC's highway structures was completed in September.

Contract preparation commenced in September for the SJB lighting scheme. Balvac are due to commence work on site in January. The site work will include several projects within this year's CRSTS programme. Scheme preparation for major maintenance works to be undertaken this year on the Halton Lea busway viaducts is underway with Tarmac.

2.6 Highway Development

Work continues on the teams statutory roles, including supporting development process from Local Plan to construction, in addition to supporting scheme funding and development. High numbers of large planning applications due to recent local plan adoption.

Survey results for highway condition and Public Rights of Way (PROW) are reported annually and not currently available for this financial year.

All Highways teams are commissioning/supporting business case/design work for East Runcorn Connectivity scheme (A558 dualling etc) and Runcorn Old Town improvements.

Community & Environment

2.7 Greenspace

Officers have been successful with 2 bids for funding to undertake activities to help contribute towards delivering the objectives of the Council's Big Halton Forest project, which aims to create a diverse forest by planting at least one tree per person in the borough by 2030; circa 130,000 trees.

The first was a successful bid to the DEFRA Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund which saw the Council awarded circa £150k to create 2 new jobs to help support the planning and continued implementation of the Big Halton Forest project.

The second was a successful bid to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Community Environment Fund which saw the Council awarded circa £30k for the planting of 5,000 trees and shrubs; which will take place in early 2023.

2.8 Recycling and Environmental Projects

School and Community Litter Pick Activities

Officers organised and supported the carrying out of a number of local community and school clean up and litter pick events. The Council provided those taking part with litter pickers, hoop sack holders, hi-visibility vests. For the schools events, each pupil received a certificate of participation.

Community Walkabouts

Officers have been involved in 2 community 'walkabouts' along with a total of 18 volunteers. The walkabouts are in joint working with local Housing Associations and other partner agencies.

Community Engagement Officers meet with relevant colleagues at an arranged location and walk around an area to discuss/make note of any issues that they find, engage with residents, door knock and report back anything that may need to be actioned.

Contamination Visits

Community Engagement Officers sent out 248 information packs to residents who presented contaminated blue bins for collection on two or more occasions. Residents were provided with a letter, Kerbside Collection Guide and Blue Bin Sticker

Officers carried out 15 second visits to residents who continued to present contaminated blue bins despite receiving first letters. These residents were given another letter containing details of accepted materials.

Community Engagement

Officers from the service carried out a summer engagement campaign where officers visited 15 locations and engaged with over 300 residents. The campaign included talking to residents about waste and recycling matters and giving out information leaflets and offering advice. These campaigns aim to help reduce confusion around what can be recycled in blue bins in order to lower contamination.

The campaign also included social media messages around recycling and what to do with extra waste during the summer holidays and these messages reached an audience of over 1,600.

Skip Schemes

The division organised and helped with the on-site management of 4 community recycling skip schemes.

The schemes were requested by Ward Councillors and funded with Area Forums monies. The schemes saw three skips on three sites within each of the relevant Wards where residents could deposit General Waste, Wood and Mixed Metals/Hard Plastics/Electrical. The skips were on site from 8am to 12pm and replaced when full. In total, residents filled 63 skips over the six locations.

Litter Pick Resource Packs

As part of the Welcome Back Fund the division secured funding that enabled the purchasing of 240 Litter Pick Resource Packs. These packs are intended to help local volunteers coordinate their programme of litter picking activities and include a litter picker, handy hoop sack holder, gloves, hi-visibility vest and black sacks.

Local residents or groups can apply for up to 20 packs, or individual items within each pack and between April and September 29 applications were processed and the following equipment provided to volunteers;

Item	Total Provided
Litter Picker	159
Handy Sack Hoop	137
Hi Viz Vest	125
Pairs of Gloves	167
Sacks (Packs of 20)	137

2.9 Community Development

Summary of Community Development Activity and Outcomes

	Q1	Q2
Number of Groups and Projects Supported	54	56
Number of New Groups	4	7
£££ of Funding Applications Submitted	£237,749	£158,500
£££ of Funding Applications - Successful	£46,224	£327,000
Number of Volunteers Directly Supported	147	210
Number of Beneficiaries	3,511	7,795
Number of Area Forum Projects Processed	12	8
Number of CD Grant Processed	9	3

2.10 Design & Development

Major improvements to Runcorn Station frontage and piazza now open and in use. Soft landscape elements are in establishment phase. The whole area, including the station frontage, is now maintained by HBC.

Improvements to the Holt Lane entrance of Town Park and pedestrian access works from Shopping City have now been completed. The improvement works provide for easier and more direct link for pedestrians and cyclists.

'Welcome Back' (post COVID) park entrance signage to key parks and public open spaces have been installed.

Arley Woodland Park, Phase 1, boundary and entrance works have been completed.

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 Directorate including:-

Economy Enterprise & Property

3.2 Regeneration Non-Town Centres

Sci-Tech Daresbury – discussions ongoing regarding the land acquisition for expansion land.

External Funding

Cost of Living

The team is starting to receive a number of enquiries in relation to the cost of living crisis from organisations looking for funding for energy efficiency measures, running costs etc; We are working with our colleagues in Community Development and also the VCA to look at trends, key issues, share funding opportunities etc; The Team is also developing a cost of living funding bulletin which collates all sources of funding dedicated to alleviating the cost of living for organisations; these types of funding streams are increasingly emerging and this will be an ongoing piece of work for the Team.

Other key pieces of work

- Developing the Halton Investment Plan for UKSPF
- Developing monitoring systems for the Town Deal Programme
- Commencing commissions for the Mid Mersey Park feasibility and for the Halton Destination Marketing Programme
- Continuing to develop the Funding Plan to support Halton Borough Council's Climate Action Plan

3.3 Regeneration Town Centres

The initial project costs for the Towns Fund deal were estimated almost 2 years ago. Actual project costs have increased substantially in the last 12 months. This will need to be accommodated with each of the seven projects. The projects are likely to accommodate this in different ways. Some of the options being pursued are looking for new funding streams and a reduction in the project scope.

Policy Planning & Transportation

3.4 Highway Structures

Following repeated vandalism to a footbridge over the Runcorn Busway (at The Hove), the structure has been temporarily closed. The team is evaluating the structure's viability and options for its repair or removal.

Community & Environment

3.5 Design & Development

Emerging/up and coming schemes:

Brindley Green; All new public realm/open space creating opportunities for outdoor activities as well as a brand new approach to the remodeled Brindley Theatre building and link to town centre.

Town Park; Palacefields Avenue phase, path, drainage and access works, continuing the planned improvements set out the Town Park Masterplan Strategy.

Birchfield Gardens; Refurbishment of paths, pond and general landscape of this small but important historic open space.

4.0 High Priority Equality Actions

4.1 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.

4.2 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>

5.0 Performance Overview



5.1 The following information provides a synopsis of progress for both milestones and performance indicators across the key business areas that fall within the remit of the Board.

Development and Investment Services


Key Objectives / milestones





Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Objective
EEP 02	Environment and Urban Renewal

Milestone	Progress Q2	Supporting Commentary
To prepare the Town Investment Plan Business Case(s) for Runcorn by 31st July 2022		Work is in progress. Four of the seven project business cases have been submitted. The remaining three projects have an extension to 4 th November 2022.
To prepare a Halton Lea Levelling Up Bid by July 2022		An Investment Plan for funding for Halton Lea was submitted in July 2022.
To prepare a governance structure for Halton Lea to oversee a range of programmes from stakeholders by September 2022		Work is underway to prepare a governance structure for Halton Lea and this should be in place by the end of 2022. The levelling up bid has taken priority.



Ref	Objective
EEP 03	Corporate



Milestone	Progress Q2	Supporting Commentary
Commence Construction of new Leisure Centre on site by 31st October 2022		Subject to Exec Board approval a full start on site will be late November however works have already commenced with site diversion works

Commence Construction of Extension to St Patrick's Nursing Home by 31st Dec 2022		Anticipated start on site date put back to April 2023, design development works continuing and consultation process to be undertaken
Deliver agreed programmed maintenance programme to Corporate Buildings by 31st March 2023.		Budget on track to be spent by year end
Deliver agreed programmed maintenance programme to schools by 31st March 2023.		9 out of 13 projects already delivered others to be completed prior to year end
Complete refurbishment of 71 High Street, Runcorn by 30th September 2022		Works complete.

Appendix 2: Progress Against Performance Indicators

Ref	Description	Actual 2021 / 22	Target 2022 / 23	Quarter 2 Position	Current Progress	Direction of Travel	Supporting Commentary
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EEP LI 01	Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions indicator (Tonnes CO ₂ e).	9770 tonnes CO ₂ Actual 2020/21	9672 tonnes CO ₂ target 2021/22	9327 tonnes CO ₂ Actual 2021/22			<p>The emissions for 2021/22 were 9,327 tonnes which equated to a 4.5% overall reduction on the 2020/21 emissions.</p> <p>Emissions associated with both fleet transport and business mileage increased as was to be expected as the previous year saw significant periods of lockdown.</p> <p>Emissions associated with street lighting saw the biggest reduction from the previous year of almost 20%, and since the baseline year of 2006/7 emissions associated</p>
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							<p>with street lighting have been reduced by 81%.</p> <p>The breakdown of emissions is as follows:- School Buildings 2703t, Corporate buildings 4070t, Unmetered supply 1203t, Fleet Transport 1181t, & Business Mileage 170t.</p> <p>The target for 2022/23 has been set at 9233 tonnes CO₂e, a 1% reduction from 2021/22.</p> <p>The annual figure for this indicator is a year behind and therefore only reported in the following year, figures for 2022/23 are therefore expected to be reported in the 2nd quarter 2023/24</p>
EEP LI 02	Capital receipts	£280,000	£1.5m based on an estimate for the amount and timing of receipts as at 20/5/2021	£0	U		<p>Transactions underway - Linner Cottage and outbuildings and yard, Widnes; Site at Desoto Road and Queensway, Widnes (former handback land) and land Ditton Road Widnes(r/o Feralco). Treasury Management report of estimate for land receipts to be presented to the Asset Management Working Group 28 July 2022</p>
EEP LI 03	Commercial and investment portfolio – rent	Investment £44,300 Commercial £ 574,916	Investment £53,467 Commercial £663,613	Investment £31,317 Commercial £262,552	U		<p>Other vacant units, former Frankie and Bennies unit at the Hive. A shortfall of income is predicted</p>

	receivable against the budget to monitor receipt of income of rents and service charges.						over the year of £116,000 to exclude the income from the lease of no 29 – 31 Moor Lane, Widnes (Enterprise) which ended 14 June 2022.
EEP LI 04	Occupancy rates of commercial and investment portfolio.	100 % Investment 89% commercial	100 % Investment 90% commercial	100 % Investment 93% commercial			There are 7 vacant properties which will be on the market or where negotiations have not been concluded. Negotiations are underway with a potential tenant for no 71 High Street and the former bus depot Moor Lane Widnes.
EEP LI 05	Occupancy of Widnes Market Hall.	95%	96%	89%			Difficult trading conditions and the impact on the Market following the introduction of parking charges are having an effect 4 traders having left since April 1 st 2022.
EEP LI 06	Unit Costs – office accommodation space (reported annually).	1317sqm	1251sqm	n/a			There was a significant investment in LED lighting included in last year's figures hence they increased from the previous year. This figure can only be reported annually as such it will not be until the 1 st Q 2022/23 that updated figures will be provided.
EEP LI 07	Reduce ex traders debt at Widnes Market-target by each year	£37,919	£36,023	£32,481			Ex trader debt continues to fall with payment plans now in place for the majority of the debt.
EEP LI 07a	Customer satisfaction surveys on	New KPI	75%	85%			This is a new KPI so there are no figures for last year. Out of 27

repair & maintenance works, % rated good or excellent							returns, 23 of them were rated as either good or excellent
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Policy, Planning and Transportation

Ref	Objective
PPT 01	Local Transport Plan (LTP) Capital Programme – Deliver the LTP Capital Programmes to ensure that the transport system is maintained and developed to meets local needs.

Milestone	Progress Q2	Supporting Commentary
To deliver the 2019/30 LTP Capital Programme March 2022		<p>Sud North South Widnes final phases at Birchfield Road roundabout and Appleton Village is nearing completionl. Works progressing well on Active Travel schemes at Runcorn Busway to improve cycling links between Halton Hospital and Murdishaw centre and due for completion in Q4. Construction work due to commence to take the current LCWIP route from Runcorn Old town to Daresbury Sci Tech.</p> <p>Design work in progress for Active Travel, Murdishaw centre to Whitehouse Industrial Estate, Murdishaw Centre to Runcorn East Station and then to Halton Lea to provide dedicated cycling facilities on the Busway. Feasibility/Design works in progress for East Runcorn Connectivity, Whitehouse Access Link, and A56 carriageway Reconstruction. Runcorn Station Quarter Dukesfield Active Travel Link construction work progressing. Runcorn Town Centre at High street to improve pedestrian facilities business case being progressed.</p>

Ref	Objective
PPT 02	Highway programmed maintenance.















Milestone	Progress Q2	Supporting Commentary
Ensure continued unrestricted availability of the Highway network and to allow future maintenance to be delivered on a steady state, lifecycle planned basis.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resurfacing scheme at Birchfield Road was completed in the period and design review and pricing under way for Ditchfield Road Everite Road junction reconstruction. Construction works underway at Bridgewater Expressway and expected to complete by the end of October. Design work progressing for footway resurfacing schemes at Kingsway, Hale Road, Frank Street, Castle Street, Sea Lane, Arkwright road. Resurfacing to Caldwell Road footways was completed in the period.







Ref	Objective
PPT 03	Highway Routine and reactive maintenance

Milestone	Progress Q2	Supporting Commentary
Continue to maintain the Highway Authorities statutory duties in accordance with Section 41 and 58 of the Highways Act.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing highway safety inspection continuing to maintain a safe and serviceable Highway. Highways safety inspection refresher training due to be undertake in November

Ref	Objective
PPT 04	Ensure that Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) Plans are tested each year

Milestone	Progress Q2	Supporting Commentary
To ensure that at least one exercise is carried out each financial to test the COMAH plans March 2021	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Currently the authority have a statutory duty to ensure the 9 Upper Tier COMAH Sites within the Borough. The authority have a statutory duty to ensure these sites are compliant in line with the COMAH Regulations 2015. As part of these Regulations, exercises are planned as part of the 3 year COMAH Cycle.</p> <p>All 9 sites are part of the 3 year COMAH Cycle. Due to the nature and complexity of the Runcorn Site, means this site has a scheduled exercise each financial year. This means 2 of the 6 operators take part in a domino scenario to meet the compliancy of the CoMAH Regulations 2015</p> <p>No exercises took place in Quarter 2, however, a Major Live exercise is scheduled with Runcorn Site CoMAH Operators (Halton:16) early Quarter 3, of which planning commenced during Quarter 2.</p> <p>This exercise will require all Command & Control Centres to be activated and staffed. A Multi-Agency Command and Control format with specific questions and answer sessions was used, to test and validate the COMAH External Plan. A structured debrief has recently taken place, where the areas of good practice, areas of development and an action plan have been produced to form the Exercise Report. This report is a vital document in relation to the validation process and continuous improvement / learning. All arrangements including exercise scenario (taken from the Safety Report) were agreed with the Competent Authority (HSE / Environment Agency).</p>


	'minor' applications	100%	96%	33.3%			
	'other' applications	94.7%	98%	37%			
PPT LI 05	To ensure a rolling five year supply of housing land. Deliverable supply (units) as a % of rolling 5 year requirement.	140%	100%				Figures not currently available
PPT LI 06	No. of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions. (5 Year Av.)	24.8	N/A	25.4			Slight upturn in casualty numbers, although numbers are small so prone to fluctuation.
PPT LI 07	No. of children (<16) killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions. (5 year Av.)	3.8	N/A	3.8			Figures identical to previous quarter. Numbers are historically very low.
PPT LI 08	No. of people slightly injured in road traffic collisions. (5 Year Av.)	181	N/A	177			Slight reduction continues to a record low.
PPT LI 09	No. of people slightly injured in road traffic collisions.	168	N/A	161			Reduction in numbers of people slightly injured continues.
PPT LI 10	Damage to roads and pavements (% above intervention levels) repaired within 24 hours.	100%	100%	100%			(no comments provided)
PPT LI 11	% of network where structural maintenance						Reported Annually

	<p>should be considered:</p> <p>a)Principal Roads</p> <p>b)Non-Principal Roads</p> <p>c)Unclassified Roads</p>						
PPT LI 12	<p>Bus service punctuality, Part 1: The proportion of non-frequent scheduled services on time (%):</p> <p>a)Percentage of buses starting route on time</p> <p>b)Percentage of buses on time at intermediate timing points</p>	<p>Data unavailable</p> <p>Data unavailable</p>	<p>99%</p> <p>95%</p>	<p>97%</p> <p>74%</p>	<p></p> <p></p>	<p></p> <p></p>	<p>Both indicators are down on the same period last year. However, operators continually monitor services to improve performance. Discussions will take place with operators to identify a solution going forward</p>
PPT LI 13	<p>% of footpaths and Public Rights of Way (PROW) which are easy to use.</p>	<p>Data unavailable</p>					<p>Data currently unavailable</p>
PPT LI 14	<p>% of bus stops with Quality Corridor accessibility features. (No. of stops – 603)</p>	<p>78% 455</p>	<p>80%</p>	<p>83.7</p>	<p></p>	<p></p>	<p>5 Sites have now been identified and design being carried out. Completion is expected early Q4.</p>


Waste and Environmental Improvement

Key Objectives / milestones



Ref	Objective
CE 03	Manage and Maintain the Borough's green space areas so that they continue to function to their intended purpose.

Milestone	Progress Q2	Supporting Commentary
Manage greenspace areas as per the agreed specification - March 2023 .		Despite on-going challenges the Open Space Service was able to deliver all works within the Council's agreed specification for green space management.

Ref	Objective
CE 04	Implementation of actions to ensure that the Council achieves its waste related targets and objectives.

Milestone	Progress Q2	Supporting Commentary
Continue to deliver communications and awareness raising initiatives to ensure that participation with the Council's recycling services is maximised and that residents comply with the requirements of the Council's Household Waste Collection Policy - March 2023 .		Activities to meet this objective remained on-going throughout the year. As per the Key Developments section of the report, a number of waste and environmental related activities took place in this last quarter which involved the community engagement activity and the delivery of promotional leaflets to householders that included messages regarding the use of the Council's kerbside waste and recycling services.

Appendix 2: Progress Against Performance Indicators

Ref	Description	Actual 2021/22	Target 2022/23	Quarter 2	Current Progress	Direction of Travel	Supporting Commentary
CE LI 05	Residual household waste per household.	607kg	610kg	318kg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		This is an estimated figure but it does show that household waste levels are slightly lower than in Q2 in the previous year.
CE LI 06	Household waste recycled and composted.	40%	40%	40.9%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		This is an estimated figure but it does show that recycling levels are slightly higher than in Q2 in the previous year.

Appendix 3: Major Planning Applications Determined

REFVAL	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS	DECSN	DATEDECISS
20/00607/FUL	Proposed erection of 26 light flexible industrial units (Use Classes E(g) and B8) with associated landscaping, parking and access at	Land To North Of Junction Of Warrington Road And Domino Court Runcorn Cheshire	PER	29/09/2022
21/00628/FUL	Proposed development of a local district centre to include: Retail units 1& 2: Display or retail sale of goods, other than hot food, Use Class E(a) and/or Restaurants and Cafes, Use Class E(b); Retail units 3 & 4: Takeaways, Use class Sui Generis - hot food takeaways; Retail unit 5: Veterinary Practice, Use Class E(e). Elderly living facilities for the over 55's in the form of: an apartment block providing 20no. one bed flats and 24no. two bed flats, and 5no two bed bungalows - all Use Class C3(a) Dwelling houses; together with ancillary development including cycle stores for 20no cycles, and landscaping etc at	Land Bounded By Pitts Heath Lane And Otterburn Street Sandymoor Runcorn Cheshire	PER	12/08/2022
22/00004/FUL	Proposed development of a two storey special education needs and disability school (SEND) (use class F), as well as hard and soft landscaping, multi use games area (MUGA) and sports pitches, creation of on-site car parking and creation of new vehicular access at	Land At Naylor Road Widnes WA8 OBS	PER	04/07/2022

REFVAL	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS	DECSN	DATEDECISS
22/00015/FUL	Proposed residential development of 20 apartments, with associated public open space, landscaping and access at	Site Of Former Panorama Hotel Castle Road Runcorn Cheshire WA7 2AU	PER	10/08/2022
22/00034/REM	Application for the approval of reserved matters (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) of planning permission 20/00337/OUTEIA for the erection of 108no. dwelling houses and associated works at	Land Adjacent To Red Brow Lane Warrington WA4 4BB	PER	28/07/2022
22/00177/S73	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act to amend condition 2 of permission 21/00356/FUL (Proposed industrial development comprising two warehouse buildings with B2 and B8 Use Classes and ancillary E(g)(i) Office space, including service yards, car parking, landscaping and associated access infrastructure) to amend plans as listed in order to increase GIA areas and to amend the site plan at	Shell Green Bennetts Lane Widnes Cheshire WA8 0GW	PER	11/08/2022
22/00200/S73	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to vary Condition 7 of planning permission 21/00015/S73 (Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to vary Condition 16 of planning permission 05/00912/FUL to read as follows; The use of the building shall not exceed 6,819 sq.m. gross and shall only be used for the following categories of goods: DIY goods and materials, gardening goods and equipment; carpets, floor coverings, lighting, furniture, and home furnishings; electrical goods and domestic appliances; homewares including glass and china goods; toys; arts and craft supplies; office equipment; goods for outdoor recreational use including camping and caravanning equipment; motor parts and accessories; pet products; clothing, footwear and equipment for the garden and work; and seasonal items such as Christmas decorations. No more than 350 sq.m. net shall be used for the sale of food and drink products including confectionery for consumption off the premises, additionally up to 150 sq.m. of the gross floor area within the unit can be used as an ancillary cafe, the cafe shall not operate independently of the shop) to increase the area for the sale of food and drink to no more than 600 sqm net, introduce a new element being no more than 200 sq.m. net shall be used for the sale of toiletries and remove the Cafe element, all as detailed within the application at	Widnes Trade Park Dennis Road Widnes WA8 0GU	PER	08/07/2022
22/00269/S73	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act to amend condition 13 of planning permission 21/00498/FUL [Proposed erection of industrial/storage building for use class B2 / B8	Bowman Works Gorse Lane Widnes	PER	11/08/2022

REFVAL	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS	DECSN	DATEDECISS
	purposes, parking and servicing areas, bunds, fencing, landscaping, ancillary works and retrospective permission for the retention of previously installed bunds] to read "By 28 February 2023 full details of the existing and proposed site levels (including the proposed car parking and service areas), above ordnance datum, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved levels" at	Cheshire WA8 0YZ		
22/00278/S73	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act to vary condition numbers 2, 7, 8, 13 and 17 of planning permission 20/00536/FUL [Proposed employment development comprising 13 units totalling 2545 sq metres to provide E(g) ,B2 & B8 uses] to amend the approved scheme to consolidate and reduce the original approved floorspace across Units 1 to 5 (Blocks A and B), into a single revised Unit 3 (revised Block B) at	Land To The West Of Junction Between Hardwick Road And Astmoor Road Runcorn Cheshire	PER	03/08/2022

7.0 Financial Statements

ECONOMY ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

Revenue Operational Budget as at 30th September 2022

	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Actual	Variance (Overspend)	Forecast Outturn
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure					
Employee Related Expenditure	5,159	2,529	2,609	(80)	60
Proposed Pay Award 2022/23	220	0	0	0	0
Repairs & Maintenance	2,306	1,216	1,216	0	0
Premises	92	90	90	0	0
Energy & Water Costs	919	284	387	(103)	(207)
NNDR	533	533	535	(2)	(2)
Rents	179	102	99	3	5
Economic Regeneration Activities	37	0	0	0	0
Security	485	211	211	0	0
Supplies & Services	494	398	398	0	6
Supplies & Services - Grant	1,192	415	415	0	0
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	113	72	72	0	0
Capital Finance	30	30	30	0	0
Transfer to Reserves	254	127	127	0	0
Total Expenditure	12,013	6,007	6,189	(182)	(138)
Income					
Fees & Charges Income	-864	-144	-144	0	0
Rent - Commercial Properties	-842	-297	-235	(62)	(124)
Rent - Investment Properties	-53	-31	-31	0	0
Rent - Markets	-797	-391	-382	(9)	(18)
Government Grant	-690	-412	-412	0	0
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-1,451	-351	-351	0	0
Schools SLA Income	-410	-381	-345	(36)	(36)
Recharges to Capital	-237	-36	-36	0	0
Transfer from Reserves	-1,717	-1,174	-1,277	103	207
Total Income	-7,061	-3,217	-3,213	(4)	29
Net Operational Expenditure	4,952	2,790	2,976	(186)	(109)
Recharges					
Premises Support	1,474	737	737	0	0
Transport Support	27	13	13	0	0
Central Support	2,082	1,041	1,041	0	0
Asset Rental Support	4	0	0	0	0
Recharge Income	-6,258	-3,129	-3,129	0	0
Net Total Recharges	-2,671	-1,338	-1,338	0	0
Net Departmental Expenditure	2,281	1,452	1,638	(186)	(109)

Comments on the above figures

To date the Department is reporting net spend to be over the approved budget by £0.186m. The longer term forecast through to the end of the year estimates net spend will be above the budget by £0.109m.

By carefully monitoring the accounts, the department is utilising grant/external funding where possible to try and relieve the pressure on the core Council budget. This is reflected in employee expenses this quarter where various projects have been identified and staff time has been charged accordingly. All vacancies in the department have been put on hold to help achieve the staff turnover saving target of £0.099m.

The 2022/23 pay award has yet to be agreed but the additional cost to the department over and above the approved budget is forecast at £0.220m. The cost of which will be funded from Council reserves. This figure being based on 184 full time equivalent staff, although some of these will be grant funded.

Due to the ongoing rise in utility bills, expenditure for energy and water costs are projected to be over budget at the end of the financial year. Latest forecasts show an increase of 207% increase in Gas Costs and 64% electricity costs and this is reflected in the forecast. Increase in forecast energy costs will be met through Council reserves.

As the economy looks to recover from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic the financial challenges of commercial property rent present a significant financial challenge. As the working from home environment continues there is less need for office accommodation. The savings put forward to provide additional office space for external agencies at Rutland House will not be achieved this financial year.

In previous year's repairs and maintenance expenditure has been under budget to help the Department achieve an overall balanced position. An assessment has been carried out on forecast spend for the current year and the maintenance programme is showing the budget will be utilised in full.

The School Cleaning Service Level Agreement (SLA) is not covering its costs this financial year due to the need to employ agency staff in order to cover sickness and leave. A review of SLA charges will be undertaken ahead of the next financial year.

The department is projecting to under achieve on market rental income targets this financial year. During the last few months the occupancy rate has dropped to 92%. This may be linked to the introduction of customers having to pay for parking outside the market. There is a slight improvement on quarter 1 projections due to one off events held on a Sunday.

ECONOMY ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

Capital Projects as at 30 September 22

	2022-23 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation to Date £'000	Actual Spend £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure				
3MG	164	6	6	158
Property Improvements	213	169	169	44
Equality Act Improvement Works	300	34	34	266
Widnes Market Refurbishment	6	6	6	0
Broseley House	21	7	7	14
Woodend - Former Unit 10 Catalyst Trade Park	500	21	21	479
Solar Farm Extension	11	0	0	11
Murdishaw Redevelopment	31	0	0	31
Foundry Lane Residential Area	2,117	932	932	1,185
Astmoor Regeneration	14	10	10	4
Kingsway Learning Centre Improved Facilities	36	0	0	36
St Paul Mews	500	500	515	(15)
Halton Lea TCF	388	353	353	35
Runcorn Town Centre Redevelopment	2,089	959	959	1,130
Runcorn Station Building Development	530	77	77	453
Total	6,920	3,074	3,089	3,831

3MG - Spend will be back-ended in the financial year, the largest of which is HBC field where the completion has been put back to Feb 2023. A more comprehensive forecast will be presented at the end of quarter three.”

Property Improvements- All the budget will be spent by year end. There are a number of projects against this code including Reroofing the Fitness suite at the Stadium, lift replacement at Kingsway Learning Centre, and reroofing 73 High Street. There will also likely be some roofing works done at the Municipal Building against this budget.

Equality Act Budget- There are a number of access type schemes using the equality act budget this year so the department is anticipating the budget will be fully spent at year end.

Widnes Market Refurbishment - All Capital works have now been completed and all retentions paid

Broseley House - All works are complete on site, the only outstanding payment is the retention monies of circa £5,000 due in December 2022.

Woodend Unit 10 Catalyst Trade Park - No further spend is likely until the last remaining tenant vacates the property then the department will progress with demolition work.

Solar Farm Extension - It has now been operational for 2 years. No major issues have been identified. The system is performing in line with expectations in terms of energy produced and income.

Murdishaw - Work is ongoing to develop proposals for a community garden in the outdoor space at Murdishaw Community Centre. Funding is allocated to the project as match funding with a potential Awards for All bid to be submitted in the next quarter. Environmental Improvements are ongoing in partnership with Onward and Riverside Housing.

Foundry Lane – There has been a delay in finalising the Development Agreement due to summer holiday leave commitments. The land will be transferred to the developer very soon. It is anticipated that the allocation will be spent in full this financial year.

Kingsway Learning Centre Improvement Works – Majority of the refurbishment works completed; redecoration works to the meeting rooms to be carried out.

St Paul Mews - No further spend is likely until the last remaining tenant vacates the property then the department will progress with the demolition work.

Halton Town Centre Fund - This LCR funded programme is now complete

Runcorn Town Centre Redevelopment - Options reports for the seven Towns Fund projects are now complete. Business Cases for four of the projects were submitted early August. The remaining business cases will be submitted at the beginning of November.

PLANNING, PROVISION & TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Revenue Operational Budget as at 30 September 2022

	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Actual	Variance (Overspend)	Forecast Outturn
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure					
Employees	5,017	2,338	2,285	53	233
Proposed Pay Award 2022/23	131	0	0	0	0
Efficiency Savings	-100	0	0	0	0
Premises	174	89	72	17	39
Hired & Contracted Services	313	152	152	0	(2)
Supplies & Services	204	202	262	(60)	(121)
Street Lighting	2,516	361	361	0	0
Highways Maintenance - Routine & Reactive	1,618	375	513	(138)	(276)
Highways Maintenance - Programmed Works	1,513	721	670	51	102
Fleet Transport	1,383	705	745	(41)	(81)
Bus Support - Halton Hopper Tickets	50	6	6	0	0
Bus Support	498	281	238	43	86
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	31	31	31	0	0
NRA Levy	69	69	70	(1)	0
LCR Levy	882	441	441	0	0
Contribution to Reserves	407	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	14,706	5,770	5,846	(76)	(20)
Income					
Sales & Rent Income	-93	-42	-26	(16)	(32)
Planning Fees	-563	-424	-655	231	462
Building Control Fees	-224	-127	-143	16	31
Other Fees & Charges	-927	-492	-500	8	16
Grants & Reimbursements	-239	-154	-154	0	0
Government Grant Income	-125	-64	-64	0	0
Halton Hopper Income	-50	-5	-5	0	0
School SLA's	-46	-45	-43	(2)	(3)
Recharge to Capital	-317	-89	-11	(78)	(156)
LCR Levy Reimbursement	-882	-441	-441	0	0
Contribution from Reserves	-690	-559	-559	0	0
Total Income	-4,156	-2,442	-2,601	160	318
Net Operational Expenditure	10,550	3,329	3,245	84	298
Recharges					
Premises Recharges	534	267	267	0	0
Transport Recharges	661	321	336	(15)	(25)
Asset Charges	1,099	0	0	0	0
Central Recharges	1,581	791	791	0	0
Transport Recharge Income	-4,496	-2,207	-2,254	47	94
Central Recharge Income	-871	-436	-436	0	0
Net Total Recharges	-1,492	-1,264	-1,296	32	69
Net Departmental Expenditure	9,058	2,065	1,949	116	367

Comments on the above figures

Department net spend is £0.116m below the budget to date at Q2 and forecast to be £0.367m below the approved budget at financial year-end.

Budget holders have been working closely with the Finance Officer to try to ensure a balanced budget is achieved. Wherever possible capital expenditure has been prioritised in order to relieve pressure on the revenue budgets.

Employee spend is projected to be under budget this financial year due to a number of vacancies across the whole department, in particular the Highways and Traffic divisions. Vacant posts are currently being held prior to a restructure. Across the department, there are 96.5fte's and of these, 14.4fte's are currently vacant, including a Divisional Manager post.

The 2022/23 pay award has yet to be agreed but the additional cost to the department over and above the approved budget is forecast at £0.131m. The cost of which will be funded from Council reserves.

Supplies and services are projected to be over budget due to survey costs and plans that have been required in the Planning division. Halton also has a contract with MEAS (Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service) which is hosted by Sefton LA. This is used to provide Halton with advice in relation to ecology, waste, environmental impact assessments and local plans. To have this advice internally would cost Halton more than the contract, but at the moment, it is significantly over the allocated budget. Legal fees are also currently projected to be over budget due to external legal advice needing to be procured in relation to judicial reviews where decisions have been challenged.

The street lighting contract has seen an increase of 103% for a two year fixed term ending March 2024. In order to help reduce running costs, lights are being turned off 12am – 6am on some routes and over 80% of HBC owned street lighting stock of around 20,500 columns have been upgraded to LED. There remains a capital street lighting upgrade programme in place and the remaining upgrades will be taking place this year, finishing off in the next financial year. It is forecast street lighting energy costs for the year will be £0.791m over the original budget, contingency budget will be used to fund this cost.

Highways maintenance budgets are currently projected to be over budget. However, this is liable to change and will be monitored closely throughout the year, with capital being utilised where appropriate. The report is broken down into routine and reactive schemes and also programmed works so the various areas can be looked at in more detail.

Fleet transport costs are projected to be over budget this financial year. This is mostly due to a large increase in the purchase of parts and the time it takes to receive an order, this in turn then has an impact on the costs recharged out to other services within the authority.

Bus support costs are projected to be under budget by the end of the financial year. This is being monitored closely and contracts that were previously held by Halton Transport and were put in place urgently, are due to be reviewed.

Mersey Gateway has also provided funding for some routes to take the pressure off the budget. Sales income is projected to be under the budget target by the end of the financial year due to a decrease in income generated at Lowerhouse Lane Depot for external fuel sales. This is being closely monitored.

Planning income is expected to come in higher than anticipated. This is mainly due to a number of high income one-off planning schemes, the level of income is not expected to be repeated in future years.

The recharge of salaries to capital schemes is unlikely to achieve its income target this financial year due to a lack of traditional capital projects, and therefore there is less opportunity to capitalise. There is a relationship between the under achievement of income and the lack of staff within the Highways division which means staff are not available to do works on capital schemes

Capital Projects as at 30 September 2022

	2022-23 Capital Allocatio n £'000	Allocation to Date £'000	Actual Spend £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
<u>Local Transport Plan</u>				
Total Bridge & Highway Maintenance	2,448	471	471	1,977
Integrated Transport	1,553	332	332	1,221
CRSTS (City Region Sustainable Travel Settlement)	3,306	628	628	2,678
SJB MM – Arch Painting	321	0	0	321
SJB – Decoupling	325	325	325	0
EATF Runcorn Busway	1,546	564	564	982
East Runcorn Connectivity	1,500	326	326	1,174
Total Local Transport Plan	10,999	2,646	2,646	8,353
Halton Borough Council Schemes				
Street Lighting	853	139	139	714
Lighting Upgrades	530	52	52	478
Silver Jubilee Bridge - Lighting	469	1	1	468
Risk Management	495	23	23	472
Fleet Vehicles	2,500	452	452	2,048
SUD Green Cycle	349	349	349	0
Widnes Loops	13	13	13	0
LCWIP (Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan) / Dukesfield	1,089	1,089	1,089	0
Total Halton Borough Council Schemes	6,298	2,118	2,118	4,180
Total Capital Expenditure	17,297	4,764	4,764	12,533

Comments on the above figures.

Works are continuing for the lighting upgrade programme.

Funding has been agreed from LCR in relation to LCWIP Daresbury and Dukesfield however the grant funding agreements have not been received at this time, they are expected in the next few weeks.

The Runcorn Station Quarter works are almost completed and this is reflected in the low level of expenditure in Q1 and Q2. Spend on capital projects is following the normal profile of expenditure being low in the first quarters and then increasing from Q3 onwards. This is expected to continue this financial year.

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

Revenue Budget as at 30 September 2022

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget to Date £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000	Forecast Outturn £'000
Expenditure					
Employees	15,412	7,300	6,966	334	303
Proposed Pay Award 2022/23	640	0	0	0	0
Premises	2,543	1,272	1,317	(45)	(90)
Supplies & Services	1,398	750	800	(50)	(100)
Hired & Contracted Services	890	44	156	(112)	(225)
Book Fund	140	108	93	15	30
Food Provisions	404	817	801	16	32
School Meals Food	1,872	925	721	204	409
Miscellaneous Transport Costs	115	47	49	(2)	(3)
Other Agency Costs	156	92	69	23	(51)
Other Expenditure	0	2	5	(3)	(5)
Waste Disposal Contracts	6,538	3,269	3,268	1	2
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	67	16	41	(25)	48
Grant to Norton Priory	172	172	174	(2)	(1)
Rolling Projects	0	10	20	(10)	(20)
Capital Financing	0	4	4	0	0
Total Expenditure	30,347	14,828	14,484	344	329
Income					
Sales Income	-1,309	-678	-608	(70)	(141)
School Meals Income	-4,958	-2,275	-2,086	(189)	(378)
Fees & Charges Income	-5,546	-3,318	-3,298	(20)	(41)
Rental Income	-205	-75	-75	0	0
Government Grant Income	-359	-500	-664	164	329
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-597	-214	-149	(65)	(130)
Catering Fees	-88	-44	-45	1	2
Internal Fees Income	-247	-30	-38	8	16
Capital Salaries	-173	-46	-46	0	0
Transfers From Reserves	-742	-26	-24	(2)	0
Total Income	-14,224	-7,206	-7,033	(173)	(343)
Net Operational Expenditure	16,123	7,622	7,451	171	(14)
Recharges					
Premises Support	1,496	748	748	0	0
Transport	2,324	1,144	1,196	(52)	(104)
Central Support	4,449	2,225	2,225	0	0
Asset Rental Support	146	0	0	0	0
HBC Support Costs Income	-511	-255	-255	0	0
Net Total Recharges	7,904	3,862	3,914	(52)	(104)
Net Departmental Expenditure	24,027	11,484	11,365	119	(118)

Comments on the above figures

The net department spend is £0.119m under budget at the end of Quarter 2 with the estimated net spend for the year being forecast at £0.118m over the approved budget.

Net employee spend is below the budget to date by £0.303m, due to the number of vacancies within the department resulting from delays and difficulty in recruitment.

The 2022/23 pay award has yet to be agreed but the additional cost to the department over and above the approved budget is forecast at £0.640m. The cost of which will be funded from Council reserves. This figure being based on 425 full time equivalent staff.

Premises costs are £0.045m over budget at the end of Quarter 2. Savings were identified at Q1 due to NNDR bills remaining the same as in previous years, however, the forecast outturn position is currently projected to be £0.090m over budget due to significant increases in both electricity and gas costs. This has impacted all of the sites managed by the Department, especially at Leisure Centres. Runcorn swimming pool has closed but premises costs will continue while the building remains under Council control.

Additional premises costs are expected for Brookvale Leisure Centre and Halton Lea Library. A £0.020m feasibility study (Brookvale) and £0.030m building works (remove Café and re-instate as library) have not been budgeted for.

Spend on Supplies and Services is currently £0.050m over budget and spend on Hired Services is £0.112m over budget. This includes £0.050m domestic violence contribution to Sanctuary Scheme, £0.025m cemetery and crematory re-saleable spend which is offset by income from Sanctum Vaults purchases, £0.020m for the decommissioning of a temporary cremator, and £0.043m equipment including £0.008m/month for container hire. Some of this spend will be offset by Government Grant income where possible.

Invoices for 2021/22 waste disposal contracts are still to be received, expected during the next quarter. Whilst costs were estimated at financial year-end, any variance in the actual cost when invoices are received will impact on this year's financial position.

No invoices have yet been received for the waste disposal contracts in 2021/22. Estimated expenditure is therefore calculated based on the average cost per tonne in 2020/21 plus estimated additional tonnage in the current year. Any changes to these costs could have a large impact on the Department's outturn position.

The cancellation of certain events, such as the Vintage Rally means that the associated income targets will not be achieved, while some costs for these events have already been incurred.

Transport recharges are expected to be higher than budgeted due to fuel and other cost increases resulting in a forecast net overspend against budget at year-end of £0.104m.

Capital Projects as at 30 September 2022

Project Title	2022/23 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation to Date £'000	Actual Spend £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
Stadium Minor Works	37	10	9	28
Halton Leisure Centre (Moor Lane)	6,296	950	938	5,358
Brookvale Pitch Refurbishment	70	40	38	32
Stadium decarbonisation scheme	0	0	117	(117)
Open Spaces Schemes	450	130	128	322
Children's Playground Equipment	80	5	2	78
Upton Improvements	13	0	0	13
Crow Wood Park Play Area	39	10	10	29
Landfill Tax Credit Schemes	340	0	0	340
Runcorn Town Park	256	110	110	146
Widnes Crem - Replacement Cremator	200	200	234	(34)
Spike Island / Wigg Island	60	0	0	60
Litter Bins	20	0	0	20
Totals	7,861	1,455	1,586	6,275

Comments on the above figures

Moor Lane Leisure Centre

The estimated cost of the new leisure centre has increased significantly due to the current levels of inflation, scarcity of materials etc. A report has been issued to the Executive Board detailing the increased costs and a decision is imminent. It is likely that the decision will be to continue with the project as there are wider implications for the regeneration of the whole Kingsway area. The draft report indicates the increased annual revenue cost of borrowing from £1m to £2m given the construction cost and interest rate rises.

Brookvale Pitch Refurbishment

The scheme is now complete. There is a retention payment that may be held until Quarter 4 (% of Football Foundation funding grant is held until all conditions met/discharged) but the remaining spend will be in the current financial year.

Stadium Decarbonisation Scheme

Grant-funded project to reduce the DCBL Stadium's carbon footprint. This involved replacing the gas boilers with air source heat pumps and installing LED lighting and additional installation. The scheme is currently over budget by £0.117m, the cost of which will have to be funded through capital receipt reserves or increased borrowing.

Open Spaces

This covers spending on a variety of externally funded projects, including Arley Drive/Halton Housing Trust and Fairfield History projects.

Children's Playground Equipment

This is an ongoing project which includes spend on improvements within the Borough's playgrounds.

Crow Wood Park

Project to include replacement park building and upgrade to paths. The main contract for new park building has ended but a small amount of work to the building is required and will be done separately along with a small landscape contract to complete paths. This is still delayed due to team workload. Possibly will run to end of 2022/23.

Landfill Tax Credits Schemes

Currently used to support improvements for a rolling programme of existing playgrounds/open space schemes across the Borough. There are no projects currently identified and minimal spend if any against this code is anticipated in 2022/23.

Runcorn Town Park

Project to renew park infrastructure. Works from INEOS funding 2021/22 has not yet completely spent. The works are behind schedule due workload/capacity issues within D&D Team due to RSQ project taking priority. For 2022/23 there will be another major INEOS funding bid to continue the infrastructure replacement works, Bid has not yet been submitted but it is anticipated that next phase will carry over to 2023/24 assuming bid is successful.

Widnes Crematorium replacement Cremator

Installation works on site are progressing to programme. The new unit commissioned and fully operational with staff trained to us new systems. The final cost is £0.234m (increase due to a change of supplier plus some small additional works to the building in order to accommodate the new unit).




Wigg/Spike Island Recovery Works

Projects are at the commencement stage. The extent of works and exact split for works contracts is being assessed.




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	N / A
	Indicates that the measure cannot be compared to the same period last year.