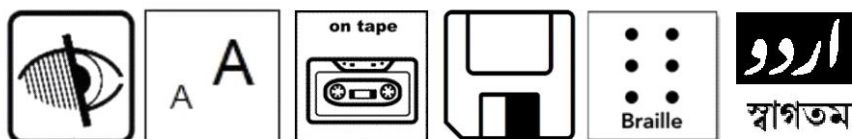


Financial Monitoring Report

2021/22 Q3 as at end of December 2021

Including a Glossary of terms on page 40



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General Fund Revenue Operations – pages 6 to 21

The Covid pandemic continues to influence the Council's financial performance into 2021/22. The net impact is an adverse variance of £512.5k on the General Fund at Q3 when compared to the original budget of £8,902k. This is an increase of £49.8k on the position reported at Q2 (£462.6k) The Council has held over the balance of Covid support grants received in 20/21 where able to do so and has received additional grant support in the year to date to assist with the ongoing financial pressures faced.

The forecast outturn position at Q3 utilises Covid sums carried forward to meet ongoing eligible expenditure. In addition, the adverse variance reported above is proposed to be met from the Response and Recovery Reserve unless and until further Covid related grant funding is to be made available in year from Government departments. At the time of this report, the Council is undertaking an exercise to review eligible core expenditure incurred eg staffing costs that it can legitimately fund from Covid grant monies. This should have the effect of reducing the Council's Net Cost of Services in 2021/22.

Earmarked Revenue Reserves – page 22 to 24

The total cash-backed Earmarked Reserves brought forward at 1st April 2021 were £12,717k.

The opening balance on the Transitional Reserve was £1,790k, to which £213k of New Homes Bonus grant is to be added. This funding will be released in full as budgeted, to fund 21/22 Net Service costs. Similarly, the Council is to receive £93k of Lower Tier Services Grant as part of the 21/22 Local Government Finance Settlement, and this too will be used to fund Net Service costs.

Due to the complexities of the Collection Fund accounting regime reported to Cabinet throughout 20/21, the Business Rates Retention Reserve holds a significant sum brought forward (£6,229k). Utilisation of Covid funding last year replaced the budgeted contribution from this reserve, down from the £686k assumed as required in 20/21, to nil. This balance also includes compensation received in 20/21 required to fund future years' deficits on the Collection Fund owing to the pandemic. Amounts will be released over the next three years to ease the cashflow burden, as agreed by changes to legislation ('spreading the deficit').

The approved budget for 21/22 also includes transfer to the Business Rates Retention Reserve of Section 31 Grant compensation for eligible reliefs afforded to qualifying business, received in year. This is estimated at £1,091k as per the Council's original NNDR1 submission in January 2021.

Following Government's decision to extend the Expanded Retail Relief into 2021/22, an announcement made after submission of the original NNDR1 return, the Council expects to receive additional Section 31 Grant compensation for this scheme. The Council's share is estimated in the sum of £564k and will also be contributed to the Business Rates Retention Reserve.

The Council also intends to contribute its receipt for renewable energy in the sum of £183k before releasing sums for general budget support at a value of £606k. The intention is to transfer Section 31 grant receipts to the Transitional Budgetary Support Reserve at financial year-end.

The Planning Reserve is expected to be required in full in year to support £124k of costs including those in relation to the current Local Plan. At Q3, the adverse variance of £66k estimated for Local Plan costs, arising from the requirements of the Planning Inspectorate is unchanged from Q2. This is included in the forecast outturn.

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Unutilised balances of Covid related funding as at 31 March 2021 were transferred into a new Response & Recovery reserve to meet the ongoing impact and commitments resulting from the pandemic falling into 21/22 and potentially beyond.

The closing balance of earmarked reserves at the 31st March 2022, including sums specifically ring-fenced to fund future deficits on the Collection Fund is estimated at £12,412k. Based on current plans and forecast commitments at the time of this report, earmarked reserves are anticipated to reduce to £6,954k over the life of the MTFs by March 2026.

Government Grants Unapplied – page 24

The opening value of Government Grants Unapplied at the 1st April 2021 was £1,919k, including £1,858k of Disabled Facilities Grant carried forward into 2021/22 which relates to previous years' slippage. The original allocation of Better Care funding for DFGs for 2021/22 is £1,160k, giving total DFG resources available of £3,018k.

In addition, the Council has received various grants to support its Covid related activities in the sum of £3,893k. These 'grants unapplied' relate specifically to business support in the wake of Covid. These and non-business specific Covid grant sums received in year are detailed on page 35. Some of these grants are ring-fenced for specific activities with any remaining balance having to be repaid to the originating body whereas others can be released to support the budget. At Q3, the required funding level from the Response and Recovery Reserve for spend to date, known commitments and to make good the Q3 variance of £512.5k is £2,316k.

Staff Monitoring – page 25

The table on page 25 shows the forecast staffing variances for the year based on Q3 actuals. The forecast for the year is currently £192k, noting the movement within Operations due to the updated forecast for use of agency labour and potential overtime requirements until year-end. This is made up of £167k from general staff turnover and vacancies, plus £25k from additional leave purchased by staff throughout the year. This is now a £34k adverse variance compared to the 2021/22 budget target of £225k.

Treasury & Cash Management - page 25 to 28

At the end of December, the bank balances were £20,860k. These resources continue to be higher than normal due to the level of Covid related Government grants received and held over from 20/21, including significant sums not yet returned to Government as part of the agreed reconciliation conditions. Due to the pandemic, banking institutions held interest rates at historically low levels, linking their product offerings to Bank of England 'Bank Rate'. At the time of this report the Bank of England has, for the first time in a number of years, increased Bank Rate at successive Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meetings, increasing the rate from 0.10% to 0.25% (December 2021) to 0.50% respectively (February 2022). With the uncertainty around income and Covid-19 response requirements, and depressed interest rate levels on offer from approved counterparties (despite recent increases), Council officers have retained funds in instant access/liquid accounts. Consequently, the interest income forecast has been retained at £8.7k, as per Q2, against an original budget target of £16.4k, and is not considered to increase materially following the uplift in Bank Rate.

The provision for doubtful debt at the 1st of April 2021 was £380.6k, plus a further £5.4k set aside for licensing debt, against £513k of doubtful debts. Following a significant increase to the provision for bad debts during 20/21, the level of cover for sums outstanding and that risk going unpaid is considered adequate at this time (c74% cover), but will continue to be monitored throughout the year.

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Capital Receipts – page 30

The Usable Capital Receipts brought forward at the 1st April totalled £2,233k.

Capital Grants due for projects in 2021/22 is expected to total £5,512k.

Current funding for slippage carried forward into the 21/22 Capital consists of a mixture of resources, namely £3,765k of grants, capital receipts and (internal) borrowing. The most effective method of funding the Council's Capital outturn will be determined at the end of the financial year.

On current assumptions, the Capital Receipts Reserve is expected to total £105k at the year-end, reflecting the most cost effective method of financing the Council's 2021/22 forecast Capital expenditure. Whilst this is considered to be the most effective method of financing, it is acknowledged that capital resources remain earmarked to support projects in Whitworth (£100k) and Haslingden (£236k).

Capital Programme and Funding – page 31 to 33

The original Capital Programme for 2021/22 was £6,239k, including an estimate of £1,000k for DFGs and £1,344k for replacement operational vehicles. The slippage from 2020/21 was £3,765, the bulk relating to DFGs. Additions to the programme include works to Henrietta St Depot, Electric Vehicle charging point infrastructure, Marl Pits running track, infrastructure works to the Public Realm and Rawtenstall Market and improvement works to Futures Park, respectively.

The DFG allocation has now been confirmed at £1,160k

The revised capital programme for 2021/22 is £9,818k.

Collection Fund 2021/22 (Council Tax & NNDR) - page 34 to 37

Council Tax collection levels are recovering however they are still not back to pre-pandemic levels also business rate collection continues to be lower than performance prior to Covid.

The Council Tax account is predicting an overall surplus of £66k for Rossendale. Court Cost income has yet to be realised, however we continue to estimate to receive £100k against a budget of £300k (consistent with Q2) giving an adverse variance of c£200k included in the projected outturn on page 5.

The Government has extended the 100% Business Rate Relief scheme to include retail, hospitality and leisure businesses into 21/22, albeit on modified terms and with this level of relief to reduce to 66% of liability with effect from July 21. This has reduced the forecast NNDR income due. However, the Government has issued additional S31 grants to cover this lost income. These sums, received by the Council into its General Fund in 21/22, will be set aside to fund the deficit emanating from the Collection Fund shortfall in 21/22, to be realised and made good in future years, similar to the treatment for 20/21.

In addition, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) announced in December 2021, that £1.5bn of reliefs would be made available to local government to support eligible businesses who to date, have been affected by the pandemic, but have been unable to access existing Covid funding linked to business rates. These reliefs must be applied to accounts before 31st March 2022 and consequently sums are likely to impact on the outturn surplus/deficit position at the financial year-end, given similar compensation arrangements for 'lost' Collection Fund income into the Council's General Fund. This scheme is referred to as the Covid Additional Relief Fund (CARF).

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Covid 19 – page 38 to 39

The Council has received various Covid related grants throughout the year and these have been itemised on page 38. Some of these grants are ring-fenced and any underspend will be recovered by the originating body at the end of the scheme. For business grants the Council is acting as an agent for the Government and any balances at the end of the schemes have to be repaid. All original schemes are currently closed, with repayment of net balances to Government pending (c£3m), However the Council anticipates receipt and award of additional ARG sums and Omicron related grants to eligible recipients in Q4.

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General Fund Summary - Period 9 (Quarter 3)

Service Area	2021/22 Org Budget £000	2021/22 Forecast £000	2021/22 Variance (Adv)/Fav £000	Variance last reported £000	Change in Qtr3 (Adv)/Fav £000
Communities Directorate					
Customer Services and E-Government	1,405.4	1,726.6	(321.2)	(252.8)	(68.3)
Operational Functions	1,832.8	2,140.7	(307.9)	(148.8)	(159.0)
Communities (Parks and Cemeteries)	677.8	570.1	107.7	46.1	61.6
Public Protection Unit	155.5	149.3	6.2	(1.7)	7.9
Environmental Health	207.6	194.4	13.2	(6.0)	19.1
Licensing & Enforcement	115.4	125.9	(10.4)	(18.6)	8.2
Housing	497.4	538.0	(40.6)	(35.1)	(5.5)
Economic Development Directorate					
Planning Services	290.3	298.9	(8.6)	(9.0)	0.4
Building Control Services	(7.5)	(33.5)	26.1	27.5	(1.4)
Regeneration	336.1	349.0	(13.0)	(62.4)	49.4
Property Services	265.4	391.2	(125.8)	(32.0)	(93.8)
Corporate Management Directorate					
Corporate Management	465.4	391.1	74.3	41.9	32.4
Legal Services	172.5	155.3	17.2	7.5	9.6
Local Land Charges	(19.8)	(18.0)	(1.7)	(5.9)	4.2
Democratic Services	584.6	547.3	37.4	34.4	3.0
Financial Services	553.2	547.9	5.2	(19.8)	25.1
People and Policy	641.5	610.7	30.8	42.8	(12.0)
Non Distributed Costs	72.3	254.8	(182.6)	(184.6)	2.1
Capital Financing and Interest	656.7	475.4	181.4	114.0	67.4
TOTAL Service Cost	8,902.70	9,415.2	(512.5)	(462.6)	(49.8)
LESS Use of Earmarked Reserves					
Retained Business Rates Reserve	(2,180.0)	(2,180.0)	-	-	-
Response and Recovery Reserve	-	(512.5)	(512.5)	(462.6)	(49.8)
Lower Tier Services Grant	(93.0)	(93.0)	-	-	-
Transitional Budgetary Reserve	(606.0)	(606.0)	-	-	-
LESS Use of New Homes Bonus Grant	(213.0)	(213.0)	-	-	-
Net Service Cost	5,810.7	5,810.7	-	-	0.0

The monitoring report at Q3 21/22 is forecasting a predicted adverse variance of £512.5k (up from the forecast £462.6k at Q2). This forecast position will require a contribution of £512.5k from the Response and Recovery Reserve to balance the approved budget for the year, subject to the receipt of additional funding from Government.

At the time of this report, and in preparation for the closure of the Council's accounts for 2021/22, a review of core expenditure incurred in support of the response to the pandemic eg staffing costs, is being undertaken to assess eligibility of financing these from Covid related grant funding, to ease the pressure on Service budgets, and reduce the forecast adverse variance.

The main variances are shown in the table below. These largely replicate variances reported at Q2, being updated where relevant for amended year-end forecasts, and include: -

- Staff cost reductions are forecasting an adverse variance of £34k at year end against the required £200k of vacancy savings. In addition, staff have committed to fund £25k of additional leave to be taken over the course of the year, and this in line with budget expectations.
- Members are reminded that no court sessions were held throughout 20/21 owing to the pandemic, and this continues to have an impact into 21/22. Estimated court cost income has been assumed at £100k at Q3 (consistent with the Q2 forecast), down from the

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£300k approved budget. This is considered prudent as recovery action has recommenced in 21/22 with court cost income likely to follow. As this remains difficult to quantify, an adverse variance of £200k is therefore included in the forecast outturn.

- The deferred repayment of loans granted to the Rossendale Leisure Trust agreed by Council in February 2021 has an adverse variance on the forecast outturn in the sum of £101k. This is the final year of the agreement with repayments to commence from 22/23. Deferred payments relating to 20/21 and 21/22 will result in extension to the agreed repayment terms with income receipts now due in 26/27 and 34/35, where previously assumed to end in 25/26 and 33/34 respectively.
- Additional costs associated with delivering the Local Plan, based on further discussions with the Planning Inspectorate, are estimated at £66k. Sums held in the Planning Reserve are anticipated to be utilised in full to meet expenditure but these additional costs are therefore to be met from the Response and Recovery Reserve.
- As reported at Q2, an analysis of Central IT costs has identified software licence expenditure committed in 21/22 that relates, in part, to future years. In accordance with correct accountancy practice, these sums have been 'pre-paid' into 22/23. Included in the forecast outturn at Q3 are IT related costs incurred for the Rossendale Leisure Trust (£111k) that are assumed to be underwritten by the Council, and thus not to be recharged. Further analysis of the Council's commitments for annual licences is underway to ensure adequate budget provision exists annually, to meet its contractual commitments.
- The Council has a total budget for Empty Homes related expenditure in the sum of £975k. This budget is split £300k (Revenue funding) and £675k (Capital funding.) At Q3, there is an estimated adverse variance on the revenue account of £83k. This estimate is largely due to recognition of the additional revenue resources deployed to support the ongoing legal work of the Council and defence of the Empty Homes claim. This includes provision for future Barrister costs and administrative work of the Project Officer. The Council is also liable for council tax costs where properties within the scheme are without tenants.
- Original budget assumptions pertaining to Rawtenstall Market included the recharge of eligible expenditure firstly incurred by the Council, to the managing agent, as an 'income stream'. However, discussions remain ongoing to determine an appropriate level of subsidy given the ongoing impact of Covid and also infrastructure arrangements for the supply and recharge of rising utility costs to tenants. At Q3, the working assumption is that the rechargeable income will be subsidised until the position is clarified. The impact is an adverse variance at Q3 of £63k of foregone 'income'.
- An adverse outturn variance of c£60k is assumed at Q3 in relation to income from commercial property rents, owing to the current economic climate.
- The Council is due to re-tender for Insurance cover and, at the same time, assess the adequacy of its revenue budget as part of the budget cycle and MTFs development. Insurance premiums have increased over time and beyond the forecast increases assumed in the budget estimates. On receipt of the premium for 21/22, the net budget 'gap' has been identified at £32k and this adverse position is included in the forecast outturn.

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- Significant increases to fuel 'pump prices' continue to impact the Council, and in particular the cost of its Operational fleet vehicles (Refuse Collection, Parks). Economic commentary (page 27) acknowledges the highest recorded fuel prices since 2013 and on current forecasts, an adverse variance of £82k is assumed in the outturn projection. The Council also continues to be impacted by rising utility costs for its own facilities.
- The estimated revenue cost associated with financing the Council's 2020/21 Capital Expenditure – being the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) – is estimated to reduce by a further favourable variance of £67k, contributing a favourable variance in the year in the sum of £189k.

Target Efficiency Savings 2021/22

The Council agreed, as part of the 2021/22 Budget approved in February 2021, a number of Efficiency Targets, including an increase to published fees and charges.

Whilst the forecast outturn position as noted above requires a contribution from the Response and Recovery Reserve to balance the 21/22 budget, the table below summarises efficiency performance against the individual budget headings.

A simple RAG status (Red, Amber, Green) has been used. Additional commentary is also provided and these areas of performance are considered in more detail in the main body of the report:

Budget Proposals (Efficiency Targets)	2021-22	Commentary at Q3
	£'000	
Trade Waste net increased income	10	This has been achieved. Individual budget line income exceeding increased budget target.
Bulky Waste proposed fee increase	13	This has been achieved. Individual budget line income exceeding increased budget target.
Operations: increased productivity	20	Not achieved. Ongoing pressures associated with Covid response in year, use of Agency labour and escalating vehicle fuel costs.
Garden Waste enhanced service/growth	50	This has been achieved. Individual budget line income exceeding increased budget target.
Environmental Health - Fixed Penalty Income	15	Not achieved: delay to contractual arrangement. To be concluded for 2022/23 budget.
Fees and charges: annual increase by at least inf'n of 2%	7	Being achieved in part across services.
Staffing and related savings (Vacancy Savings etc)	109	Staff vacancy savings are being achieved but are below the Efficiency Target as reported on page 21.
IT Efficiencies	10	Owing to costs incurred for RLT that are not to be recharged, the target has not been met.
Contingency	(50)	£15k of the corporate contingency budget has been used to fund the Council's contribution to Ribble Rivers landscape project thus only £35k contribution to Efficiency Target.
Total Efficiency Targets	184	

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Annual Variances	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	
	Fav/(Adv)	Fav/(Adv)	Fav/(Adv)	Fav/(Adv)	Fav/(Adv)	
Communitites Directorate						
Customer Services and e-Government						
Staff costs	6.1	2.1	-		8.2	
Housing Benefits subsidy and admin grant	(58.5)	33.6	(29.2)		(54.1)	
Housing Benefit Local Council Tax support grant	42.8	-	-		42.8	
Housing Benefit bailiff fees	18.3	-	-		18.3	
Revenues & Benefits administration Contract	14.6	-	-		14.6	
Court costs recovered (net of bad debt provision)	(20.0)	-	-		(20.0)	
Business Rates - net costs of collection and s31 grants	(220.8)	-	-		(220.8)	
Central IT Costs	(12.0)	40.1	(34.2)		(6.1)	
Leisure Services - Deferred income from loan	(101.0)	-	(4.8)		(105.8)	
Other minor variances	(9.9)	11.7	(0.1)		1.7	(321.2)
Operational Functions and Communities						
Staff costs (including agency and overtime)	(8.7)	20.2	(112.1)		(100.6)	
Street sweep running costs	5.0	(5.4)	(25.3)		(25.7)	
Garden Waste Income Less Costs	(3.3)	5.8	2.8		5.3	
Extra Costs within Refuse	(52.2)	(26.2)	51.4		(27.0)	
Markets Income & Running expenses	-	(12.3)	(1.6)		(13.9)	
Trade Waste & Bulks Net income	26.0	26.0	(0.3)		51.7	
Fuel, Vehicle Maint and Hire	(7.3)	(68.7)	(43.5)		(119.5)	
Communities (Parks and Cemeteries)						
Parks & Open Spaces	9.7	(1.8)	(12.5)		(4.6)	
Cemeteries Net income	-	(0.7)	37.0		36.3	
Other minor variances	(3.6)	(5.2)	6.6		(2.2)	(200.2)
PPU, Env Hlth, Licensing and Housing						
Staff costs - net all areas	10.8	43.8	7.5		62.1	
Environmental Health						
Environmental Health administration expenses	2.4	(5.0)	10.4		7.8	
Environmental Health Fixed Penalty Notice Inc Adverse	(12.0)	3.2	19.1		10.3	
Licensing & Enforcement						
Hackney income	(2.7)	2.9	1.3		1.5	
Private hire income	(5.7)	(3.3)	(0.7)		(9.7)	
Other Licensing income/costs	(4.4)	(4.1)	6.7		(1.8)	
Housing						
Empty Homes	-	(58.0)	(25.0)		(83.0)	
Strategic Housing, Housing Options and Private Ren.	10.1	(17.4)	(4.7)		(12.0)	
Housing - Extra Agency Costs	-	(18.6)	18.6		-	
Other minor variances	11.6	(15.0)	(3.5)		(6.9)	(31.7)
Economic Development Directorate						
Planning Services						
Staff costs (net of grant & fee income) - net all areas	55.0	4.2	7.4		66.6	
Planning Application Fee Income	75.7	(6.2)	(10.0)		59.5	
Planning Consultancy Professional fees	(60.6)	(11.8)	2.6		(69.8)	
Advice / consulting on Planning Applications	-	18.5	-		18.5	
Planning Pre-apps	(22.4)	-	-		(22.4)	
Building Control Services						
Building Control Fee Income	19.8	2.0	(2.1)		19.7	
Regeneration						
Economic development admin costs and Markets	(2.7)	(65.7)	(3.6)		(72.0)	
Childrens Partnership Board Grant income	1.1	4.9	54.6		60.6	
Other Property Running costs	21.1	-	(28.8)		(7.7)	
Spinning Point bus station	(8.7)	-	-		(8.7)	
Estates Income (Excluding Town Hall, Futures Park)	11.4	(2.5)	(28.5)		(19.6)	
Forward Planning - Local Plan	-	(66.5)	-		(66.5)	
Futures Park Plot 1 - deferred income	-	-	(30.0)		(30.0)	
Insurance & Service Charge - Futures Park plot 5	28.1	(60.0)	-		(31.9)	
Business Centre rentals	2.9	-	-		2.9	
Other minor variances	5.3	(18.7)	(7.1)		(20.5)	(121.3)
Corporate Management Directorate						
Corporate Management						
Staff costs - net all areas	96.7	10.4	5.6		112.7	
Use of Corp Contingency - Ribble Rivers grant	-	-	35.0		35.0	
Subscription movement	-	-	(15.0)		(15.0)	
Legal Services						
Legal income	(3.4)	0.9	5.4		2.9	
Democratic Services and Member costs	3.7	1.1	1.7		6.5	
Local Land Charges						
Land Charges income	(3.2)	(1.6)	3.6		(1.2)	
Financial Services						
Internal and External Audit - Finance	3.2	7.5	32.5		43.2	
Bank Charges	(17.0)	(1.7)	0.7		(18.0)	
People and Policy						
People and Policy administration costs	(12.5)	(3.4)	(11.0)		(26.9)	
Other minor variances	2.0	18.1	3.8		23.9	
Non-Distributed Costs						
Original staff savings target (actuals now above)	(200.0)	-	-		(200.0)	
Historical pension commitments	17.9	-	-		17.9	
Loss of fees and income re Covid grant from MHCLG	50.0	(50.0)	-		-	
Other minor variances	-	-	(0.5)		(0.5)	
Capital Financing and Interest						
MRP Re-profile	121.7	-	66.8		188.5	
Interest	(9.6)	0.9	0.6		(8.1)	
Other minor variances	(3.0)	1.5	2.5		1.0	161.9
Favourable/(adverse) variance	-192.2	-270.4	-49.9	0.0	-512.5	-512.5

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Communities Directorate

Period 9 (Dec)

Customer Services & ICT	2021/22 Org Budget £000	2021/22 Forecast £000	2021/22 Variance (Adv)/Fav £000	Variance last reported £000	Change in Qtr3 (Adv)/Fav £000
Customer Services					
Benefits Administration	(234.3)	(289.2)	54.9	62.8	(8.0)
Benefits Granted	(23.7)	5.0	(28.8)	(27.4)	(1.4)
Local Tax Collection	(378.6)	(157.8)	(220.8)	(215.3)	(5.5)
Revenues & Benefits Partnership	1,046.7	1,046.7	-	14.6	(14.6)
Strategic Functions					
Management and Support	75.0	76.4	(1.4)	(0.8)	(0.6)
Service Assurance Team	128.5	140.5	(12.0)	(7.2)	(4.8)
Central Telephones	5.4	8.1	(2.7)	(0.2)	(2.5)
Central Printing	3.9	(2.3)	6.1	2.9	3.2
ICT Support	712.1	703.4	8.7	38.2	(29.5)
Leisure Services	70.5	195.8	(125.3)	(120.5)	(4.8)
Total	1,405.4	1,726.6	(321.2)	(252.8)	(68.4)

Key changes made during the period to the full year forecast	Variance Bfwd £000	Variance this Qtr £000	Full-Yr Forecast £000
Benefits Admin			
Staff	8.2	1.0	9.2
Housing Benefit administration grant	15.3	-	15.3
Housing Benefit Subsidy (net grant position)	(27.6)	-	(27.6)
Housing Benefit External Audit fee	(13.0)	-	(13.0)
Housing Benefit Local Council Tax support grant	42.8	-	42.8
Housing Benefit bailiff fees	18.3	-	18.3
Benefits Granted			
Revenues & Benefits administration contract	14.6	(14.6)	-
Local Tax Collection			
CTax & BRates - court costs (net of bad debt provision)	(20.0)		(20.0)
Revenues & Benefits Partnership			
Business Rates - net costs of collection/court cost income	(220.8)	(15.5)	(236.3)
Renewable Energy Business Rates income	183.0		183.0
Business Rates transfer to Retained Business Rates Reserve	(2,415.0)		(2,415.0)
Business Rates S31 Grants	2,232.0		2,232.0
Service Assurance Team			
SAT Team Grants received (incl Universal Credit)	77.1		77.1
SAT Team additional costs (incl Universal Credit) funded by grants	(77.1)		(77.1)
ICT Support			
Central IT Costs	28.3	(31.7)	(3.4)
Switchboard internet telephony costs	(0.1)	(2.5)	(2.6)
Leisure Services			
Leisure Services - Deferred income from loan repayments where income originally assumed	(101.0)	(4.8)	(105.8)
Other minor variances	2.2	(0.2)	2.0
TOTAL	(252.8)	(68.3)	(321.1)

colour indicates related items

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Customer Service & ICT Highlight Report – Q3 (end December 2021)

Historic Issues

- None.

Current Quarter's Issues

At Q3 the forecast variance is £321.2k adverse, an adverse movement of £68.3k from Q2, the main changes being: -

- A favourable staffing movement of £1k in the quarter which has increased to a favourable forecast outturn estimate of £9.2k. This is due to costs of an ICT assistant being at a lower scale point than previously forecast.
- Housing Benefit Audit costs are anticipated to exceed budget by £13k based on information received from the Council's External Auditor. The Housing Benefit audit is outside the scope of the 'core' audit work, which is subject to fee approval via Public Sector Appointments (PSAA) Ltd; Housing Benefit audit work is subject to separate agreement. No movement from Q2.
- In terms of business rates, the renewable energy income of £183k and budgeted S31 grants will be transferred into the Retained Business Rates Earmarked Reserve as per Q2 report.
- At the end of Q3 the total value of court costs raised is £20k short of where we anticipated. Following last year's temporary hold on pursuing both NNDR and Council Tax debt, recovery through the courts has now re-commenced, however a budget shortfall is anticipated and has been forecasted to be one third of budgeted cost at £6k in line with the anticipated reduction in income from court fees.
- The Service Assurance Team has received new burdens and Universal Credit introduction grants of £80k so far, but officers are currently assuming that all of these grants will be used to fund additional work of software changes or administration either in 2021/22 or the beginning of 2022/23, so the net variance being predicted is £nil. The Service Assurance Team have also incurred legal fees of £11k outside of the budget in relation to Analyse Local for their 'Rate Finder' service which identifies potential, additional business rates for collection eg due to premises expansion. Where proven, additional revenue will flow to the Collection Fund.
- The Revenues and Benefits administration contract costs are projecting a budget neutral position, this is due to future costs being uncertain and the prudent principle being applied so that forecast outturn equals budget, however actuals are below this level as at end of Q3.
- There has been a £4k adverse variance on the Service Assurance Team due to unavoidable professional fees being incurred relating to the resolution of rateable value disputes.
- Deferred income from loan repayments relating to leisure services are as previously reported – being an adverse variance of £101k relative to original budget assumptions. Also in leisure is an overspend in the quarter on computer equipment amounting to £10k.
- Central IT are forecasting an overspend due to two main reasons;
 1. Firstly, there has been an additional spend of £5k on costs related to RLT which are borne by the Council, and £6k on firewall costs.
 2. There has been an £11k adverse movement on computer software annual licences. This is due to a full prepayment review being carried out in Q3. This variance follows a review of provisions and reserves and is after any such funding provisions have been applied. The £11k comprises a mix of lower value unforeseen cost increases on hosting fees and licences.

Future Issues

The loan deferral relating to leisure services has been agreed for a period of two years, with loan repayments to recommence in 2022/23. At this time the MTFS assumes income receipts for the same in 2021/22. The MTFS will be updated to reflect extensions

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Communities Directorate

Period 9 (Dec)

Operations & Communities	2021/22 Org Budget £000	2021/22 Forecast £000	2021/22 Variance (Adv)/Fav £000	Variance last reported £000	Change in Qtr 3 (Adv)/Fav £000
Operational Functions					
Operations Admin & Vehicle Maintenance	340.6	387.9	(47.3)	(60.2)	12.9
Refuse & Recycling	1,129.5	1,375.7	(246.2)	(97.0)	(149.3)
Street Sweeping	385.3	385.0	0.2	21.2	(21.0)
Markets	(22.5)	(8.0)	(14.5)	(12.9)	(1.6)
Communities					
Parks & Open Spaces	905.1	831.9	73.1	45.0	28.1
Cemeteries	(227.2)	(261.8)	34.6	1.1	33.5
Total	2,510.6	2,710.8	(200.2)	(102.7)	(97.4)

Key changes made during the period to the full year forecast	Variance Bfwd £000	Variance this Qtr £000	Full-Yr Forecast £000
Operations Admin & Vehicle Maintenance			
Operations Efficiency Saving on Henrietta Street	(53.4)	(2.6)	(56.0)
Fleet Management Vacancy and Agency	2.8	0.8	3.6
Henrietta Street	(4.0)	(2.1)	(6.1)
Vehicle Maintenance (including tyres/ parts)	(22.2)	8.9	(13.3)
Fleet Running Costs MOTs	(3.7)	(14.4)	(18.1)
Fleet - extra fuel costs	(56.0)	(26.0)	(82.0)
Refuse & Recycling			
Refuse Salaries and Agency	(35.3)	(83.4)	(118.7)
General Garden Waste Expenditure	(4.1)	-	(4.1)
Garden Waste income	9.1	0.3	9.4
Bin Repairs and Litter Bins	(15.0)	(10.0)	(25.0)
Refuse purchase of tools and equipment and protective clothing	(2.0)	-	(2.0)
Trade Waste - Tipping Fees	(25.0)	23.0	(2.0)
Trade Waste - income	49.3	4.4	53.7
Street Sweeping			
Street Sweeping Salaries	51.5	(33.4)	18.1
Street Sweeping Hire of Vehicle	(31.0)	-	(31.0)
Street Sweep Insurance Settlements	13.5	-	13.5
Weed Killing	(6.0)	-	(6.0)
Street Sweep Litter Bins	(2.2)	-	(2.2)
Markets			
Market Income down	(12.3)	(1.6)	(13.9)
Parks & Open Spaces			
Parks Salary Variances (Including temporary gardeners)	67.7	20.0	87.7
Parks Extra Costs	(16.1)	(2.3)	(18.4)
Parks & Open Spaces S106	13.8	-	13.8
Cemeteries			
Cemeteries Repairs	(5.0)	(0.1)	(5.1)
Cemetery Income & Internment Fees	4.3	37.1	41.4
Other Variances			
Overtime Budgets (net all areas)	(21.8)	(13.5)	(35.3)
Other Variances	0.4	(2.6)	(2.2)
TOTAL	(102.7)	(97.5)	(200.2)

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Operations Highlight Report – Q3 (end of December 2021)

Historic Issues The approved vehicle replacement plan is in progress for 21/22. Maintenance and hire costs are forecast to be met from within existing budget provision. However, due to two vehicles within Street Sweep being damaged, further Hire Costs will be sustained until at least October 2021.

Current Quarter Issues: At the end of Q3, an adverse variance of £200.1k is forecast to the year-end for Operations and Communities, this is an increase of £97k since Q2. The overspend is the result of additional overtime of £35.3k and agency Costs are overspent by £161.4k. There has been an agreement to increase the supervisory provision within Refuse on permanent basis along with an Education Officer that has now been added to the budgeted substantive base from 22-23 onwards.

- At Q1, Garden Waste services had achieved the income budget target and has generated an estimated £9k of extra income.
- Within Refuse and Recycling, there has been additional pressure associated with Agency staff, which will be closely monitored throughout 21-22. The Refuse team are dealing with these pressures, much of which were associated with COVID19.
- Also within Refuse and Recycling, the Trade Waste Sector has made a favourable contribution to Q3 with agreements being put in place that have exceeded the income targets by £52k net across the different options available to traders.
- It is estimated that costs associated with the refurbishment and replacement of wheeled Bins will exceed the revenue budget by £25k. Additional costs incurred are linked to the supply of extra bins for newly built houses in the borough. There has also been extra Garden Waste Expenditure £4.2k.
- Within Street Sweep, there have been two vehicles damaged with net insurance settlements of £13.5k having been received. These vehicles were earmarked for replacement later in the year but in the interim, hire costs for 30 weeks' cover is causing a £27k pressure on the vehicle budget. Other pressures within Street Sweep include the Weed Killing and Caretaker Whitworth budget in the sum of £19.4k. Forecast expenditure for these budget lines is estimated at £25k, causing an adverse variance of c£6k.
- Vehicle Maintenance costs are being carefully monitored to try to avoid any overspend at the year-end. Fuel costs have risen dramatically over the summer and autumn causing the forecast out-turns to be overspent by a prudent £92k if the trend continues.
- Markets for Bacup and Haslingden have not achieved budget income costing £14k.
- Cemeteries income is forecast to over achieve budget by an estimate of £36k.
- Extra costs for the purchase of tools and equipment £11k, Protective Clothing £2.6k and External Contracts on Parks for £4k.

Futures Issues

- Recycling Arrangements – RBC are currently in the process of creating the facility to transfer recycling material at the main operating depot, which will allow these to be passed into the LCC network. This will ensure that the Council eliminates the risk of high disposal costs within volatile markets. However, due to Covid19 there have been delays with the project. There are likely to be some additional costs once the facility begins operating in respect of adequately staffing it. Costs from other areas will disappear and savings will be made – so costs will change and be allocated to different areas.
- Operations are also working with LCC to identify potential sites to develop a transfer station. This will assist in driving through efficiencies in the refuse collection operation.
- Commercial Waste – Staff are now in place and achieving Council targets at the end of Quarter 3. The increase in the number of customers will lead to the requirement of additional stock of commercial waste/recycling bins, but this will be recovered from additional revenue income.
- Alternative fuel – The Council is currently trialling the use of alternative fuel (HVO – Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) in a number vehicle's as part of the commitment to reduce CO2 emissions. Subject to performance and impact on service delivery, an assessment of the cost/benefits will be taken at a future date regarding larger scale transfer to alternative fuel.

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Communities Directorate

Period 9 (Dec)

Public Protection & Housing	2021/22 Org Budget £000	2021/22 Forecast £000	2021/22 Variance (Adv)/Fav £000	Variance last reported £000	Change in Qtr 3 (Adv)/Fav £000
Public Protection Unit	155.5	149.3	6.2	(1.7)	7.9
Environmental Health	207.6	194.4	13.2	(6.0)	19.1
Licensing & Enforcement	115.4	125.9	(10.4)	(18.6)	8.2
Strategic Housing					
Housing Strategy	56.6	39.9	16.7	6.7	10.0
Private Sector Housing Renewals	(0.7)	(27.3)	26.6	17.3	9.3
Homelessness	141.5	142.4	(0.9)	(1.2)	0.2
Empty Homes Scheme	300.0	383.0	(83.0)	(58.0)	(25.0)
Total	975.9	1,007.6	(31.7)	(61.4)	29.7

Key changes made during the period to the full year forecast	Variance Bfwd £000	Variance this Qtr £000	Full-Yr £000
Environmental Health			
Environmental Health - staffing and consultant	5.4	-	5.4
Housing Strategy - staffing	25.3	(3.9)	21.4
Licensing & Enforcement			
Licensing & Enforcement - staffing	(1.3)	(0.5)	(1.8)
Computer Purchase & Software costs for Licensing	4.6	0.3	4.9
Taxi misc income	(3.6)	4.7	1.1
Animal Licensing income	(9.5)	1.7	(7.8)
Housing Strategy			
Other Variances EH Income Contributions and Direct Cost Savings	(2.6)	0.1	(2.5)
EH Fixed Penalty Notice Income Adverse	(8.8)	19.1	10.3
Extra Income on Administration Costs	(7.6)	0.2	(7.4)
Return of Bond Payments	(1.0)	-	(1.0)
Extra Income from Funeral Contributions	1.3	-	1.3
Dog Warden Service Saving offset against PPU Cost	(1.7)	7.9	6.2
Strategic Housing Direct Costs		(4.7)	(4.7)
Housing - Extra Agency Costs	(18.6)	18.6	-
Private Hire income & expenditure	(9.0)	(0.7)	(9.7)
Hackney income & expenditure	0.2	1.3	1.5
Private Sector Housing Renewals			
Private Sector Renewals - Staffing	17.7	11.9	29.6
Homelessness			
Homelessness - staffing	7.5	-	7.5
Empty Homes Scheme			
Empty Homes Scheme	(58.0)	(25.0)	(83.0)
Other Variances	(1.7)	(1.3)	(3.0)
TOTAL	(61.4)	29.7	(31.8)

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Public Protection and Housing Highlight Report – Q3 (end Dec 2021)

Historic Issues

- Nothing reported

Current Quarter Issues

At the end of Q3 the Public Protection Unit and Housing Services budgets are projecting an adverse variance of £31.7k, with the main movements being:

- The vacancy in Housing Strategy for the Strategic Housing Manager post has now been filled. A forecast savings of £21.4k has been generated based on no occupancy for the first half of the year. Environmental Health has generated savings of £5.4k on staffing with appointments being made at spinal column points below those assumed in the budget estimates.
- Other Staffing savings include Private Sector Renewal £29.8k and Homelessness Team £7.5k.
- Housing have used Agency professionals to cover vacancies whilst the new team has been recruited to, incurring £18.6k of costs that have now been transferred to COVID as the work done in the team was centred around preventing homelessness during the lock down and ad hoc restrictions that were in place during the year.
- Within the Housing Options Team – there is currently a shortfall on recovery of administration costs in the sum of £5k
- Environmental Health have savings against direct costs totalling £10.2k
- Within Environmental Health, the Fixed Penalty Notice income target will not be achieved as the contract arrangements are not complete for 21-22 leaving a shortfall of £15k. However, during the year a number of other contributions have been made £6.9k
- Additional Flexible Homelessness Grant of £101k has been received into the Housing Options account to support Homelessness activity. This additional funding will be spent on service delivery.
- Within PPU the Dog Warden Services have savings of £6.1k forecasted to the year end.
- During the second quarter empty homes have exceeded the budget with an adverse forecast out-turn of £83k. This is attributable to Council Tax liabilities arising from non-tenanted properties, estimated provision for administrative support of the Project Officer and future legal costs to support defence of the Empty Homes legal claim.
- **Licensing:**
- The Licensing Salary costs are showing an adverse variance of £1.8k.
- The net Taxi Licencing budget is forecasting an adverse variance of £2.2k. This is predominantly due to reduced income levels.
- Animal Licensing income is projected to forecast an adverse variance of £7.8k.

Future Issues

Taxi Licensing – subject to approval – intention to waive fee for electric vehicles for two years. Not anticipated to impact materially on current budgets as currently few electric vehicles

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Economic Development Directorate

Period 9 (Dec)

Economic Development & Regeneration Services	2021/22 Org Budget £000	2021/22 Forecast £000	2021/22 Variance (Adv)/Fav £000	Variance last reported £000	Change in Qtr 3 (Adv)/Fav £000
Planning					
Development Control	143.0	79.2	63.7	60.8	2.9
Forward Planning	147.3	219.7	(72.4)	(69.8)	(2.5)
Building Control					
Building Control - Fee Earning Account	(43.2)	(61.4)	18.2	20.9	(2.7)
Building Control - Statutory Function	31.7	31.2	0.6	0.0	0.6
Building Control - Street Signs	4.0	(3.3)	7.3	6.6	0.7
Regeneration					
Regeneration Mangement	139.1	78.6	60.4	6.1	54.4
Economic Regeneration and Rawtenstall Market	70.5	142.5	(72.0)	(68.4)	(3.5)
Whitaker Park Museum	71.5	72.9	(1.4)	0.0	(1.4)
Tourisms	40.0	40.0	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)
Area Forums	15.0	15.0	-	-	-
Property Services & Facilities Management					
Property Services Team	98.0	78.2	19.8	19.1	0.7
Corporate Estates	(345.2)	(386.1)	40.9	103.6	(62.7)
Non Domestic Estates	(117.3)	(125.3)	8.0	9.3	(1.3)
Office Accommodation	32.4	29.3	3.1	7.6	(4.5)
Operational Properties	353.7	386.8	(33.1)	(9.8)	(23.3)
Leisure Properties	53.0	122.5	(69.5)	(67.6)	(2.0)
Bus Shelters	57.2	145.0	(87.8)	(86.8)	(1.0)
Business Centre	133.7	140.9	(7.2)	(7.5)	0.3
Total	884.3	1,005.6	(121.3)	(75.9)	(45.5)

Key changes made during the period to the full year forecast	Variance Bfwd £000	Variance this Qtr £000	Full-Yr £000
Planning			
Planning / Forward Planning staffing	145.4	-	145.4
Planning/Forward Planning Consultancy fees/ Legal fees	(145.7)	2.6	(143.1)
Planning Application Fee Income (excluding additional 20% broken housing market)	69.5	(10.0)	59.5
Pre-App Income	(22.4)	-	(22.4)
Advice / consulting on Planning Applications	18.5	-	18.5
Forward Planning - Local Plan	(66.5)	-	(66.5)
Building Control			
Building Control staffing	3.6	-	3.6
Building Control Fees	21.8	(2.1)	19.7
Regeneration Mangement			
Communities vacancy saving and transferred costs to COMF for COVID related activities	6.0	54.4	60.4
Economic Regeneration and Rawtenstall Market			
Economic development admin costs & reduced market income	(68.4)	(3.6)	(72.0)
Property Services Team			
Property Services staffing	(5.4)	-	(5.4)
Pool Car, CCTV, Emergency Planning	1.5	-	1.5
Corporate Estates			
Non Domestic Estates			
All other Estates income; Industrial units	(0.8)	(58.5)	(59.3)
Operational Properties			
Property Running Costs: Repairs & Maintenance	0.3	(12.7)	(12.4)
Electricity, Gas & Water	(15.9)	(15.6)	(31.5)
NNDR - excluding Spinning Point bus station	21.5	(0.5)	21.0
Leisure Properties			
Bus Station / Shelters			
Spinning Point Bus Station running costs	(8.7)	-	(8.7)
Business Centre			
Business Centre rentals	2.9	-	2.9
Business Centre cleaning costs	(7.0)	(1.5)	(8.5)
Business Miscellaneous savings	5.8	(3.1)	2.7
Property Insurance Premiums	(31.9)	-	(31.9)
Other Miscellaneous Variances	-	5.1	5.1
TOTAL	(75.8)	(45.5)	(121.3)

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Economic Development & Regeneration Highlight Report – Q3 (end Dec 2021)

Historic Issues

- None

Current Quarter Issues

Economic Development, Communities and Regeneration are currently forecasting an adverse variance of £12.9k, which is broken down as detailed below: -

- Staff Costs in ED & Regeneration are within budget. There have been some extra costs incurred for recruitment of £3.9k, and other, smaller miscellaneous items totalling £3.9k.
- The running of Rawtenstall Market has changed ownership to Play Ltd and it has been agreed that year one will be subsidised by the Council. Thus, the budgeted income in 21-22 will be Nil – subsidy needed net of recharges will be £62.5k. The recharges to Play Ltd will be for the Utilities which will be done quarterly. With ED there will also be some reserves matched to Staffing Costs for one of the Staff up to May 21. Note Electricity Costs for RBC for the Market are overspent by £1.2k.
- Communities have net savings of £6.9k as a result of the Manager vacancy during the Year. Communities currently have an extra member of staff assisting with the day to day operations for community issues. There has now been costs recharged to Rossendale Leisure Trust for Staff working on the Together Active Futures Fund Programme £7k. We have also transferred cost for activities related to COVID £47k.

Property Services and Facilities Management is currently showing an adverse variance of £128.3k.

- Salary costs are showing an adverse variance of £5.4k.
- Facilities running costs are showing an adverse variance of £31.5k Forecast has moved adversely for remainder of year due to fuel price increases
- The Estates income is showing an overall adverse variance of £59.3k New income target budgets are not looking likely to be achieved this financial year
- Spinning point bus station is running at a cost of £8.7k, this is due to the delayed start to the anticipated rental income from the retail units.
- Property Services proportion of insurance premiums is showing an overspend of £31.9k.

Planning & Building Control are showing an adverse variance of £16.2k

- Planning and Building Control staffing costs are showing a favourable variance of £149k, however this is offset by the consultancy costs (used for conservation cases and complicated cases, staff vacancies) which are projected to be £143k adverse
- Planning / Building Control income is projected to show an over achievement of £79.2k
- Pre-application fees have an income target of £31.6k for 21/22. At Q2 the actual income received is £8.4k. Consequently an under achievement of income estimated at £22.4k is projected
- Planning have received planning advice income (separate to Pre-App) of £20k to date
- The Local Plan is in the final year; due to the Inspectorate costs and additional/improved projects. The final cost is projected over by £66.5k (after the use of reserves)

Future Issues

- Officers are reviewing the Whittaker Museum utilities budget overspend, working with the museum to draw up a commercial lease and separate funding agreement.

The Local Plan Inspectorate instructed RBC to commission further studies after the inspection in September 2020. The Inspectorate costs for 2021/22 are £97k and further studies costing £27k. Consideration will need to be given to funding these costs as the anticipated figure exceeds the sums available in the Planning Reserve. The projected over spend is £66k

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Corporate Services Directorate

Period 9 (Dec)

Corporate Management	2021/22 Org Budget £000	2021/221 Forecast £000	2021/22 Variance (Adv)/Fav £000	Variance last reported £000	Change in Qtr 3 (Adv)/Fav £000
Corporate Management					
Executive Office	350.5	333.1	17.4	11.6	5.8
Corporate Contingency	50.0	15.0	35.0	-	35.0
Exec Support & Corporate Subscriptions	64.9	43.1	21.9	30.3	(8.5)
Community Safety			-	-	-
Legal Services	172.5	155.3	17.2	7.5	9.6
Land Charges	(19.8)	(18.0)	(1.7)	(5.9)	4.2
Democratic Services					-
Electoral Registration	77.6	73.3	4.3	4.3	-
Elections	79.4	75.1	4.3	4.2	0.2
Democratic Support	371.6	339.2	32.4	27.8	4.6
Mayoralty & Civic Events	53.5	57.2	(3.7)	(2.0)	(1.8)
Town Twinning	2.5	2.5	-	0.0	(0.0)
Financial Services					-
Treasury Management	81.0	92.2	(11.2)	(9.0)	(2.2)
Insurance, Risk & Audit Fees	64.7	30.6	34.1	(1.3)	35.4
Financial Services Team	407.5	425.2	(17.7)	(9.5)	(8.1)
People & Policy					-
Human Resources	406.9	417.9	(11.0)	9.5	(20.5)
Corporate Support	230.6	192.7	37.8	29.3	8.6
Publicity	4.0	-	4.0	4.0	-
Total	2,397.4	2,234.3	163.1	100.8	62.3

Key changes made during the period to the full year forecast	Variance Bfwd £000	Variance this Qtr £000	Full-Yr £000
Executive Office			
Salary variances	41.3	7.1	48.4
Subscriptions movement	-	(14.7)	(14.7)
Corporate Contingency			
Use of contingency for grant support to Ribble Rivers Trust	-	35.0	35.0
Legal Services			
Salary variances	5.4	5.6	11.0
Professional fees / Legal books	5.3	(1.4)	3.9
Legal income	(2.5)	5.4	2.9
Land Charges			
Salary variances	(4.8)	-	(4.8)
Land Charges Income	(4.8)	3.6	(1.2)
Electoral Registration			
Democratic Support			
Democratic services salary variances	24.0	-	24.0
Mayoralty & Civic Events			
Salary variances - mayoralty	1.2	-	1.2
Salary variances - elections	8.6	-	8.6
Members savings	0.5	1.7	2.2
Democratic & Mayoralty savings	4.3	1.2	5.5
Financial Services Team			
Salary variances - Accountants	(9.5)	(1.0)	(10.5)
Salary variances - Exchequer	(1.0)	(6.0)	(7.0)
External Audit - Accountancy	12.0	(3.0)	9.0
Internal Audit - LCC	(1.4)	35.5	34.1
Bank Charges	(18.7)	0.7	(18.0)
Human Resources			
Salary variances	31.8	(8.0)	23.8
People and Policy administration costs	(15.9)	(11.0)	(26.9)
Corporate Support			
Salary variances	26.5	8.0	34.5
Publicity			
Other Misc under / (over) spends - revised NI forecast/correction to Q1	(1.5)	3.6	2.1
TOTAL	100.8	62.3	163.1

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Corporate Management Highlight Report – Q3 (end Dec 2021)

Historic Issues

- None

Current Quarter Issues

The Corporate Management outturn is now showing an under-spend at £162.8k favourable, the main movements being: -

- Staff changes are £129.2k favourable, noting a review of the Q1 position and reassessment of National Insurance outturn forecasts:
 - Corporate Management - saving of £48k
 - Legal Services – are showing a saving of £11k
 - Democratic Services – Saving of £25k, this forms part of the February 2021 efficiency savings plan
 - Elections are showing a saving of £8.6k due to Elections assistant taking phased retirement
 - Financial Services – adverse £17k linked to staffing appointments at higher than original budget assumptions, but does not yet reflect review of core staff time eligible for funding from Covid grant sums eg Track and Trace Administration grant
 - People & Policy - following a recent restructure the part-year reductions have led to £58k saving as included in the efficiency target set for the year
- Democratic Services are showing a slight saving of £4.6k.
- Local Land Charges income is showing an adverse variance of £1.2k. The position has improved by £3.6k from Q2. This has been achieved through appointment of a temporary Land Charges Officer, funded from Covid grant monies.
- There is a favourable variance against external Audit fees of £12k on receipt of a share of a national rebate from Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA).
- Bank Charges due to the increase in volume of payments have led to adverse variance of £40k.

Futures Issues

- None

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Corporate Services Directorate

Period 9 (Dec)

Non-Distributed Costs & Capital Financing	2021/22 Org Budget £000	2021/22 Forecast £000	2021/22 Variance (Adv)/Fav £000	Variance last reported £000	Change in Qtr 3 (Adv)/Fav £000
Non Distributed Costs					
Employee & Pension Costs	52.8	237.4	(184.6)	(184.6)	0.0
Other Non-distributed Costs	19.5	17.4	2.1	0.0	2.1
Capital Financing					
Minimum Revenue Provision	534.7	346.2	188.5	121.7	66.8
Interest (net)	122.0	129.2	(7.2)	(7.7)	0.6
Total	729.0	730.2	(1.2)	(70.6)	69.4

Key changes made during the period to the full year forecast	Variance Bfwd £000	Variance this Qtr £000	Full-Yr Forecast £000
Employee & Pension Costs			
Vacancy control savings target - net	(200.0)	-	(200.0)
Historical pension costs	17.9	-	17.9
Other minor variances	-	(0.5)	(0.5)
Capital Financing			
MRP Re-profile	121.7	66.8	188.5
Interest expenditure/income from bank accounts	(8.7)	0.6	(8.1)
Other minor variances	(1.5)	2.5	1.0
TOTAL	(70.6)	69.4	(1.2)

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Historic Issues

- Savings on the pension costs fall into two areas; savings on historical pension costs as former employees pass away and the advance payment of pension costs at a discount, which reduce Council costs. The Q3 projection is a £17.9k favourable variance.

Current Quarter Issues

This Q3 outturn is forecasting a net favourable variance of £1.2k with the main movements being: -

- The original budgeted staff savings target was £200k. Total savings in staff costs forecast at Q3 to year-end are now £166.5k. Added to this is around £25k of savings from employees purchasing additional leave. The significant movement from Q2 relates to increased overtime and agency labour costs as included in the variation commentary for Operations. This gives an overall net adverse variance in staff costs of £34k. This position is currently realised across services with the target saving held in Non-Distributed Costs (NDC). The net variance presented in NDC is thus offset by performance in services, and is contained within the overall forecast budget outturn.

Forecast Year End Staffing Variances	Q1*	Cum Q2	Cum Q3
Customer Services	6.2	8.2	9.2
Operations	(8.7)	11.5	(100.6)
Public Protection	10.8	54.6	62.1
Economic Development	55.0	59.2	66.6
Corporate Management	44.5	41.3	48.4
Legal & Democratic	30.9	34.4	40.0
Financial Services	10.5	(10.5)	(17.5)
People & Policy*	10.7	58.3	58.3
Savings in staff costs	159.9	257.0	166.5
Additional Leave	25.0	25.0	25.0
Total staff savings	184.9	282.0	191.5
Original savings target	(225.0)	(225.0)	(225.0)
Staff Variance	(40.1)	57.0	(33.5)

*NB The Q1 position was understated owing to exclusion of National Insurance implications but is shown above as originally reported. This has been adjusted in the cumulative position and forecast outturn projections.

- Interest income as expected was below the budget by c£8k. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic banking institutions cut the interest rates from March 2020 and despite the recent rise (December 2021), and suggestions at the time of this report that further increases may lie ahead, there is no change to forecast income levels. In addition, the level of uncertainty around income collection has prompted officers to keep cash flow mainly with instant accounts throughout the year.
- The provision for doubtful debt as at 1 April 2021 was £380k. There is currently no proposal to increase the level of cover but this will remain under review throughout the year.
- Projected savings on MRP: £188.5k, up from £121.7k reported at Q2 as financing the 20/21 Capital outturn is concluded.

Future Issues

None

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Earmarked Reserves

Earmarked Reserves (cash-backed items only)	Employment & Transport Reserve	Director Invest Reserve	Local Business Rates Retention Reserve	Transitional Budgetary Support	Planning Reserve	Response & Recovery Reserve
	AN060103	AN060123	AN060144	AN060129	AN060145	AN06
Balance at 01/04/2021	387.7	74.0	6,228.9	1,789.5	112.8	1,389.2
Funds Received 2021/22						
Collection Fund - S31 Grants (NNDR1)			1,655.0			
Collection Fund - Renewable Energy (NNDR1)			183.0			
New Homes Bonus				213.0		
Lower Tier Services Grant				93.0		
Other Revenue income received						1,471.0
Total Funds Available	387.7	74.0	8,066.9	2,095.5	112.8	2,860.2
2021/22 Published Budget Utilisation						
Retained Business Rates						
New Homes Bonus				(213.0)		
Lower Tier Services Grant				(93.0)		
General budget support			(606.0)			
2021/22 Other Utilisation Plans						
Transfers between Reserves	36.5		(1,655.0)	1,618.5		
Cockerill Square				(40.0)		
Legal fees for Ski Slope						
Budget support - Covid related costs						(2,316.2)
Support Forward Plan					(92.8)	
City Vally Link Business Case				(16.7)		
Economic Development Projects	(424.2)					
Legionella Risk Assessment						
Living Well, Living Better Project						
Leisure Services						
Haslingden Task Force						
Homelessness Projects						
Future Leisure and Wellbeing Options KKP						
Property-related projects						
Total Utilisation Commitment	(387.7)	0.0	(2,261.0)	1,255.8	(92.8)	(2,316.2)
Reserve Estimates 31/3/2022	(0.0)	74.0	5,805.9	3,351.3	20.0	544.0
Future Contributions/Utilisation Plans						
2022/23 Plans						
Original MTFS Assumption 21/22	0.0		(1,276.0)	(401.0)		(52.2)
Rosendale Works yr1 of 2				(30.0)		
2022/23 Plans	0.0	0.0	(1,276.0)	(431.0)	0.0	(52.2)
Original MTFS Assumption 21/22	0.0		(1,276.0)	(404.0)		
Rosendale Works yr2 of 2				(22.5)		
Original MTFS Assumption 21/22	0.0	0.0	(1,276.0)	(426.5)	0.0	0.0
2024/25 Plans	0.0		(1,211.0)	(400.0)		
2025/26 Plans						
Potential Reserve Balances	(0.0)	74.0	2,042.9	2,093.8	20.0	491.8

Employment & Transport Reserve usage	2018/19 £k	2019/20 £k	2020/21 £k	2021/22 £k
Whitaker HLF Match Funding (Full Council July 2018 £190k less above 70k)		6.3	149.5	34.2
Rosendale Works- Employability - April 2018	25.0	14.5	4.6	6.0
Rosendale Works- Employability - April 2020 -22	0.0	0.0	30.0	30.0
Haslingden Town Centre- external funding bid	0.0	0.0		160.0
Bacup Future High Street Project	0.0	49.9	165.4	34.7
Bacup Heritage Action Zone Officer SOD 31/03/19	0.0	0.0	19.4	68.1
Establishment of second Economic Development Officer Town Ctr and Comm Buildings - 18 Month fixed term contract		9.6	31.3	14.0
Plot 1, Plot 5 and Junction Works (Cabinet 27/01/20)		0.0	0.0	75.0
Drawings for Bacup 2020 Heritage Action Zone Match	0.0	3.3	0.0	2.2
To fund from other resources eg Transitional Reserve	0.0	0.0	0.0	(36.5)
Total 2021/22 Projects	1,071.5	815.7	(0.0)	387.7

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Earmarked Reserves (cash-backed items only)	Vehicle Reserve	Leisure Reserve	Rawtenstall Bus Station	Directorate Reserves	General Reserve	Total
	AN060130	AN060118	AN060150	AN060121		
Balance at 01/04/2021	189.1	55.5	517.0	973.6	1,000.0	12,717.4
Funds Received 2020/21						
Collection Fund - S31 Grants						1,655.0
Collection Fund - Renewable Energy						183.0
New Homes Bonus						213.0
Lower Tier Services Grant						93.0
Other Revenue income received				91.6		1,562.6
Total Funds Available	189.1	55.5	517.0	1,065.2	1,000.0	16,424.0
2021/22 Published Budget Utilisation						
Retained Business Rates						0.0
New Homes Bonus						(213.0)
Lower Tier Services Grant						(93.0)
General budget support						(606.0)
2021/22 Other Utilisation Plans						
Transfers between Reserves						0.0
Cockerill Square						(40.0)
Legal fees for Ski Slope		(14.6)				(14.6)
Budget support - Covid related costs						(2,316.2)
Support Forward Plan						(92.8)
City Vally Link Business Case						(16.7)
Economic Development Projects				(21.0)		(445.2)
Legionella Risk Assessment				(26.5)		(26.5)
Living Well, Living Better Project				(13.1)		(13.1)
Leisure Services		(7.8)		0.0		(7.8)
Haslingden Task Force				(37.2)		(37.2)
Homelessness and Communities Projects				(60.0)		(60.0)
Future Leisure and Wellbeing Options KKP		(18.5)		0.0		(18.5)
Property-related projects		(0.9)		(10.9)		(11.8)
Total Utilisation Commitment	0.0	(41.8)	0.0	(168.7)		
Reserve Estimates 31/3/2022	189.1	13.7	517.0	896.5	1,000.0	12,411.6
Future Contributions/Utilisation Plans						
2022/23 Plans						
Original MTFs Assumption 21/22						
Rosendale Works yr1 of 2						
2022/23 Plans	(30.0)			(169.0)		(1,958.2)
Original MTFs Assumption 21/22						
Rosendale Works yr2 of 2						
Original MTFs Assumption 21/22	(35.0)			(108.8)		(3,804.5)
2024/25 Plans				(42.0)		(5,457.5)
2025/26 Plans						
Potential Reserve Balances	124.1	13.7	517.0	576.7	1,000.0	6,954.1

Current issues

As noted on page 2, the adverse variance on the General Fund of £512.5k will require a contribution from the Response and Recovery Reserve to support the budget. This includes utilisation of additional Covid related funding to finance core staff costs, deployed during the pandemic (eg Track and Trace grant administration, contribution to Lateral Flow Tests).

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The Council's share of pre-Covid S31 grant receipts will now be contributed to the Transitional Budgetary Support Reserve (from the Business Rates Retention reserve). This is shown in the Earmarked Reserves Table 1 as a transfer between the respective reserves. In addition there is a transfer from the Transitional Budgetary Support Reserve to the Employment and Transport Reserve to fund approved commitments.

The additional S31 grant receipts received in respect of extension of the Retail, Hospitality, Leisure and Nursery reliefs will be contributed to the Business Rates Retention reserve, and then released equally over the next three years, commencing 2022/23, to fund Collection Fund deficits. This is in accordance with amended legislation to fund the 'exceptional balance' incurred as a result of the Covid pandemic on the Collection Fund ('re-phasing the deficit'). At the time of this report, these sums have not been quantified and are subject to a separate data collection exercise with Government. Consequently, this contribution does not yet feature in the above table.

As above, the Response & Recovery Reserve will continue to be used to receive and release funds as necessary to meet eligible expenditure incurred as a consequence of Covid. As at Q3, the estimated net contribution from the reserve, including bridging the forecast adverse variance of £512.5k, is £2,316k. Details of these commitments are included in the Covid summary on page 38.

Agreed detail of the usage of the Employment & Transport Reserve can be seen in the table on page 22.

Grants Unapplied

Grants Unapplied (* denotes a capital grant)	Disabled Facilities Grants *	Homeless Grant	Domestic Abuse Grant	Hoarding Grant	Covid Grants	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
	AL030132	AL030127	AL030130	AL030129		
Balance at 01/04/2021	1,858.3	52.9	6.8	1.7	0.0	1,919.7
New Funds Received 2021/22						
Grant due/received	1,160.1				3,893.0	5,053.1
Total Funds Available	3,018.3	52.9	6.8	1.7	3,893.0	6,972.7
Utilisation in 2021/22						
DFGs allocation 2021/22 - <i>confirmed</i>	(1,160.1)					(1,160.1)
Transforming Lives/Hoarding Projects				(1.7)		(1.7)
Homelessness Project						0.0
Domestic Abuse Projects			(6.8)			(6.8)
Covid related expenditure					(3,893.0)	(3,893.0)
Movement to Earmarked Reserves						0.0
Anticipated Balance 31/03/2022	1,858.2	52.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,911.1
Future Utilisation Plans						
2022/23 plans	(1,000.0)	(52.9)	0.0	0.0	0.0	(1,052.9)
2023/24 plans	(858.2)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	(858.2)
Potential Reserve Balances	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

In addition to the £1,858k of unspent DFG grant brought forward, the 2021/22 allocation of £1,160k has been confirmed, giving total DFG resources of £3,018.3k. For the purpose of the above table, future utilisation plans recognise an estimated profile of DFG grants received to date only, and do not include estimation of any future receipts from the Better Care Fund. However, the Council's approved Medium Term Capital Strategy assumes DFG grant receipts in the sum of £1,000k per year over the plan period.

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Covid Grants unapplied reflect those sums received for Business Support only. More details in respect of Covid grant sums received in year are shown at pages 38 and 39.

Staff Costs, including agency

Employment Costs 2021/22 to end December	YTD Budget £000	YTD Actual £000	YTD Variance (Adv)/Fav £000	Variance last Qtr (Adv)/Fav £000	Change this Qtr (Adv)/Fav £000	FTE Original Budget 2021/22	FTE Changes during 2021/22	Current Vacant Posts
Communities Directorate								
Customer Services	238	251	(13)	3	(16)	7.8	0.0	0
Operations Service	1,246	1,374	(128)	(63)	(65)	53.0	0.0	3
Communities	526	461	65	42	23	23.0	0.0	1
Environmental Health	144	129	15	8	7	7.0	0.0	0
Licensing & Enforcement	237	243	(6)	-	(6)	6.0	0.0	0
Housing	187	158	29	11	18	7.0	0.0	1
Economic Development Directorate								
Planning Services	357	301	56	46	10	11.4	0.0	2
Building Control Services	93	85	8	3	5	3.0	0.0	0
Regeneration	137	115	22	9	14	5.0	0.0	0
Property Services	72	76	(4)	(0)	(4)	3.6	0.0	0
Corporate Services								
Corporate Management	281	240	41	13	28	4.0	0.0	1
Legal Services	115	111	4	4	0	3.0	0.0	0
Local Land Charges	29	31	(2)	(1)	-	1.0	0.0	0
Democratic Services	199	169	30	19	11	7.4	0.0	0
Financial Services	303	299	4	0	4	9.0	0.0	0
People & Policy	466	413	53	30	23	17.6	0.0	0
Total	4,630	4,456	174	125	50	168.8	0.0	8.0

Treasury Management & Cash Flow Monitoring

At the end of December the bank balances were £20.86m. Maintenance of significant cash balances in Q3 are largely as a result of a delay to the anticipated repayment of sums reported at Q1. It was originally estimated that c£6m of funding held over from 2020/21 would be repayable to Government by the end of September. The latest information now suggests that this will become due in February 2022.

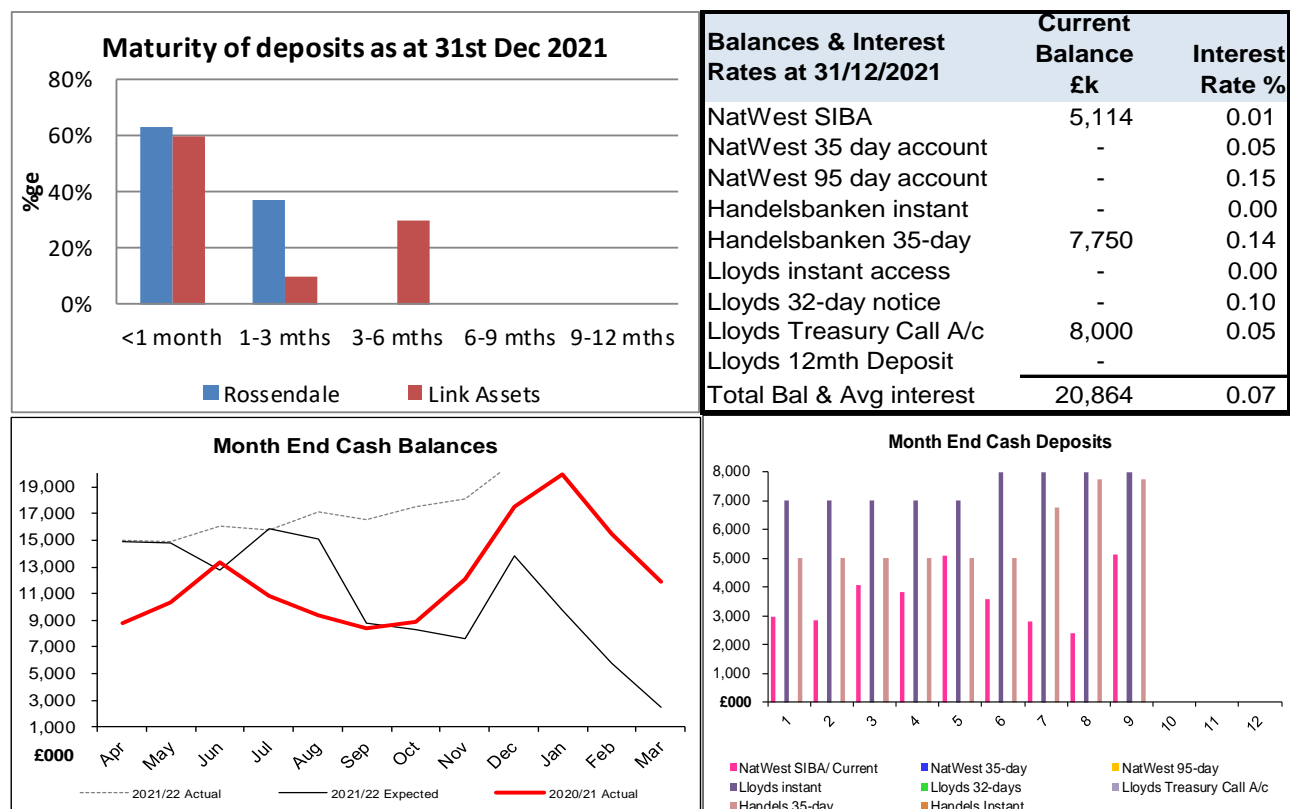
During the period the Council has also received continued funding support for the ongoing response to the pandemic eg Track and Trace grants income, Homelessness Support Funding. In each case there is a 'lag' between receipt of grant income and outflows of cash to eligible recipients.

The Council is also committed to paying preceptors their share of Collection Fund balances in February and March 2022 (combined sum of c£7m) when typically income receipts are lower, as individuals and businesses choose to repay over a 10 month profile (April-January).

Consequently, the current position is forecast to unwind over the course of the year to reduce balances to below c£7m by the end of Q4.

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Despite the Council holding significant, temporary cash balances, interest rates on offer from the Council's approved Counterparties remain at historically low levels. The Bank of England voted to increase the 'Bank Rate' on 15th December 2021, from 0.10% to 0.25% but the impact on the Council's investment income is considered negligible.

Instant access arrangements typically return lower interest rates, and the Council's current strategy is to retain a significant portion of its balances as liquid funds, to ensure it can respond promptly when required to the ongoing implications of the pandemic.

The Council's current portfolio mix consists of liquid funds of £13.1m and call account sums (35 day notice) of £7.8m.

The strategy is considered prudent in the context of CIPFA's Prudential Code which prioritises Security and Liquidity over Yield (SLY).

Whilst the strategy is considered prudent, retention of liquid funds in a low interest rate environment risks a negative impact on the interest income budget and this is shown in the following table. Discussions remain ongoing with the Council's external Treasury Advisors, Link, to review market rates on offer. Such offers will be assessed in accordance with the approved Treasury Management Strategy, projected cashflow needs and risk.

The average effective interest rate at the end of Q2 was 0.07%, compared to a target of 0.1%. Future investment returns are being developed as part of the Budget process, including annual review of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy, which

Interest Forecast	Budget 2021/22	Forecast 2021/22	Variance Fav/(Adv)	Change Fav/(Adv)
Revenue				
Interest payable (PWLb)	(137.5)	(137.5)	0.0	0.0
Other interest payable	(1.0)	(1.0)	0.0	0.0
Misc Interest income	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bank Interest income	16.4	8.7	(7.7)	(7.7)
Net Interest	(122.1)	(129.8)	(7.7)	(7.7)

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includes the Annual Investment Strategy.

Interest Paid/Received

The budget for interest in 2021/22 is a net cost of £122k.

Despite a more pessimistic view of interest income being taken for the 21/22 Budget when compared to 20/21 (compare budget of £76.4k) at Q3, the forecast for interest income is an adverse variance of £7.7k, unchanged from forward projections reported at Q2.

As above, the recent decisions of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to raise Bank Rate is considered to have little to no effect on forecast interest income.

Economic Outlook

(Released December 21)

The Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rose by 5.4% in the 12 months to December 2021, up from 5.1% in November. This continues to impact on forward budget projections and development of the MTFS.

The largest upward contributions to the December 2021 CPIH 12-month inflation rate came from housing and household services (1.31 percentage points) and transport (1.29 percentage points, principally from motor fuels and second-hand cars). Fuel inflation continues to impact on the 21/22 forecast outturn position as per the above commentary.

The Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rose by 5.4% in the 12 months to December 2021, up from 5.1% to November. This is the highest CPI 12-month inflation rate in the National Statistic data series, which began in January 1997, and it was last higher in the historical modelled data series in March 1992, when it stood at 7.1%.

In December 2021, the CPI rose by 0.5% from the previous month, compared with a rise of 0.3% in the same month the previous year.

The contribution from housing and household services increased from 1.28 percentage points in November to 1.31 percentage points in December 2021, which is the largest contribution from any division this month, and is the largest contribution from this division since early 2009.

The contributions in both months were significantly above those from April to September 2021. This was a result of price rises for gas and electricity following the increase in the cap on energy prices, which changed on 1 October 2021. The Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem) introduced energy price caps to limit the price energy suppliers can charge the estimated 15 million households that either use a prepayment meter or are on the “standard variable” energy (or default) tariff. As the energy regulator, Ofgem updates the energy price caps twice a year, in April and October, to ensure that they reflect changes in the cost of supplying energy.

In April 2020, the energy price cap had been reduced causing a downward contribution from electricity, gas and other fuels of 0.20 percentage points. This fall was reversed in April 2021 with rises in gas and electricity prices. On 6 August 2021, Ofgem published the cap levels for the period from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022. They reported that the price cap had

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increased by 12% since April 2021 because of “a rise of over 50% in energy costs over the last six months with gas prices hitting a record high as the world emerges from lockdown”.

Combined with the April 2021 increases, these latest rises resulted in 12-month inflation rates of 18.8% for electricity and 28.1% for gas in October 2021. These rates were unchanged in November and December, and were the highest annual rates for these classes since early 2009. Altogether, electricity, gas and other fuels contributed 0.59 percentage points to the annual rate.

Again, the Council’s original budget estimates continue to be impacted by utility costs associated with management of its Facilities.

Borrowing

The Council has an identified a ‘prudential’ borrowing need to finance its Capital expenditure plans, in the sum of £7.6m, over the plan period to 2024/25.

Given the updated cashflow forecast above, the Council’s Capital plans, and in accordance with the approved Treasury Management Strategy, the Council continues to assess its borrowing options and timing of any external borrowing, given the delay to the repayment of sums to Government and the positive impact on its working capital.

Interest rate forward predictions

The Council’s treasury management advisors, Link, have reviewed their interest rate forecast over the next 12 months following Bank Rate change at the end of Q2, suggestions of future rate rises in the short-term and rising inflation rates.

<i>at 31st Dec 2021</i>	Current Rates	Dec 2021	Mar 2022	Jun 2022	Sep 2022	Dec 2022
Base Rate	0.50%	0.25%	0.75%	1.00%	1.00%	1.25%
25yr PWLB*	1.80%	1.80%	2.40%	2.50%	2.50%	2.60%
25yr PWLB	2.00%	2.00%	2.60%	2.70%	2.70%	2.80%

Link also provide their view of 25 year borrowing rates from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB). This forecast is based on a concessionary rate reduction to the standard rate for new loans, known as the ‘Certainty Rate’. This discount is currently equal to a 20 basis point reduction to the standard rate. For completeness, the above table includes both the Certainty Rate* and standard rate for comparison.

The Council has completed the annual application for access to the Certainty rate for 2021/22 to support its Capital borrowing plans on the most favourable terms available.

Treasury Management Practices (TMPs) and Prudential Indicators

The Council’s Treasury Management Strategy Statement 21/22 was approved by Council on 24th February 2021.

The Council has operated within the approved parameters throughout the year to date.

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Sundry Debts Monitoring

Invoices raised in the year, to the end of Q3 totalled £2,036k. As at December 21, £274k (13%) of new debts raised in the year were considered outstanding or overdue giving a derived collection rate of 87%.

During the period to date, c50% of pre 21/22 debts outstanding as at 31 March 2021 had been recovered.

Housing Rent Debts

Of the £324k of housing rent debts brought forward at April 2021 the Council has a provision of £288.5k brought forward for doubtful debts (89%), leaving a net £36k not currently provided for.

Doubtful debts

The debtor days in Q3, based on a rolling 12 month average has improved, down from 87 days to 78 days, for collection of sums due. This figure is within the target target average of 80 days.

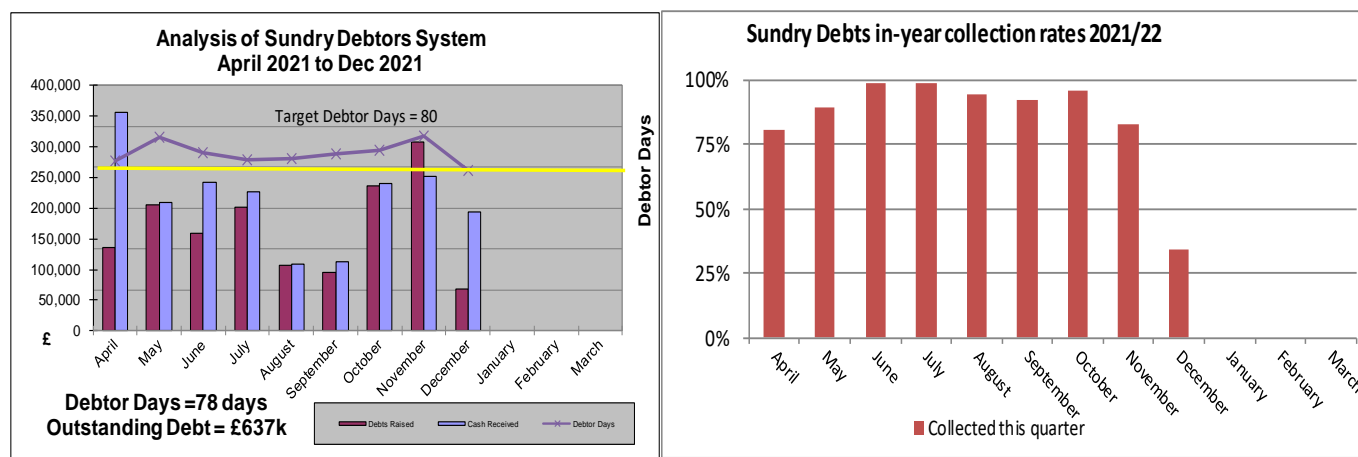
Following a significant increase to the level of cover for bad and doubtful debts during 20/21, the Council has a provision of c74% for debts its considered to be at risk of going unpaid (impairment) and c60% for total debt issued and considered overdue.

The general impairment provision brought forward in April 2021 was £380.6k, with an additional £5.4k for Licensing debts.

The current level of provision is considered adequate for Q3 but will be monitored throughout the year to assess the ongoing impact of Covid on debt recovery.

Of the sundry debts below, £26k are held on the Local Land Charges Register.

As can be seen in the trend presented in the in-year performance graph below, collection rates for recently issued invoices, tend to 'lag', particularly evident at quarter end, before payment is received in the following period. However, the overall collection rate for invoices raised in the year is 87% as noted above.



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Debts Outstanding	Mar 2020	Dec 2020	31 Mar 21		30 Jun 2021		30 Sep 2021	31 Dec 2021	Doubtful Debts	
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	rate	value
Earlier Debt	60.2	57.6		56.3		49.0	49.0	45.9	100%	45.9
2016/17 Debt	19.7	19.9		19.9		19.7	19.7	19.7	100%	19.7
2017/18 Debt	71.9	71.6		72.0		71.6	71.5	71.5	100%	71.5
2018/19 Debt	72.8	73.6		69.4		61.5	61.2	61.2	100%	61.2
2019/20 Debt	138.9	36.4		35.4		31.2	29.7	27.8	100%	27.8
2020/21 Debt										
Q1		115.0		77.0		43.1	35.2	34.7	100%	34.7
Q2		99.4		72.2		65.6	59.3	57.4	100%	57.4
Q3		277.8		80.5		4.6	3.8	3.1	100%	3.1
Q4				288.4		42.3	41.3	41.1	100%	41.1
2021/22 Debt										
Q1 Jun				0.0	30.6	183.0	163.6	152.2	75%	114.2
Q2 Sept				0.0		0.0	31.2	14.6	30%	4.4
Q3 Dec				0.0		0.0	0.0	107.4	30%	32.2
Total Debt o/s	363.5	751.3		771.2		571.6	565.5	636.6		513.2

Capital

Capital Resources

Table 1 - 2021/22 receipts

Major Receipts:	Original Budget	Year to Date	Forecast
	£000	£000	£000
Capital Receipts			
Land & Property Sales	50	9	50
Obsolete refuse vehicles	50	189	190
Net receipts to table 2	100	198	240

Table 2 - Useable Capital Resources

Useable Capital Resources	£ 000
Balance at April 2021	2,233
Capital Grants in 2021/22	5,512
Capital Receipts in 2021/22	409
	8,154
Revenue Contributions	
from Earmarked Reserves	189
from Revenue Operations	-
Total Capital Resources 2021/22	8,343
Capital Prog funding applied	(8,238)
Total Capital Resources March 2022	105

Current issues

None

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Financing the Capital Programme

The Useable Capital Receipts Reserve holds the balance of funds from the sale of Council assets, the balance brought forward at the 1st April 2021 was £2,233k. This figure remains subject to audit of the 20/21 accounts and the financing of 20/21 capital expenditure.

The original capital programme for 21/22 approved in February was £6,239K, to which £3,765k of slippage has been added from ongoing projects at the end of March 2021. This included £1,848k for DFGs.

The original 21/22 estimate for DFGs included in the programme was £1,000k. This has now been revised to the actual grant confirmation of £1,160k.

New projects to date have been added for Whitworth Wild Play (£16k) and Water Recreational ground (£4k), plus improvement works to Henrietta Street Depot (£22k). Budget provision for Enforced Sales (CPOs) has also been added in the sum of £60k.

The Council approved an addition of £44k to the Capital Programme in September 21 for Business Centre (Futures Park) improvement works. This is currently being shown as financed from capital receipts (as the most effective form of financing) but may be funded from borrowing, as necessary.

The Council is also due to receive capital grant in the sum of £101k from Lancaster City Council (as Accountable Body) for installation of Electric Vehicle charging points in support the Council's climate change and reduced carbon commitments. The Council will in turn use this funding in full to deliver the charging point infrastructure via the appointed contractor. The appointed contractor has been approved through the NHS procurement framework, as a complaint route to market (Electric Vehicles Charging Point Framework).

Additionally, the programme now includes infrastructure works to Rawtenstall Town Square (Public Realm) funded by LCC external grant (£80k) and Marl Pits running track improvements from external funders, including Sport England, (£125k) plus the Council's own match funding from borrowing (£100k).

As part of the development of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and upon receipt of recent information, original Capital Plans have been re-profiled eg the timing of receipt of vehicles as per the Fleet Replacement Programme and assumed timing of costs over eg Bacup HAZ.

The total grant income expected for the approved capital programme is £5,512k. Current funding for slippage carried forward into the 21/22 Capital consists of a mixture of resources, namely £3,765k of grants, capital receipts and (internal) borrowing. The most effective method of funding the Councils' Capital outturn will be determined at the end of the financial year.

The total in the Useable Capital Receipts Reserve at the end of 2021/22 is currently expected to be £105k. This represents the most effective method of financing the planned Capital spend in 2021/22. It is noted that Capital resources remain earmarked for Whitworth projects (£100k) and Haslingden regeneration (£230k) respectively and that the Council will assess the most effective method of financing these projects as they fall due.

Future issues

None

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Capital Programme Spending

Capital Programme 2021/22	Original Cap Prog	Revised Cap Prog	Spent/ Ordered	Full-Year Forecast	Forecast Funding Arrangements			
	£000	£000	£000	£000	Grants/ Contrib'n	Capital Receipts	Reserves /RCCO	RBC Int Borrow
Communities Directorate								
Operations	1,344	1,055	981	1,055	0	0	0	1,055
Communities	30	249	230	249	23	226	0	0
Housing	1,600	3,683	742	3,683	3,008	675	0	0
Economic Dev Directorate								
Whittaker	250	787	612	787	682	71	34	0
Ski Rossendale	0	0	0	0	0			
Futures Park	1,297	1,724	1,214	1,724	432	1,042	75	175
Spinning Point Ph1 & 2	0	33	18	33	33	0	0	0
Property Repairs & Maint	100	273	243	273	0	273	0	0
Bacup Historic England	868	472	248	472	438	0	34	0
Haslingden 2040 NLHF	500	500	133	500	454	0	46	0
Rawtenstall Market Electrical Works	0	101	0	101	0	0	0	101
Rawtenstall Public Realm Town Square	0	366	324	366	216	0	0	150
Marl Pits Running Track	0	225	0	225	125	0	0	100
Electrical Charging Points		101	81	101	101	0	0	0
Carbon reduction Fund	250	250	6	250	0	250	0	0
	6,239	9,819	4,833	9,819	5,512	2,537	189	1,581

Capital Programme 2021/22	£000	Funded by	Slippage items cfwd at end of 2020/21	Costs '000	Funding Arrangements			
Original Capital Programme	6,239				Grants/ Contrib'n	Capital Receipts	RCCO (reserves or S106)	RBC Int Borrow
Slippage from 2020/21	3,765	see list						
New capital projects in 2021/22			Communities Directorate					
Whitworth wild play	16	s106 Grants	Operational Vehicles	177				177
DFG	160	External Grants	Playgrounds (community projects)	23	23			
CPOs/Enforced Sales	60	Capital Receipt	Cemeteries	40		40		
Electric Charging Point	101	External Funding	Pathways	60		60		
Henrietta Street Deport	22	Capital Receipt	Sports Playing Fields	0				
Futures Park Accommodation Project	44	Capital Receipt	DFGs	1,848	1,848			
Marl Pits Running Track	225	External Funding	CPOs	21				
				2,169	1,871	121	0	177
Reprofiled projects in 2021/22			Economic Development Directorate					
Vehicles / Equipment	-466		Whittaker Park Museum Refurb	381	343		38	
Communities	-1		Ski Rossendale	11	11			
Whittaker Park Museum Refurb	156		Spinning Point Phase 2	533		533		
Spinning Point - Town Square Pub Rlm	-134		Futures Park	577				577
Bacup Historic England	-340		Emergency Works	50		50		
Property Repairs & Maint	20		Bacup historic England	-56	-56			
Futures Park Infrastructure	-150		Demolition of Waterside Mill	25		25		
			Empty Homes	75		75		
Revised Capital Programme	9,818			1,596	298	683	38	577
				3,765	2,169	804	38	754

Capital Programme

The original Capital Programme was £6,239k, including £1,344k for the replacement of vehicles and equipment, a provisional estimate of £1,000k for DFGs, and regeneration projects of £3,165k, including Plot 1 Futures Park and Bacup HAZ.

To this was added slippage of £3,765k in 2021/22, including DFG's and new, smaller projects in the sum of £42k. A revised estimate for DFGs has been made following confirmation of the 21/22 grant allocation with a net increase of £160k. Additional projects for Electric Vehicle charging point installation (£101k) improvement works at Futures Park (£44k), additional grant funding to support works on the Public Realm (£80k) and improvement to the Marl Pits running track (£225k) have also been added. An assessment of the timing of 'spend' has been undertaken as part of development of the MTFs and cost estimates re-profiled over the medium term. The revised 2021/22 capital programme is now estimated at £9,818k. More details are provided in the above tables.

The revised Capital Programme over the life of the MTFs is £22,952k.

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Capital project activity

- Spend to date including commitments is £5,053k. This includes:
- Total DFG spend of £742k;
- Spend on acquisition of replacement vehicles and equipment of £981k, noting the replacement programme has been re-phased over the life of the medium term Capital Programme;
- Spend on the construction of Plot 1 Futures Park of £1,214k;
- Total spend on Whittaker Park Museum Refurbishment of £612k.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	MRP Budget	Revised MRP Required	Potential (Additions) / Savings
	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22
	£000	£000	£000
Corporate	534.7	346.2	188.5
Leisure Investment	126.00	129.8	-3.8
	660.7	476.0	184.7

MRP is the annual revenue repayment of internal funds used to support capital work.

The MRP cost has been re-profiled to achieve a favourable variance in year of £188.5k for the Council's projects and a slight overspend against the leisure specific scheme, giving an overall favourable variance of £184.7k.

The favourable variance is mainly attributable to the delays in purchasing operational vehicles.

Section 106 Receipts Monitoring

<u>Section 106 Agreements</u> <u>2021/221</u>	Third Party Projects	RBC Revenue Projects	RBC Capital projects	Total Held
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance b fwd at 1st April 2021	324.5	107.8	674.8	1,107.2
Deposits received in 2021/22	13.3	9.7	143.0	166.0
Deposits applied in 2021/22	(5.1)	(12.0)	(26.2)	-43.2
Current Balance	332.7	105.5	791.7	1,229.9

The value of S106 agreements brought forward on the 1st April was £1,107k. To the end of December 2021, £166k of new S106 deposits have been received and £43k of monies held have been applied to fund expenditure.

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Section 106 Agreements in detail	Third Party Projects	RBC Revenue Projects	RBC Capital projects	Total Held
Balance b fwd at 1st April 2021	324.5	107.8	674.8	1,107.2
Douglas Rd		-10.0		-10.0
Orama Mill			-13.2	-13.2
Land at Reeds Home		9.7		9.7
Horse & Jockey, Edenfield	-5.0			-5.0
Orama Mill			-6.0	-6.0
Croft End Mill			-7.0	-7.0
Scout Moor	-0.1			-0.1
Scout Moor	13.3			13.3
Land off BRE, Whitewell Bottom		-2.0		-2.0
Reedsholme			143.0	143.0
Balance held as at Dec 2021	332.7	105.5	791.6	1,229.9

Council Tax & NNDR Collection Rates

Collection Rates	Council Tax					Business Rates				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
April	10.39	10.41	10.51	10.04	10.90	10.34	11.26	12.22	10.24	8.60
May	19.53	19.72	19.70	18.96	19.70	19.14	18.93	21.07	18.89	16.20
June	28.81	28.79	28.63	27.62	28.70	27.51	27.28	28.68	25.62	24.30
July	37.91	37.97	37.86	36.56	37.66	36.85	36.25	37.37	33.92	33.96
August	47.10	47.03	46.90	45.24	46.71	48.98	49.93	50.82	48.55	47.63
September	56.20	56.05	56.01	54.29	55.43	57.60	58.43	58.34	57.84	56.05
October	65.58	65.32	65.23	63.29	71.16	65.57	67.95	67.52	68.97	64.90
November	74.81	74.52	74.78	72.30	78.43	74.28	74.77	74.26	77.15	73.09
December	84.03	83.55	83.33	80.90	82.12	82.46	83.00	82.70	85.92	81.41
January	92.93	92.72	92.48	89.90		91.18	91.11	90.91	90.17	
February	94.90	94.90	94.60	92.37		95.10	95.73	95.00	93.66	
March	96.40	96.70	96.32	95.72		98.40	98.47	97.78	94.19	

Collection rates for Council Tax are recovering but are not yet back at pre-pandemic levels, but are ahead of the corresponding position for last year (+1.22%), this is in part due to the re-commencement of recovery action where due. Collection performance saw a spike in comparative rates for October and November 2021, however the December rate has fallen back significantly. For Business Rates, collection statistics are lower than the equivalent period last year (-4.51%) and consequently also lower than pre-pandemic levels. It is also worthy of note that the level of relief awarded to eligible businesses into 21/22 (extension of the 'Expanded Retail Relief' scheme

Council Tax Forecast 2021/22	Q1 £'000	Q2 £'000	Q3 £'000
Council Tax Collectable (after Discounts & Exemptions)	43,494	43,463	43,450
less Doubtful Debt Provision	(700)	(700)	(1,400)
	42,794	42,763	42,050
less Precepts for 2021/22			
Lancashire County Council	(29,677)	(29,677)	(29,677)
Police	(4,615)	(4,615)	(4,615)
Fire	(1,473)	(1,473)	(1,473)
Rossendale Borough Council	(5,811)	(5,811)	(5,811)
	(41,576)	(41,576)	(41,576)
Surplus / (Deficit)	1,218	1,187	474
RBC Share = 13.98%	170	166	66

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for which the Council is compensated by Government) reduced from 100% to 66% with effect from 1 July, until 31 March 2022. This may impact on collection rates throughout the year as businesses re-organise themselves to meet their liabilities where previously, due to Covid-19, these were nil. The re-introduction of recovery action into Q4, may also have a positive impact on collection performance.

Council Tax Collection Fund

At the time of this report the estimated surplus on the Council Tax collection fund is forecast at £474k (down from Q2 estimate of £1,187k). The change in Q3 represents more detailed assessment of historic debts and likely recovery of sums outstanding. Based on the assessment the doubtful debt provision applied at Q3, for which the Council bears its share, has increased from £700k to £1,400k. This year RBC's share of the Council Tax is 13.98%, equating to £66k of the forecast surplus. As above, this is a reduction on Q2 due to the net impact of the application and award of qualifying exemptions and discounts, but mostly down to review of aged debts and assessment of likelihood of (non) payment.

Local retention of Business Rates (NNDR)

In 2021/22 the Council, as part of the Lancashire Business Rates Pool, retains a local share of any surplus or deficit arising at year-end from activity on the fund, in the sum of 40%.

For the purpose of the original budget submission (21/22 NNDR1), and in accordance with guidance, no compensation from Government in the form of additional Section31 grant was assumed in relation to Covid-19.

The Government has since extended the 'Expanded Retail Relief' scheme for eligible businesses, albeit with modified terms. For those businesses in scope of the scheme, relief reduced from 100% to 66% of their liability from 1 July 2021. On current information, this reduction will remain in force until 31 March 2022.

Indeed, at the time of this report, and in preparation for return of the (2022/23) NNDR1 submission, due by 31st January each year, the NNDR guidance suggests the above retail relief will continue into 2022/23,

at a rate of 50% relief to qualifying businesses. The Council will expect to receive its share of 'compensation' for this relief into its General Fund as Section 31 Grant.

As previously reported, the Council is receiving on-account payments from Government as compensation for the loss of income it had originally assumed as receivable from businesses in the NNDR1 submission for 2021/22. On account payments are based on Government's assessment of relief levels within the borough which may differ to actual levels determined throughout the year. These sums are fully reconcilable to Government with any adjustments ie under or over payments on account, due from or to Government later in the year.

Whilst the Council is fully compensated for 'losses' of income, due to the timing differences and legislative arrangements, the additional in-year Section 31 Grant received into the Council's

Business Rates Collection Fund 2021/22		NNDR1	Q1	Q2	Q3
(50% Pool)		£000	£000	£000	£000
Net Liability Due		13,325	12,997	13,199	11,909
Less Transitional Payments due to MHCLG		5	5	5	7
Less Cost of Collection Allowance		(96)	(96)	(96)	(97)
Less Doubtful Debt Provision		(500)	(500)	(300)	(300)
Less Appeals Provision		(530)	(530)	(530)	(560)
Less Renewables 100% to RBC		(183)	(183)	(183)	(183)
Net NNDR due	A	12,021	11,693	12,095	10,776
Less Trans surcharge	B	0	0	0	0
Less Precepts		(12,021)	(12,021)	(12,021)	(12,021)
Cash Surplus/(Deficit)	C	0	(328)	74	(1,245)
RBC Share = C x 40%	D	0	(131)	30	(498)
Central Government share 50%			(164)	37	(623)
LCC and Fire share 10%			(33)	7	(125)

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General Fund is to be transferred to reserves at the year end and released in future years to finance repayment of the deficit when due.

The continuation of this scheme into 21/22 has given rise to a projected deficit on the Business Rates Collection Fund Account of £1,245k, of which the Council's share is £498k and will be made good in future years from Section 31 Grant income as noted above.

As reported at Q2, and due to the introduction of new reliefs after setting the Budget, movement on the Business Rates Collection Fund Account has been somewhat volatile, noting the movement on the estimated surplus/deficit position reported throughout the year.

In addition, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) announced in December 2021, that £1.5bn of reliefs would be made available to local government to support eligible businesses who to date, have been affected by the pandemic, but have been unable to access existing Covid funding linked to business rates. These reliefs must be applied to accounts before 31st March 2022 and consequently sums are likely to impact on the outturn surplus/deficit position at the financial year-end, given similar compensation arrangements for 'lost' Collection Fund income into the Council's General Fund.

These reliefs are covered by the Covid Additional Relief Fund (CARF) and at this time, the Council continues to develop local policy in accordance with the published guidance.

Each year the Council is subject to a levy payment of 50% of calculated business rates growth above its baseline funding level as determined annually in the Local Government Finance Settlement. Membership of the Pool, restricts this levy to 10% (of the 50% levy) and allows the Council to hold the balance as 'retained levy' thus reducing the total value of sums paid over to central Government, to apply locally.

RBC General Fund / Pooling gains		NNDR1	Q1	Q2	Q3
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Business Rates Income	A+B	12,021	11,693	12,095	10,776
RBC Share = 40%		4,808	4,677	4,838	4,310
less tariff paid to Lancashire Pool		(2,714)	(2,714)	(2,714)	(2,714)
add S31 Grants (for Levy calculation)	E	1,091	1,091	1,091	1,655
Subtotal		3,185	3,054	3,215	3,251
RBC Baseline Funding Level used in Budget		2,180	2,180	2,180	2,180
Surplus for Levy Calculations	F	1,005	874	1,035	1,071
Levy due for non Pool membership 50%		(503)	(437)	(518)	(536)
Levy payable as Pool member 10% of above		(50)	(44)	(52)	(54)
Retained Levy through Pool membership	G	452	393	466	482

Based on continuation of the same model for 21/22, the table above forecasts the estimated levy payment to the Pool for the year, and thus the amount of 'gain' to be retained from Pool membership. This is estimated at £482k (up from £466k at Q2). The increase in Section 31 Grants relates to the Council's share of income forgone as a result of the extension of the Expanded Retail Relief scheme.

It should be noted that this remains an estimate based on original NNDR1 assumptions, which have already seen changes as a consequence of continued Government support to certain sectors eg retail sector, not originally assumed at the time of submission.

The retained levy estimate is therefore subject to change throughout the year.

The Council has applied to retain membership of the Lancashire Business Rates Pool into 2022/23.

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Covid Grants 2021/22

During the year to date, the Council has received a number of grants to support the Council and the community through the Covid pandemic. The table below itemises the grants remaining from 2020/21, grants received during the reporting period and the amounts allocated.

Covid Grants	Opening Balance £	Amount Received Q1 £	Amount Allocated to date £	Remaining Balance £	Description
LA Covid Support	252,069	415,605	667,674	0	This is to support the Council's Covid related costs and supplement lost income.
Hardship Fund	93,465	0	93,465	0	Payment of £150 each to Council tax accounts of Local Council Tax support recipients. The remaining balance has been allocated to accounts in 2021/22
Containing Outbreak Management Fund (COMF)	658,943	107,253	361,730	404,466	Department of Health funding to cover specific expenditure relating to the pandemic. Confirmation has been received that committed funding can be carried forward into 22/23.
Compliance & Enforcement	28,924	0	28,924	0	To be spent on Covid compliance & enforcement measures. There is potential that ultimately any unspent funding will have to be returned.
Self Isolation Practical Support	0	107,440	40,458	66,982	This is to support vulnerable residents whilst they are self isolating - this is not the Track & Trace Self Isolation grants
Public Protection - COVID response	35,898	63,118	59,686	39,329	This to support community based surge testing capacity
Self Isolation Grants (£500)	109,612	564,527	464,099	210,040	This is the Track and Trace self isolation grant scheme to support vulnerable residents whilst they are self isolating. It includes Admin Grant funding to be applied to eligible temporary and core staff costs
Emergency Assistance	4,584		4,584	0	For provision of emergency assistance to members of the community.
Clinically Extremely Vulnerable	64,187	0	64,187	0	To support the Council in delivering support to people shielding and the community hub.
Lateral Flow Testing Support	0	23,382	5,825	17,557	Additional contribution funding c/o Lancashire County Council/DHSC for testing sites, communication and staffing costs.
Household Support Fund	0	180,000	53,000	127,000	Funding from DWP to provide support to vulnerable households over the Winter period.
Leisure Recovery Fund	141,542	9,612	151,154	0	Sport England Grant. This grant is to be passed to the Leisure Trust based on claims made. The Council is the accountable body for this grant.

The remaining balances will be moved to reserves or provisions to support Covid related expenditure in 2022/23.

In addition to the grants detailed above the Council acts as agent for the Government in delivering grants to local businesses. The Restart Grant scheme is now closed with unspent sums to be returned to Government. At the time of this report the ARG application round has closed and applications are being assessed for future grant award.

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Business Grants - The Council is acting as Agent for these grants, any funding remaining will be reclaimed or reimbursed by Government.

Covid Business Grants	Amount Received £	Amount Allocated £	Remaining Balance £	Description
Restart Grants	3,462,174	3,126,038	336,136	The Restart Grant scheme supports businesses in reopening safely as COVID -19 restrictions are lifted. This scheme has now closed. The balance of this funding is due to be paid back to Central Government
ARG Grants	954,767	943,622	11,145	The latest round of the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) scheme is targeted towards those sectors that we have identified as a priority for additional support, recognising that the lifting of restrictions will not mean as rapid a return to normality as it would for others.
Total	4,416,941	4,069,660	347,281	

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Glossary

Accrual

An adjustment at year-end to charge costs or income due in the old year, regardless of whether the cash has been paid or received. Accounts are prepared on an accruals basis in order to match the income for each financial year with the costs attributable to the same time period.

Capital expenditure

Spending on the acquisition or maintenance of assets either directly by the Council or indirectly in the form of grants to other persons or bodies. Expenditure that does not fall within the definition must be charged to a revenue account.

Capital Grants Received in Advance

Grants received in cash during the year, but not spent or committed, are held on the Balance Sheet in the Short-term Liabilities area as Capital Grants Received in Advance, acknowledging the potential requirement to pay these grants back should the related project not go ahead or underspend.

Capital Receipts

Proceeds from the sale of fixed assets, such as land or buildings, or the repayment of capital grants or advances. These funds form part of the Council's Useable Reserves, though they are ring-fenced for capital projects rather than revenue costs.

Cash & Cash Equivalents

Cash deposits are those which provide instant access to the funds without significant penalty or loss of interest. For the Council this is the balance on the NatWest accounts and two other instant access accounts with Lloyds and Handelsbanken. This is in comparison to short- and long-term *Investments* in which funds are untouchable during the life of the deposit.

Collection Fund

Rossendale Borough council collects funds on behalf of other precepting bodies, Lancashire County Council, Fire and Police as well as central government and Whitworth Town Council from domestic and commercial properties in the borough. These amounts are formally ring fenced in the Collection Fund and then distributed amongst the precepting bodies in line with their demands as set in the February budget setting meeting. At the end of the year each precepting body has their share of the arrears, the doubtful debt provision or appeals provision and the accumulated surplus or deficit. Rossendale Borough Council accounts for its own share, but holds the other preceptors shares separately on an agency basis. Hence, within the Council Tax and Business Rates monitoring members will see the overall position and the RBC share clearly identified.

Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO)

Compulsory acquisition of key properties in accordance with the Council's regeneration agenda. Compensation must be paid to the property owners, but where they cannot be traced the Council must deposit the funds with the courts for a minimum of 12 years.

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

The consumer price index (CPI) is a measure estimating the average price of consumer goods and services purchased by households. It is a price index determined by measuring the price of a standard group of goods meant to represent the typical market basket of a typical urban consumer and how this changed in the previous 12 months.

Earmarked Reserves

Cash-backed funds identified to fund specific projects in the future.

Full Time Equivalent (FTE)

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Each full-time post within the Council works 37 hours per week. Part-time posts are expressed in relation to this, for example a post working 4 days a week would be 0.8FTE.

General Fund

The main revenue fund of the Council.

Grants Unapplied

Unlike Capital Grants Received in Advance, there is no requirement to repayment of these grants. The unspent balance will be released into capital or revenue in the coming years as projects come online. These funds form part of the Council's Useable Reserves.

Homes and Communities Agency (HCA)

The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) is the non-departmental public body which helps to fund new affordable housing in England. It was established by the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 as one of the successor bodies to the Housing Corporation, and became operational on 1 December 2008. In 2012 the HCA approved the East Lancashire Empty Homes Scheme.

Investments

The Council invests surplus cash in short- and long-term deposits in accordance with the Treasury Management Strategy and Practices revised in February each year. In this context short-term includes anything up to 365 days, and long-term is for more than one year. Funds deposited in such investments are not accessible until the end of the agreed terms.

Link Asset Services (formerly Capita & Sector)

Link Asset Services (formerly Capita & Sector) is the company which provides the Council with Treasury Management advice, including daily market reports and predictions, credit rating updates, interest rate forecasts and annual reviews of our strategy and practices ahead of the February reports to Full Council.

Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

The Council's financial planning document for the foreseeable future.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

The minimum amount which must be charged to the Council's revenue account each year and set aside as provision for credit liabilities, as required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

The former Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has been redesignated as the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, or MHCLG.

National non-domestic rates - now Business Rates (NNDR)

National non-domestic rates for commercial premises are set annually by the government and collected by all local authorities. The localisation of business rates in April 2013 meant that the National pool no longer exists, but the acronym NNDR is still widely used in local government circles.

Provision

Cash 'put aside' for expenditure on an intended project which has not commenced or is not complete at the year-end, but which has been contractually committed.

Provisional

Best forecast given current knowledge.

Public Works Loans Board (PWLB)

The PWLB is a central government statutory body which lends funds to local authorities with advantageous interest rates. Interest rates are published daily and local authorities provide the PWLB with annual estimates of cash requirements in return for certainty on the availability of funds and the interest rates being charged.

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Reserve

Amounts included in one financial year's accounts to provide for payment for goods or services, whether revenue or capital, in a future financial year.

Revenue account

An account that records an authority's day-to-day expenditure and income on such items as salaries and wages and other running costs of services.

Section 106 Agreement

Planning agreement whereby developers make a contribution towards specific projects linked to their development as a condition of planning application approval. Deposits may be for revenue or capital schemes, but application of the funds are dependent on firstly the developer, and then the Council, pursuing the projects specified within the agreement.

Rossendale Borough Council

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آپ کو ان معلومات کا خلاصہ سے صرف میں ایک کیسٹ پر یا انگریزی کے علاوہ کسی اور زبان میں دیکھا ہے تو براہ
مہربانی ہمیں بتائیں، ہم کو آپ کے لئے اس کا انتظام کریں گے۔
ہماری سربراہی 01706 217777 پر ٹیلیفون کریں یا بھرنے والی ایسیٹیشن سے اس سے رابطہ قائم کریں۔

আপনি যদি এসব তথ্যের সার সংক্ষেপ বড় হরফের ছাপায়, অডিও ক্যাসেটে অথবা ইংরেজী ছাড়া
অন্য কোন ভাষায় পেতে চান তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে আমাদেরকে জানালে আমরা অত্যন্ত খুশী মনে
তার ব্যবস্থা করব।

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অফিস, রটেজটল বি.বি.এ ৭এল.জেড. এই ঠিকানায় যোগাযোগ করুন।

Other formats available on request.

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Rossendale Borough Council

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