

# Environment and Urban Renewal PPB – Priority Based Monitoring Report

Reporting Period: **Quarter 2 – 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of issues and progress against key service objectives/milestones and performance targets, during the second quarter of 2017/18 for service areas within the remit of the Environment and Urban Renewal (E&UR) Policy and Performance Board.
- 1.2 Key priorities for development or improvement in 2015-18 were agreed by Members and included in Directorate Plans, for the various functional areas reporting to the Environment & Urban Renewal Policy & Performance Board i.e.:
  - Development & Investment Services
  - Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement
  - Highways, Transportation & Logistics and Physical Environment
  - Housing Strategy
- 1.3 The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within Section 9 of this report.

## 2.0 Key Developments

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

### *Development & Investment Services*

- 2.2 The Skills Factory SIF proposal was successful at OBC stage and we have been invited to submit a Full Business Case to the Combined Authority. Techspace One continues to perform well – reaching almost 20% occupancy this quarter – with first tenants moving in including Hitachi high Technologies.
- 2.3 Lakeside Phase 2 continues on site with completion delayed slightly due to complications with highways works. A planning application for Phase 3 was submitted by Keepmoat. We are currently in negotiations with regards to the land purchase offer.
- 2.4 Alstom have completed the Training Academy and have taken on the first cohort of apprenticeships. Stobart have secured planning consent to a new office HQ at Viking Park.
- 2.5 The External Funding Team is experiencing a high demand for funding advice with 70 enquiries having been received in the period to end September 2017; with a further 6 enquiries received in the first few weeks of October. Not all enquiries convert into full project support; however, the Team operates a pipeline list of around 30 projects which are receiving more in-depth support with bid-writing. The team is currently supporting applicants with the submission of bids totalling around £6.2m.
- 2.6 The Business Improvement and Growth (BIG) Team managed 48 commercial property inward investment enquiries in Quarter II 2017/18. The cumulative inward investment enquiries total (Quarter 1 – 4) is, therefore, 111 (44.4%) against a target of 250. 1 inward investment enquiry was 'converted' (inward investment enquiries 'converted' into actual investment projects) in Quarter II. The cumulative conversions total (Quarter 1 + Quarter 2) is, therefore, 7% against a target of 10%

- 2.7 The Halton Business Growth Programme continues to progress well. The programme has engaged with 174 businesses. There are currently 109 Halton Businesses participating in the programme. The Halton Business Growth Programme has until December 2018 to meet a Company Assists target of 123 and a Jobs Created target of 108. To date 79 businesses have been assisted and 19 jobs created.
- 2.8 The following tables describe the performance of the Halton element of the Liverpool City Region Growth Hub Programme firstly, since its inception in October 2015 and secondly, in Quarter II 2017 - 2018:

**Figure 1 : Growth Hub Engagement : Lifetime of the Programme (October 2015 – September 2017)**

Unique Company Engagements	<b>1,368</b>
Total Engagements	<b>2,709</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,077</b>

**Figure 2 : Growth Hub Engagement : Current Quarter (July 2017 – September 2017 inclusive)**

Unique Company Engagements	<b>207</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>207</b>

- 2.9 The Business Improvement and Growth (BIG) Team continue to support Halton and Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise (the Project Management Organisation or PMO) to the deliver the BID programme in Halton:

- One member of the BIG Team is assigned full time to manage the day to day operation of the BID and prepare for a re-ballot of all businesses on Astmoor and Halebank which will take place in February 2018. The ballot will seek to continue the programme for a further five years. A second Officer is working with the Chamber to draft a 'Renewal Prospectus' and 'Business Plan' for the new programme.
- The development of the 'Renewal Prospectus' follows an extensive consultation exercise, undertaken by external consultants, with Astmoor and Halebank businesses to determine their key priorities for a further five year BID term.
- It is anticipated that the 'Renewal Prospectus' will be distributed in October\November 2017.
- A further round of consultation will then be undertaken with the BID businesses to inform the development of a detailed 'BID3 Business Plan'. The BID3 Business Plan is a detailed operational plan for the delivery of BID3 and is the document and programme of work which the businesses will be asked to vote upon.
- The outcome of that vote will determine whether the BID Programme will continue for a further five years.
- In order for a BID ballot to be approved two specific criteria tests must be satisfied :
  1. The majority of those voting in the ballot are in favour, and
  2. The total rateable value of those properties or hereditaments which vote in favour exceeds the total of those voting against
- Should the BID3 ballot achieve a positive outcome the programme will commence on April 01 2018.
- Halton Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise, the Project Management Organisation or PMO, will then assume total responsibility for the delivery of the BID Programme in Halton

## 2.10 Regional Growth Fund (RGF) Rounds 3 & 4

- In 2015 Halton Borough Council concluded the delivery of the government's Regional Growth Fund (RGF) Round 1 and Round 2 programme in 2015
- Halton Borough Council provided grant support to **11** local companies delivering total grant of **£609,562.04** and generating private sector leverage of **£3,290,354.03**
- The Council is contractually obliged to monitor the outputs associated with the programme until March 31 2018. Specifically, the Council must record how many jobs have either been created or safeguarded as a result of grant support.
- The Halton RGF 3 & 4 programme had jobs created output target of **102** sustainable jobs. To date the programme has created **124.5**.
- The Team are currently undertaking a further round of monitoring visits with companies who have received RGF grant and it is anticipated that the jobs created total will rise.

### *Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement*

2.11 In September, the Council delivered a number of activities during National 'Recycle Week'. The aim of the week is to encourage the public to recycle more, by demonstrating the benefits of recycling items from all around the home. The national theme for Recycle Week this year was "Recycling – It's worth it" and throughout the week Officers held events at the following locations;

- Castlefields and Upton Community Centres
- Runcorn and Widnes Markets
- Runcorn Shopping Centre Halton Direct Link

2.12 Details of the events were posted on social media and residents were able to go along to speak with officers for advice and guidance on recycling and waste prevention. Officers provided a range of information leaflets and booklets. Residents were able to watch a video of materials collected from blue bins being processed at a Material Recovery Facility. An interactive Recycling Dance Mat video game, designed to increase awareness of what materials can be recycled through the Council's blue bins scheme, was also available for those wishing to take part.

2.13 Positive feedback was received from members of the public with and it is estimated that officers engaged with over 300 residents during the events.

2.14 A new community engagement programme 'Walk In Days' has commenced at the Council's Halton Direct Link shops. The aim of the programme, which sees Waste Management Officers at the shops one day per week, is to increase resident engagement, promote the Council's recycling services and help provide detailed advice on recycling related enquiries. The programme will be piloted over a number of weeks and, if successful, a scheduled programme will be developed that will see 'Walk in Days' delivered across further Council buildings.

## 2.15 Enforcement Actions

### August

- 3 x Prosecutions for small scale fly-tipping incidents. The 3 offenders were each issued with Fixed Penalty Notices but failed to pay them. Each offender received a criminal conviction and financial penalty of £260.
- 1 x Prosecution for breach of a Section 108 Notice issued under Section 108 of the Environment Act 1995. This Power is used for dealing with suspects who fail to attend for interview in relation to waste offences. In this particular case, the defendant was suspected of fly-tipping household waste on land at Brindley Street, Runcorn. The suspect was invited on 3 separate

occasions to attend an interview to explain any involvement with the alleged offence however failed to do so or make any contact with the Council. Under the terms of a S108 Notice, should an offender fail to attend for interview on the 3rd scheduled occasion or contact the Council to arrange an alternative date and time then they would commit the offence of obstructing an authorised Officer in the line of their duty. The offender failed to attend or contact the Council and was prosecuted in court and received a criminal conviction and a financial penalty totalling £884.

## September

- Prosecution of an offender for fly-tipping waste at Nelson Street, Runcorn. Offender received a criminal conviction and financial penalty totalling £475.
- Case was listed at Court for breach of a statutory notice issued under Section 108 of the Environment Act 1995. The defendant failed to attend Court on the day of the hearing and a warrant has been issued for her arrest.
- In addition to the prosecutions listed above, Officers have also made use of new Powers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for fly-tipping offences; having issued 3 since their implementation in March of this year as well as a further 6 Fixed Penalty Notices for small scale fly-tipping incidents.
- The Enforcement Team currently has 14 scheduled interviews in the month of October with suspected offenders, 6 case files are currently with Legal waiting to be listed at Magistrates Court for prosecution and a further 4 case files are in progress.
- As well as undertaking enforcement actions, Council Officers are heavily involved in proactive partnership working. In recent weeks this has seen Officers working closely with a local Housing Association to tackle problems with fly-tipped refuse in an area of the New Town. This has resulted in the issuing of 19 warning letters and 2 residents being invited to attend a formal investigatory interview. These actions have helped to significantly reduce the numbers of incidents in the area.
- Following on from the success of a pilot initiative in 2016, discussions have recently been held with Cheshire Constabulary in relation to carrying out joint HBC/Police enforcement patrols in areas suffering from significant littering, dog fouling, fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour problems. It is hoped that the joint patrols will be introduced over the coming weeks and in addition to reducing problems, the initiative seeks to offer reassurance to those residents who suffer as a result of the irresponsible actions and behaviour of others.

2.16 During this quarter (on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017) a new café franchise began operating in Victoria Park. The new 'Espositos' café is Italian themed and involved a complete refit of the Victoria Park pavilion. The franchisee has made a significant investment in the facility which has already proved to be very popular with park users. This is the second 'Espositos' café the first being at Runcorn Hill Park.

2.17 A new Town Park team started working in the Boroughs largest park in Q2. The team is funded through the 'Energy from Waste Environmental Fund' and having them based in Town Park has allowed significant improvements to be made. There has not been a daily site presence by HBC in Town Park for over a decade. The team will support capital investment that will be made over the coming years. Town Park is the last of the major parks to undergo refurbishment.

- 2.18 Work began on the new Peel House Cemetery during Q2 2017/18. Ground and drainage work in advance of the main construction contract were carried out.
- 2.19 A new digital music system was installed at the crematorium. The new system allows families to select music whilst they are with their funeral director. The system means that CDs are no longer used which removes the risk of music not playing during funeral services.

*Highways, Transportation & Logistics and Physical Environment*

Development Management

2.20 An injunction against the residential use of the Gypsy site at Ponderosa in Daresbury was successfully obtained in the High Court in August 2016. The Council received notification on 6 April 2017 from the Court of Appeal that all attempts to challenge the August 16 decision have been refused. However the Council's injunction remains stayed until Smith's challenge to the PINS decision of October 2016 (dismissing Smith's planning appeal) is heard by the High Court. This challenge was dismissed by the High Court in August 2017. Smith has now applied to the Court of Appeal to challenge the High Court's judgement. The outcome of that application is now awaited.

2.21 Planning Application Statistics

Total Applications Received: 149 (Includes Those Withdrawn And Returned)			
Applications Decided	188	Applications On-Hand (Undecided)	168
Pre-Applications Received	33	Pre-Applications Closed	29

N.B. There are certain applications (such as tree preservation orders) that are not counted in the statutory CLG speed of processing statistics. This accounts for the difference between the figures reported above and the figures given for PPT LI 04.

*Traffic Division*

- 2.22 The LED street lighting conversion programme for this financial year is continuing in the current financial year. A programme to convert traffic signals to LED is underway as funds permit. Both these initiatives will reduce energy and maintenance costs.
- 2.23 The coordination of the works for the Mersey Gateway is now complete and was generally successful in minimising disruption. The Silver Jubilee Bridge is now closed to vehicular traffic on for refurbishment, which will take about 18 months to complete (pedestrian access will be maintained except during working hours Monday - Friday).
- 2.24 A scheme to train older drivers is underway. This allows older drivers to receive training free of charge to help them deal with the challenges of driving with recent changes.
- 2.25 The Runcorn Site COMAH Operators Exercise took place in April 2017 and went well..

*Logistics*

2.26 The bus network in the Borough will significantly change as a result of the opening of the Mersey Gateway. There are major route and timing changes to the bus services which have been widely advertised and information made available.

### *Highway Development*

- 2.27 Work ongoing on Major planning applications and site supervision for Lead Local Flood Authority /Highways. There is ongoing involvement with the Mersey Gateway project, in regulatory and approval authority roles.
- 2.28 M56 junction 11A preferred route announcement was made on 31 August 2017, with a signalised crossroads replacing the current Murdishaw Roundabout being the preferred option.
- 2.29 Work is ongoing with Mersey Gateway Crossings Board on the feasibility for future delivery of West Bank – Widnes Loops link road – consultants have been commissioned by the Council to examine this further, with final report expected November 2017. Further feasibility report has also been produced for Runcorn SJB delinking and Watkinson Way Gyrotory grade separation.
- 2.30 Surveys of Highway Assets have been completed for this year for LTP PI16 and results are awaited & information has been submitted S151 officer for previous financial year. Work is ongoing on Halton’s response to Highway Management Code of Practice, and ensuring continuous improvement on Self Assessment for Incentive Funding, to deliver lifecycle planning and steady state maintenance.
- 2.31 Preliminary Flood Risk assessment has now been approved by EA following PPB & Exec Board scrutiny for final publication by EA by December 2017. Work is ongoing to prepare design and business case to deliver on next years EA Flood Risk funding allocation at Windmill Hill.
- 2.32 Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan (joint LCR document) consultation has now ended and PPB report will follow in due course.
- 2.33 Warrington BC have announced preferred route for ‘Western Link Road’ to provide relief to town centre congestion.
- 2.34 Halton are still working with Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester to produce a SUDS guide - this will need to go hand in hand with policy amendments as part of Land Allocations Plan. Highway Development also have transportation/highways advice input into this process. Work is

### *Structures*

- 2.35 Scheme preparation for the SJB arch painting scheme is in its final stages ready for a planned site start around mid-October (under the closure of SJB that will commence upon the opening of the Mersey Gateway).
- 2.36 The LCR Year 2 major maintenance works task for SJB (Task 21 – painting from Runcorn Trestle to Node Y5) was completed in September, several weeks ahead of schedule.
- 2.37 Project development for the LCR Year 2 task to replace one of the SJB’s hanger cables is progressing, with an expected site start in Spring 2018.
- 2.38 Design work on the carriageway reconfiguration on the Silver Jubilee Bridge for its use following opening of the new crossing is ongoing and being co-ordinated with the delinking works within the MerseyLink contract (Widnes side), the STEP scheme for cycle improvements on the approaches to SJB and the project to develop potential delinking schemes on the Runcorn side.
- 2.39 A new agency engineer started in the team at the beginning of October, with the purpose of assisting with inspection, maintenance and technical approval work.

- 2.40 A new senior engineer and engineer have been appointed and an agency senior engineer joined the team at the beginning of October with the purpose of assisting with design of the capital improvement and maintenance programme. An advert is currently being prepared to advertise for an engineer to the current vacancies.

### 3.0 Emerging Issues

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

#### *Development & Investment Services*

- 3.2 The programme is up to speed with numerous inbound and outbound delegations and visits. Officers from the BIG Team supported the programme by representing the LCR at Gamescom in Cologne and All Energy in Glasgow. Liverpool Vision have prepared a legal agreement to recover a cash match contribution from Halton Borough Council in support of the programme of not more than £73,122.00
- 3.3 The LEP have interviewed for the appointment of a Key Account Manager to manage a portfolio of foreign owned SME's in Halton, Knowsley, Sefton and the City of Liverpool. It is, therefore, anticipated that an appointment will be made shortly. The appointee will 'hot desk' in Halton and work with the BIG Team to Key Account Manage the Borough's most significant foreign owned companies
- 3.4 Manufacturer Live & Smart Factory Expo, the UK's largest dedicated manufacturing event, will take place at the Liverpool ACC in November 2017. The BIG Team have organised a series of tours of both local manufacturing companies and Sci-Tech Daresbury BIG Team members will also staff the LCR Host City Stand on November 16 & 17

#### *Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement*

- 3.5 Due to a period of extremely we weather during August and September the popular Vintage Rally had to be cancelled. The ground within Victoria Park was saturated and would not have supported the heavy equipment that is brought into the park as part of the rally.

#### *Highways, Transportation & Logistics and Physical Environment*

##### *Development Management*

- 3.6 The 'DALP – Deliver and Allocations Local Plan' will update the relevant sections of the Core Strategy and will replace the UDP which dates from 2005. Once the DALP is adopted, Halton's development plan / local plan will consist of the updated Core Strategy, the DALP, and the Joint Waste Local Plan
- 3.7 The DALP sets out the future development ambitions for the Borough to 2037. A very important aspect of the DALP is that it allocates land for development.
- 3.8 The draft document has recently been to the Environment PPB and there is also a Member Local Plan Working Party reviewing the emerging document.
- 3.9 It is anticipated that a public consultation will be undertaken in the autumn, with a final document being submitted to the government for examination in summer 2018. The Draft DALP is currently with Executive Board for consideration.

- 3.10 This Government consultation on “Planning for the right homes in the right places” opens from 14 Sept to 9 Nov 17 and sets out a number of proposals to reform the planning system to increase the supply of new homes and increase local authority capacity to manage growth. Proposals include:
- a standard method for calculating local authorities’ housing need
  - a statement of common ground to improve how local authorities work together to meet housing and other needs across boundaries
  - making the use of viability assessments simpler, quicker and more transparent
  - increased planning application fees in those areas where local planning authorities are delivering the homes their communities need
  - how neighbourhood planning groups can have greater certainty on the level of housing need to plan for
- 3.11 The majority of interest has been in the proposed standard approach to assessing local housing need. The paper stated that the three key principles that the standard method to assessing local housing need should be based on are:
- a) Simple—there should be an easy and transparent process for local people to understand;
  - b) Based on publicly available data –which might include national data such as that from the Office for National Statistics, or robust local data;
  - c) Realistic –to reflect the actual need for homes in each area, taking into account the affordability of homes locally. High house prices indicate a relative imbalance between the supply and demand for new homes, and makes housing less affordable. The affordability of new homes is the best evidence that supply is not keeping up with demand.
- 3.12 In addition, the government consider that any approach must allow an understanding of the minimum number of homes that are needed across England as a whole, while also reflecting the effect of the government's Industrial Strategy as they seek to promote prosperity in every part of the country.
- 3.13 For some local planning authorities, such as Halton, a reduction in their local housing need compared to the existing approach can be attributed to the Gov’s method not making a specific adjustment to take account of anticipated employment growth. Local planning authorities are able to plan for a higher number than set out in the Gov’s proposed method. This means that, where there is a policy in place to substantially increase economic growth, as is the case in Halton, local planning authorities may wish to plan for a higher level of growth than the Gov’s formula proposes.
- 3.14 The Gov also proposes to amend planning guidance so that where a plan is based on an assessment of local housing need in excess of that which the standard method would provide, Planning Inspectors are advised to work on the assumption that the approach adopted is sound unless there are compelling reasons to indicate otherwise.
- 3.15 The draft SHELMA looks at the latest demographic data and projections, the latest economic data and projections, and recent market evidence to consider what the appropriate Objectively-Assessed Need for housing and employment land is for the Liverpool City Region and West Lancashire as a whole and for each Council area individually, for the period 2012-2037. As part of the City Region devolution arrangements, this is an important step in identifying the housing and employment land needs that will form part of the City Region’s Single Spatial Framework and will also be a material consideration in the future revision of each council’s Local Plan.
- 3.16 The SHELMA also identifies the most up-to-date view of the Housing Market Area that each council sits within, and identifies that the seven councils covered by the study make up the Liverpool City Region Functional Economic Market Area. In addition, within the draft SHELMA is an assessment of the anticipated demand for large-scale logistics (B8) uses across the study area to 2037 and an assessment of the potential for existing employment allocations to help meet this demand.

3.17 Warrington Borough Council has recently undertaken public consultation on their 'Preferred Development Options' for its replacement Local Plan. Warrington's proposals raise significant issues that affect Halton. The proposals include:

- 22,260 dwellings (20 years at 1,113 per annum)
- 381 ha. of employment land accommodating jobs growth of 31,000.
- Green Belt release to accommodate 8,791 dwellings and 251 Ha. of employment land.

3.18 Halton has raised concerns that relate to the Green Belt Gap between Runcorn/Moore (Halton) and Warrington as affected by the proposals for:

1. the Port Warrington element of Warrington Waterfront
2. South West Urban Extension (SWUE)

3.19 The Building Control Team have resigned to take up position in the private sector. Measures are being implemented to provide service continuity in the short-term. It is anticipated that the collaboration with Knowsley will continue and a Building Control company, wholly owned by both Councils, will be established in the longer-term to meet statutory duties.

#### Traffic Division

3.20 The Traffic Regulation Orders throughout the Borough are in urgent need of review, whilst some are underway; the resources to carry out this work have been reduced. An Order is being made to amalgamate all speed limits and move to a map based and this will be advertised in November.

3.21 A new Upper Tier COMAH site has been designated in Widnes; it is the Emerald Kalama Ltd site in Dans Road. The site has moved to Upper Tier Status due to the increase in the inventory of two substances, which are already stored / involved in industrial processes on the Emerald Kalama site.

#### Highway Development

3.22 Results still awaited for bid submissions to LGF 3 - schemes at Widnes Fiddlers Ferry Rd gyratory, Halton Lea and Gorse Point (Bayer) and station access – applications currently being appraised.

3.23 Funding has recently been secured for Prescott to Widnes cycle links, under LCR 'SUD' funding.

3.24 LTP PI16 - Highways Asset Management work and targets may be affected in the future by reporting of parts of the network for Combined Authority Key Route Network (KRN) and Mersey Gateway network by others.

#### Structures

3.25 A proposal from the contractor to implement a part-time closure of the footbridge on SJB during the arch painting works is currently being evaluated. This is a risk mitigation measure designed to protect the public while scaffolding operations are underway.

3.26 An opportunity to obtain LGF1 funding towards the SJB arch painting scheme is currently being taken forward with Merseytravel.

#### 4.0 Risk Control Measures

- 4.1 Risk control forms an integral part of the Council's Business Planning and performance monitoring arrangements. As such Directorate Risk Registers were updated in tandem with the development of the suite of 2017 – 187 Directorate Business Plans.

Progress concerning the implementation any relevant high-risk mitigation measures will be reported to the various Policy and performance Boards at Quarter 2.

#### 5.0 High Priority Equality Actions

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

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

[http://www3.halton.gov.uk/Pages/councildemocracy/pdfs/EandD/Equality\\_-\\_objectives\\_progress\\_report\\_-\\_April\\_2013.pdf](http://www3.halton.gov.uk/Pages/councildemocracy/pdfs/EandD/Equality_-_objectives_progress_report_-_April_2013.pdf)

#### 6.0 Performance Overview

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

It should be noted that given the significant and unrelenting downward financial pressures faced by the Council there is a requirement for Departments to make continuous in-year adjustments to the allocation of resources in order to ensure that the Council maintains a balanced budget.

Whilst every effort continues to be made to minimise any negative impact of such arrangements upon service delivery they may inevitably result in a delay in the delivery of some of the objectives and targets contained within this report.

#### Policy, Planning and Transportation

##### Key Objectives / milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q2 Progress
PPT 01	Review progress against Liverpool City Region (LCR) Silver Jubilee Bridge (SJB)maintenance strategy and deliver 2017/18 major bridge maintenance works programme.	
PPT 02	To deliver the 2017/18 LTP Capital Programme March 2018.	
PPT 03	Ensure continued unrestricted availability of the Highway network and to allow future maintenance to be delivered on a steady state, lifecycle planned basis.	

Ref	Milestones	Q2 Progress
PPT 04	Continue to maintain the Highway Authorities statutory duties in accordance with Section 41 and 58 of the Highways Act.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PPT 05	Consult on the draft Delivery and Site Allocations Local Plan (DALP) <b>November 2017</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PPT 06	Ensure that at least one exercise is carried out each financial to test the COMAH plans <b>March 2018</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Supporting

#### PPT 01

Site works for Task 21 have been completed ahead of schedule. Arrangements for the SJB monitoring and inspection activities within Year 2 are on course for site completion during the autumn.

#### PPT 02

Design works has commenced as part of Year 3 STEP programme to improve parking and access to Runcorn East Rail station and a scheme to improve connectivity between Runcorn Town Centre to Heath Business Park was completed in the period.

Design work has commenced to provide improvements to cycling and walking from Runcorn Town Centre to Widnes Town centre across a reconfigured Silver Jubilee bridge deck.

In addition we have commenced design work to improve walking and cycling access to businesses along Astmoor busway including upgrading existing traffic signal junction equipment.

Works to provide for north/south cycle route have commenced on site for West Runcorn intended to replace the cycling provision on Central Expressway.

Phase 2 and 3 of reconstruction of the Kingsway central reserve has commenced in the period and are programmed to be completed February 2018.

#### PPT 03

Footway reconstruction programme is progressing well with works programmed for South Lane, Thomas Street, Clinton View, Kenneth Road and Cradley.

Site investigation is due to commence in October on the carriageway maintenance programme.

The annual programme of Bus Stop upgrades will continue although with ITB funding considerably reduced this year we will not be able to upgrade as many stops as in previous years.

Work is ongoing on Halton's response to the new Highway Management Code of Practice, and ensuring continuous improvement on Self-Assessment for Incentive Funding, to deliver lifecycle planning and steady state maintenance.

#### PPT 04

Salt stocks at present stand at 1250t in readiness for the winter period. Feasibility of funding and providing a Salt Barn for the Depot at Picow Farm Road is currently being investigated. This will help eliminate salt wastage and free up room at the depot.

The review of the Thermal map for the primary gritting route has enabled a Cold Route to be developed, which has the potential to reduce the amount of gritting undertaken on marginal nights when the forecast

site is at 1°C. Audit testing of the cold route is to be carried out to confirm thermal conditions.

PPT 05

Target taken from the adopted Local Development Scheme 2017. The draft DALP is currently with Executive Board for consideration, prior to a public consultation in November 2017.

PPT 06

The Runcorn Site COMAH Operators Exercise took place in April 2017 and went well.

**Key Performance Indicators**

Ref	Measure	16 / 17 Actual	17 / 18 Target	Q2 Actual	Q2 Progress	Direction of travel
PPT LI 01	Percentage of third party compensation claims due to alleged highway / footway defects successfully defended. Annual Calculation.	49.00%	N/A	49.00% (2016/17)	N / A	N / A
PPT LI 02	Net additional homes provided	700	552	N / A	N / A	N / A
PPT LI 03	Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)	138	138	N / A	N / A	N / A
PPT LI 04	Processing of planning applications (%) as measured against targets for, a) 'major' applications b) 'minor' applications c) 'other' applications	77.8% 88.9% 100%	60% 80% 80%	100% 82% 91%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	  
PPT LI 05	To ensure a rolling five year supply of housing land. Deliverable supply (units) as a % of rolling 5 year requirement.	105%	105%	151%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
PPT LI 06	No. of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions. (5 Year Av.)	N / A	N / A	N / A	N / A	N / A
PPT LI 07	No. of children (<16) killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions. (5 year Av.)	N / A	N / A	N / A	N / A	N / A
PPT LI 08	No. of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic collisions. (5 Year Av.)	41.2	N / A	N / A	N / A	N / A

Ref	Measure	16 / 17 Actual	17 / 18 Target	Q2 Actual	Q2 Progress	Direction of travel
PPT LI 09	The percentage change in number of people killed or seriously injured during the calendar year compared to the previous year. Figures are based on a 3 year rolling average, up to the current year.	5.4	N / A	N / A	N / A	N / A
PPT LI 10	No. of people slightly injured in road traffic collisions.	77	N / A	N / A	N / A	N / A
PPT LI 11	The percentage change in number of children killed or seriously injured during the calendar year compared to the previous year. Figures are based on a 3 year rolling average, up to the current year.	-8.30%	N / A	N / A	N / A	N / A
PPT LI 12	Damage to roads and pavements (% above intervention levels) repaired within 24 hours.	100%	100	N / A	N / A	N / A
PPT LI 13	Average number of days taken to repair street lighting fault: non-DNO (Street lights controlled by the authority). (Previously BVPI 215a).	5	5	4		
PPT LI 14	Average number of days taken to repair street lighting fault: DNO (Street lights controlled by the energy provider). (Previously BVPI 215b).	28	30	35		
PPT LI 15	% of network where structural maintenance should be considered: A) Principal Roads B) Non-Principal Roads C) Unclassified Roads	1.00% 1.00% 3.00%	2.00% 4.00% 9.00%	N / A N / A N / A	N / A N / A N / A	N / A N / A N / A
PPT LI 16	Bus service punctuality, Part 1: The proportion of non-frequent scheduled services on time (%): a) Percentage of buses starting route on time	96.22%	98.55%	96.42		

Ref	Measure	16 / 17 Actual	17 / 18 Target	Q2 Actual	Q2 Progress	Direction of travel
	b) Percentage of buses on time at intermediate timing points	86.52%	95.00%	87.95		
PPT LI 17	% of footpaths and Public Rights of Way (PROW) which are easy to use.	84%	82%	N / A	N / A	N / A
PPT LI 18	No. of passengers on community based accessible transport	177,146	182,000	88,061		
PPT LI 19	% of bus stops with Quality Corridor accessibility features. (No. of stops – 603)	73% (434 Bus stops)	78.00% (470 Bus Stops)	73% (434 Bus stops)		
PPT LI 20	Number of local bus passenger journeys originating in the authority area in one year (000's)	5,719	5,676	2,739		

### Supporting Commentary

#### PPT LI 01

Figure reported annually at year end. The Figures are reported for information only but an increase in the reported figure shows improved performance.

#### PPT LI 02

Target exceeded in 2016/17, full data to be reported annually at year end.

#### PPT LI 03

Target achieved in 2016/17.

#### PPT LI 04

At present, performance is on track to meet the target for the current financial year, as well as performing better than at the same period in the previous financial year.

#### PPT LI 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10 & 11

Data is only currently available up to January 2017 due to staff shortages.

#### PPT LI 12

Figures confirmed via monthly KPI results from Contractor.

#### PPT LI 13

Street lighting contractor repair time on track and ahead of same period last year.

#### PPT LI 14

Performance is down due to delays in gaining access to residents gardens to carry out repairs

#### PPT LI 15

Annual surveys being undertaken at present and results will be reported as information becomes available. Performance is in-line with the Highways Asset Management Plan consideration needs to be given to further overall long term investment and highway condition.

#### PPT LI 16

Both indicators continue to perform well given the current level of roadworks. The operators continue to monitor services to identify problem areas and make changes to the service schedules as required

#### PPT LI 17

Surveys & maintenance programme undertaken throughout the year, with results collated and reported in Q4.

#### PPT LI 18

Passenger numbers are marginally down on the same period last year (1.57%). It is anticipated that figures will recover to the previous year levels by the end of the current reporting year.

#### PPT LI 19

Due to the reduction in funding it is anticipated that this indicator will fall short of the expected target for 2017/18. By the close of the year 74% of the bus stops will be compliant.

#### PPT LI 20

Passenger numbers have remained at the same level as last year. The bus network will change significantly once the Mersey Gateway opens and as result it is not possible to identify the effect on passenger numbers.

### ***Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement***

#### **Key Objectives / milestones**

Ref	Milestones	Q2 Progress
CE 03	Manage greenspace areas as per the agreed specification - <b>March 2018.</b>	
CE 04a	Continue to deliver communications and awareness raising initiatives to ensure that participation with the Council's recycling services is maximised and that residents comply with the requirements of the Council's Household Waste Collection Policy - <b>March 2018.</b>	
CE 04b	Undertake a review of the Council's Waste Management Strategy and associated Policies and update as necessary - <b>March 2018.</b>	
CE 05a	Review, assess the effectiveness of, and update as necessary the Council's Environmental Enforcement Plans and Policies - <b>March 2018.</b>	
CE 05b	Work in partnership with external organisations and enforcement agencies and deliver joint initiatives to tackle environmental crime and anti-social behaviour - <b>March 2018.</b>	

#### **Supporting Commentary**

##### CE 03

The mowing season commenced on 20 March 2017. This mowing season will be the second since the implementation of the reduced frequency cutting (one cut every three weeks on amenity grass areas). The Q2 period is in the height of the mowing season. Over 95% of cuts were made within the scheduled time. Over the remaining 5% the cuts were made within 5 days of the schedule.

#### CE 04a

This work will remain on-going throughout the year. Actions in Q1 have included community engagement events being held in Widnes Town Centre, Runcorn Town Centre and Trident Retail Park with the aim of raising awareness of contamination in recycling services and to improve quality of the recycling material capture.

A new Recycling Guidelines document has been produced that will be used across Halton and Merseyside. The aim of this document is to reduce confusion for householders as to what they can and cannot recycle through the blue bin collection service to help improve material quality. This will help reduce contamination and save money.

#### CE 04b

This review is underway and Members will be provided with updates throughout the year

#### CE 05a

A review of the Council's arrangements for reducing incidents of fly-tipping, litter and dog fouling, and the subsequent issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices for such offences, has commenced. As part of this work, proposals will be presented to Members in respect of additional measures being covered by the new Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) to help deal more effectively with dog fouling and other forms of anti-social behaviour caused by irresponsible dog ownership.

#### CE 05b

This work will remain on-going throughout the year and Members will be provided with updates on joint initiatives delivered.

### **Key Performance Indicators**

Ref	Measure	16 / 17 Actual	17 / 18 Target	Q2 Actual	Q2 Progress	Direction of travel
CE LI 05	Residual household waste per household.	580kgs	575kgs	251kgs		
CE LI 06	Household waste recycled and composted.	43.63%	44%	50.32%		

### **Supporting Commentary**

#### CE LI 05 & CE LI 06

This is a cumulative figure. Estimated performance in Q2 is in better than corresponding period from last year and with initiatives planned to help reduce the amount of waste produced per household it is anticipated that this target will be met.

### **Development and Investment Services**

### **Key Objectives / milestones**

Ref	Milestones	Q2 Progress
EEP 01a	Develop Halton Inward Investment Prospectus – <b>April 2017</b>	

Ref	Milestones	Q2 Progress
EEP 01b	Produce Local Economic Assessment – <b>September 2018</b>	
EEP 01c	Deliver Youth Employment Gateway – <b>December 2017</b>	
EEP 03a	Completion of Phase 1 of Alstom development – <b>November 2017</b>	
EEP 03b	Completion of Phase 1 of Crosville Development – <b>April 2017</b>	
EEP 03c	Completion of Phase 2 of Crosville Development – <b>June 2017</b>	
EEP 03d	Completion of Castlefields Lakeside Phase 2 – <b>September 2017</b>	
EEP 03e	(In partnership with JV) Development of Sci-Tech Daresbury Masterplan – <b>September 2017</b>	
EEP 03f	Commence remediation of Gorse Point – <b>September 2017</b>	

### Supporting Commentary

#### EEP 01a

The Halton Inward Investment prospectus is an integral part of the development of the 'Halton Tomorrow' visioning document and will provide a local accent to the Liverpool City Region prospectus detailing the specific sites and propositions that make up the 'Halton Offer'. The prospectus will be completed in Quarter 3 2017/18.

#### EEP 01b

The Local Economic Assessment will provide the baseline data to inform the development of 'Halton Tomorrow' and the 'Halton Inward Investment Prospectus' and will be progressed, with the support of partners, and completed in Quarter 3 2017\18.

#### EEP 01c

Performance remains very good at end of Q2 (Sept 2017)

- 246 18-24 year old unemployed people started on programme (October 2015 – December 2016) (original profile = 201 starts)
- 123 job starts (profile target = 101 by December 2017)
- 48 sustained jobs (26 weeks in work) (profile target = 70 by December 2017)

The IDS Officer commenced employment at the end of August 2017 Following in-house training, file audit checks and verification of job starts and sustained outcomes have been prioritised.

#### EEP 03a

Phase 1 stage 1 is complete, with only minor snagging continuing.

#### EEP 03b

Marstons pub opened on schedule.

#### EEP 03c

There have been issues in securing the landlords electricity supply which is required for the carpark lighting. This has resulted in a delay. It is expected that the facility will be open in November 2017.

#### EEP 03d

Final completion is delayed due to highways and landscaping works outstanding. All houses are complete and only one remaining for sale this quarter.

#### EEP 03e

JV partners are continuing to deliver the next phase of the overall masterplan (as described in the Science, Innovation & Growth Strategy). There is no current proposal to produce a detailed masterplan document – however the masterplan drawings are continually updated. The Implementation Programme will be updated but this is unlikely to happen in the next quarter.

#### EEP 03f

Planning application for new access road and site remediation were both submitted this quarter.

### **Key Performance Indicators**

Ref	Measure	16 / 17 Actual	17 / 18 Target	Q2 Actual	Q2 Progress	Direction of travel
EEP LI 02	Occupancy of HBC industrial Units	88%	90%	88%		
EEP LI 03	Occupancy of Widnes Market Hall	84%	84%	82%		
EEP LI 13	Number of Businesses Supported	N / A	TBC	207		
EEP LI 14	Number of inward investment enquiries per annum.	221	250	111 (44.4%)		
EEP LI 15	Inward investment enquiry conversion rate per annum (%)	9%	10%	8 (7%)		

### **Supporting Commentary**

#### EEP LI 02

The Council now owns only one industrial property Black Cat adjacent to Moor Lane having sold most of its industrial units in 2016/17.

#### EEP LI 03

Three businesses have left the market and two have downsized the number of stalls they trade from all citing declining trade for their business decision. Two new businesses have started trading and an existing business has expanded.

#### EEP LI 13

In Quarter II 2017 -2018 the Halton Growth Hub supported 207 companies. since its inception in October 2015 the programme has supported 1,368 companies.

#### EEP LI 14

48 commercial property\inward investment enquiries were managed in Quarter II 2017/18. The cumulative inward investment enquiries total (Quarter 1 – 4) is, therefore, 111 (44.4%) against a target of 250.

#### EEP LI 15

1 inward investment enquiry was ‘converted’ (inward investment enquiries ‘converted’ into actual investment projects) in Quarter II. The cumulative conversions total (Quarter 1 + Quarter 2) is, therefore, 7% against a target of 10%

## Housing Strategy

Ref	Milestones	Q2 Progress
1f	The Homelessness strategy be kept under annual review to determine if any changes or updates are required.	

### Supporting Commentary

The annual homelessness strategy review event will take place in December 2017. The action plan is presently being reviewed and will be updated to reflect key priorities.

The homelessness strategy is due to be fully reviewed 2017/2018 and consultation events with partners are due to commence December 2017. A five year strategy documents will be completed and passed to senior management for approval early 2018. The strategy will include a five year action plan, which will determine the LA priorities and key objectives, to ensure it reflects economical and legislative changes.

### Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	16 / 17 Actual	17 / 18 Target	Q2 Actual	Q2 Progress	Direction of travel
ASC 16	Number of households living in Temporary Accommodation.	1	17	7		
ASC 17	Households who considered themselves as homeless, who approached the LA housing advice service, and for whom housing advice casework intervention resolved their situation (the number divided by the number of thousand households in the Borough)	6.62	6.00%	1.93%		

### Supporting Commentary

#### ASC 16

National and Local trends indicate a gradual increase in homelessness, which will impact upon future service provision, including temporary accommodation placements.

The introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2016 will have a big impact upon homelessness services, which will result in a vast increase in the use of the temporary accommodation provision.

The Housing Solutions Team are community focused and promote a proactive approach to preventing homelessness. There are established prevention measures in place which are fully utilised by the Housing Solutions team to ensure vulnerable clients are fully aware of the services and options available.

#### ASC 17

The Housing Solutions Team promotes a community focused service, with emphasis placed upon homeless prevention.

The officers now have a range of resources and options that are offered to vulnerable clients threatened with homelessness. The team strive to improve service provision across the district. Due to the early intervention and proactive approach, the officers have continued to successfully reduce homelessness within the district.

## 7.0 Major Planning Applications Determined

The Major applications determined in Q1 2017 / 2018 are as follows:

REFVAL	PROPOSAL
17/00291/FUL	Proposed partial demolition and development of a three storey theatre building, with extension to existing brasserie, situated in the rear elevation of the building at Widnes Sixth Form College, Cronton Lane, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 5WA
17/00194/FUL	Proposed full planning permission for 9200sq metre industrial unit for B1, B2 and B8 use, including new access of A533 on Land Between Aston Fields Road And Northwich Road, Runcorn
17/00374/S73	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act to vary Condition 1 of permission 17/00061/FUL to facilitate the repositioning of the approved two storey office building on Land To East Of Stewards Brook, Viking Park, West Bank Dock Estate, Widnes Cheshire
17/00325/S73	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act to vary condition 2 of permission 15/00194/FUL to substitute plans 14100 (PL) 001B and 14100 (PL) 4000 for approved plans 14100 (PL) 101, 201 and 001A to add Juliette Balcony to side elevation and substitute traffic control plates for the approved gates at St Johns Presbyterian Church Victoria Road, Higher Runcorn, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 5BE

**8.0 Financial Statement**
**COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**
**Revenue Budget as at 30 September 2017**

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (Overspend) £'000
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
Employees	13,311	6,851	7,096	(245)
Other Premises	1,965	1,182	1,163	19
Supplies & Services	1,634	812	729	83
Book Fund	167	89	86	3
Hired & Contracted Services	1,098	459	441	18
Food Provisions	570	309	351	(42)
School Meals Food	1,983	714	709	5
Transport	55	37	29	8
Other Agency Costs	442	149	136	13
Waste Disposal Contracts	5,775	2,165	1,969	196
Grants To Voluntary Organisations	67	21	3	18
Grant To Norton Priory	172	86	88	(2)
Rolling Projects	108	108	108	0
Capital Financing	84	10	7	3
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>27,431</b>	<b>12,992</b>	<b>12,915</b>	<b>77</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Sales Income	-2,104	-1,118	-1,024	(94)
School Meals Sales	-2,324	-886	-915	29
Fees & Charges Income	-5,387	-3,041	-2,952	(89)
Rents Income	-297	-90	-32	(58)
Government Grant Income	-1,246	-31	-31	0
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-677	-378	-375	(3)
Schools SLA Income	-99	-98	-96	(2)
Internal Fees Income	-191	-78	-61	(17)
School Meals Other Income	-2,096	-1,664	-1,663	(1)
Catering Fees	-182	-91	-35	(56)
Capital Salaries	-123	-31	-28	(3)
Rolling Projects Income	-108	0	0	0
Transfers From Reserves	-173	-165	-165	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>-15,007</b>	<b>-7,671</b>	<b>-7,377</b>	<b>(294)</b>
<b>Net Operational Expenditure</b>	<b>12,424</b>	<b>5,321</b>	<b>5,538</b>	<b>(217)</b>
<b><u>Recharges</u></b>				
Premises Support	1,760	880	880	0
Transport Recharges	2,072	920	917	3
Departmental Support Services	9	0	0	0
Central Support Services	3,467	1,769	1,769	0
Asset Charges	85	0	0	0
HBC Support Costs Income	-449	-291	-291	0
<b>Net Total Recharges</b>	<b>6,944</b>	<b>3,278</b>	<b>3,275</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Net Department Expenditure</b>	<b>19,368</b>	<b>8,599</b>	<b>8,813</b>	<b>(214)</b>

### Comments on the above figures

The net Department spend is £214,000 over budget profile at the end of the second quarter of the 2017/18 financial year.

Employee spend is currently over budget due partly to staff turnover saving targets not being achieved and casual and agency usage at the stadium and for catering being greater than expected. Spend on casual staff is exceeding the available budget to date by £100,000, although £13,000 less than at this point last year. Agency spend has reduced in the past quarter and is £51,000 less than at this point last year.

Food and bar provisions are currently overspent by £ 42,000 to date. This is mainly due to spend at stadium catering and bars related to events which took place over the summer months.

New arrangements are still not yet fully in place for Waste Contracts and as a result costs for the current year are lower than forecast. It is expected once the new contract is wholly operational costs will increase and be more in line with the annual budget.

As reported over previous quarters sources of income for the Department continue to struggle to meet targets, further details on specific items are included below.

After the second quarter sales income is still considerably short of the target to date by £93,000. This is mainly food and drink related and evident on commercial catering and the Stadium.

Fees and charges are also struggling to meet increased targets. Currently this is underachieved by £89,000 across the Department. The main items causing this are architect fees, burials, Open Spaces chargeable works, stadium pitch bookings, Trade Waste and fines for depositing litter.

Internal fees are under budget target so far and mainly due to little room hire income received in Leisure Centres, Stadium Catering and Fitness.

The Brindley theatre has faced a reduction in ticket sales after the terrorist attack in Manchester earlier this year when there was a noticeable fall in sales. Increased income targets mean that this service is likely to end the year with an overspend position. Where income has usually overachieved and offset overspending expenditure, there is little scope for this to happen this year. However despite this, net spend is still likely to be lower than last year partly meeting the saving target.

**COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

**Capital Projects as at 30 September 2017**

	2017/18 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation to Date £'000	Actual Spend £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
Stadium Works	30	0	0	30
Peel House Cemetery Works	383	100	70	313
Runcorn Cemetery Extension	9	9	11	-2
Open Space Schemes	602	250	242	360
Childrens Playground Equipment	55	10	6	49
Playground – The Glen	25	0	0	25
Playground – Runcorn Hill Park	75	75	66	9
Playground – Crow Wood Park	450	30	21	429
Landfill Tax Credit Scheme	160	0	0	160
Phoenix Park	110	10	2	108
Sandymoor Playing Fields	600	100	74	526
Victoria Park Glass House	150	0	0	150
Widnes Recreation	0	0	9	-9
Litter Bins	20	10	10	10
Norton Priory Project	455	5	2	453
Brindley Café Extension	80	0	0	80
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,204</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>2,691</b>

**Comments on the above figures.**

Work has now commenced on the open spaces schemes and parks and has now been set as rolling programme of works to span the next 5 years.

Works on the Brindley Café Extension, Victoria Park Glass House and Norton Priory Project are now likely to commence during the last quarter of 17/18 with the bulk of the scheme to completed in 18/19.

**ECONOMY ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY**

**Revenue Budget as at 30 September 2017**

	Annual Budget  £'000	Budget To Date  £'000	Actual To Date  £'000	Variance to Date  (Overspend) £'000
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
Employees	4,620	2,255	2,266	(11)
Repairs & Maintenance	2,294	862	861	1
Premises	43	42	42	0
Energy & Water Costs	642	238	208	30
NNDR	538	510	495	15
Rents	353	258	254	4
Economic Regeneration Activities	42	1	1	0
Supplies & Services	2,777	924	924	0
Grant to Non Vol Organisations	87	29	29	0
Agency Related	1	0	0	0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>11,397</b>	<b>5,119</b>	<b>5,080</b>	<b>39</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Fees & Charges	-291	-122	-125	3
Rent – Markets	-789	-392	-391	(1)
Rent – Investment Properties	-161	-74	-68	(6)
Rent – Commercial Properties	-879	-355	-353	(2)
Government Grant	-3,025	-780	-780	0
Reimbursements & Other Income	-182	-110	-111	1
Recharges to Capital	-162	-46	-46	0
Transfer from Reserves	-637	-163	-163	0
Schools SLA Income	-532	-502	-497	(5)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>-6,658</b>	<b>-2,544</b>	<b>-2,534</b>	<b>(10)</b>
<b>Net Operational Expenditure</b>	<b>4,739</b>	<b>2,575</b>	<b>2,546</b>	<b>29</b>
<b><u>Recharges</u></b>				
Asset Rental Support Costs	4	0	0	0
Premises Support Costs	1,746	874	874	0
Transport Support Costs	23	11	11	0
Central Support Service Costs	1,865	958	958	0
Repairs & Maintenance Recharge	-2,412	-1,206	-1,206	0
Income				
Accommodation Recharge Income	-2,624	-1,312	-1,312	0
Central Support Service Recharge	-1,890	-945	-945	0
Income				
<b>Net Total Recharges</b>	<b>-3,288</b>	<b>-1,620</b>	<b>-1,620</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Department Expenditure</b>	<b>1,451</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>29</b>

### Comments on the above figures

Economy Enterprise & Property Departmental budget is projected to be slightly under budget profile at year end. The significant budget variances are listed below.

The negative variance on employee costs is lower than was reported in quarter 1 due to an additional vacancy. However the targets against staff turnover savings are still not being met due to the low number of vacancies held within the Department.

Following reconciliation by the energy providers, the Council has received a number of refunds relating to previous years utility charges.

NNDR expenditure is below budget due to the revaluation of a number of council properties.

Schools SLA income will not be achieved this financial year. Due to the increase of staffing costs this means that the SLA charges have increased, which in turn has meant that not as many schools are buying back the service.

The commercial property income target will not be met due to the courts relocation to Rutland House taking longer than anticipated.

A delay in the construction of the investment property in Runcorn has resulted in the Department not achieving the projected investment income.

Every effort will be made to ensure that expenditure on controllable budgets is kept to a minimum within the Department for the remainder of the financial year. It is forecast net spend at year end will be below the annual budget.

## **ECONOMY ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY**

### **Capital Projects as at 30 September 2017**

Capital Expenditure	2017/18 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation to Date £'000	Actual Spend £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
3MG	4,966	63	63	4,903
Sci Tech Daresbury – EZ Grant	483	0	0	483
Johnsons Lane Infrastructure	66	0	0	66
Decontamination of Land	50	0	0	50
Venture Fields	6,000	6	6	5,994
Former Crossville Site	1,150	926	926	224
Signage at The Hive	87	87	87	0
Widnes Market Refurbishment	100	53	53	47
Equality Act Improvement Works	150	37	37	113
Linnets Club House	1,379	634	634	745
Milton Road (Former Simms Cross Caretakers House)	14	0	0	14
Widnes Road Car Park, 29-31 Moor Lane & Land at Halebank	235	235	235	0
The Croft	30	0	0	30
Broseley House	690	0	0	690
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>15,400</b>	<b>2,041</b>	<b>2,041</b>	<b>13,359</b>

#### **Comments on the above figures.**

**3MG** – Alstom have now opened the Transport Technology Centre and the Training Academy. Halton Employment Partnership have supported the recruitment of the new employees and the first cohort of apprenticeship have started their training programme.

Some expenditure will take place over the next quarter, this will be to reimburse Alstom for costs they have already incurred in relation to Council projects such as the rail sidings and installing the gas and water provision for the whole site.

**Sci Tech Daresbury Enterprise Zone (EZ) Grant** - Grant to be drawn down over this financial year to pay for JV design and planning fees for the next phase of the EZ – Project Violet (3 new buildings). Works have been commissioned by the JV and are underway with a submission date for planning anticipated in the October 2017.

**Widnes Market Refurbishment** - Due to the project having to go back out to tender the work on the roof has been delayed until Financial Year 18-19. All other works will be complete in the next few weeks.

**Equality Act Improvement Works** - Work at Norton Priory is now complete. Projects in the forthcoming months relate to Linnets Club House, Crow Wood Park Pavilion and the Vine Street Centre.

**Linnets Club House** – Work is continuing on site and should be complete October.

**Venture Fields** - Factory on site is now complete and long term lease has been signed. The total cost of the development less the retention fees will be paid in quarter 3.

**Policy, Planning & Transportation**

**Revenue Budget as at 30 September 2017**

	Annual Budget  £'000	Budget To Date  £'000	Actual To Date  £'000	Variance to Date (Overspend) £'000
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
Employees	4,307	2,151	2,143	8
Other Premises	171	63	59	4
Contracted Services	244	53	19	34
Supplies & Services	172	152	142	10
Street Lighting	1,695	606	606	0
Highways Maintenance	2,365	983	969	14
Fleet Transport	1,397	610	608	2
Lease Car Contracts	40	26	26	0
Bus Support	660	320	358	(38)
Finance Charges	145	32	31	1
Grants to Vol. Organisations	68	34	34	0
LCR Levy	754	377	377	0
NRA Levy	63	63	63	0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>12,081</b>	<b>5,470</b>	<b>5,435</b>	<b>35</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Sales	-316	-194	-198	4
Planning Fees	-562	-263	-253	-10
Building Control Fees	-209	-104	-91	-13
Other Fees & Charges	-592	-333	-351	18
Rent	-8	-4	0	-4
Grants & Reimbursements	-230	-133	-143	10
Government Grant Income	-129	-72	-72	0
Efficiency Savings	-60	0	0	0
Schools SLAs	-42	-42	-44	2
Capital Salaries	-317	-12	-12	0
LCR Levy Reimbursement	-754	-377	-377	0
Transfers from Reserves	-100	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>-3,319</b>	<b>-1,534</b>	<b>-1,541</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Net Operational Expenditure</b>	<b>8,762</b>	<b>3,936</b>	<b>3,894</b>	<b>42</b>
<b><u>Recharges</u></b>				
Premises Recharges	579	290	290	0
Transport Recharges	484	242	220	22
Asset Charges	358	179	179	0
Central Recharges	1,333	666	666	0
Borrow to Save Cost	240	120	120	0
Transport Recharge Income	-2,736	-1,368	-1,274	-94
Central Recharge Income	-1,391	-696	-696	0
<b>Net Total Recharges</b>	<b>-1,133</b>	<b>-567</b>	<b>-495</b>	<b>-72</b>
<b>Net Department Expenditure</b>	<b>7,629</b>	<b>3,369</b>	<b>3,399</b>	<b>-30</b>

### Comments on the above figures

In overall terms revenue spending at the end of quarter 2 is over budget, due to a number of expenditure and income budget areas.

Supplies and services and contracted services are currently underspent due to tighter controls from managers within the department.

Bus support is currently overspent due to certain routes being continued with no funding in place, although the unfunded routes are gradually being terminated.

Both Planning and Building Control income targets continue to be a problem although Planning has recently had some high value planning applications, it is anticipated at this stage that both income streams are not likely to achieve their income target for the year.

Transport recharge income is underachieving due to the actual transport recharge costs being lower than anticipated. This may result in in-year underspends being generated in the logistics area relating to procurement of transport contracts and consumables, which will subsequently be used to fund the fleet replacement capital scheme and its associated financing costs.

### Capital Projects as at 30 September 2017

<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>2017/18 Capital Allocation £'000</b>	<b>Allocation to Date £'000</b>	<b>Actual Spend £'000</b>	<b>Total Allocation Remaining £'000</b>
<b><u>Local Transport Plan</u></b>				
<b>Bridges &amp; Highway Maintenance</b>				
Bridge Assess, Strength & Maintenance	2,640	700	676	1,964
Road Maintenance	1,596	200	178	1,418
<b>Total Bridge &amp; Highway Maintenance</b>	<b>4,236</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>3,382</b>
<b>Integrated Transport</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>415</b>
<b>STEP Schemes</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>705</b>
<b>SJB MM – Arch Painting</b>	<b>4,880</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>4,762</b>
<b>Total Local Transport Plan</b>	<b>10,554</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,290</b>	<b>9,264</b>
<b>Halton Borough Council</b>				
Street Lighting	200	30	20	180
Lighting Upgrades	3,506	50	24	3,482
Risk Management	155	10	1	154
Fleet Vehicles	1,500	200	159	1,341
<b>Total Halton Borough Council</b>	<b>5,361</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>5,157</b>
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>15,915</b>	<b>1,740</b>	<b>1,494</b>	<b>14,421</b>

**Comments on the above figures.**

The third year of the STEP (Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package) programme has begun with carry forwards of grant allocation being agreed by the LCR for projects affected by the Mersey Gateway programme and one new project has begun relating to Runcorn East Station Access. The majority of the spending for these projects is due to show from quarter 3 onwards. Two projects have now been completed and early works have begun relating to projects due to commence formally during 19/20 and 20/21.

The SJB MM (Silver Jubilee Bridge Major Maintenance) arch painting programme is due to commence when the new Gateway opens and the current bridge is shut to vehicle traffic.

Works have commenced for the lighting upgrade programme spend will be reflected from quarter 3 onwards.

## 9.0 Application of Symbols

Symbols are used in the following manner:

### Progress Symbols

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
Green 	Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the annual target <u>is on course to be achieved</u>.</i>
Amber 	Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> whether the milestone/objective will be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> whether the annual target is on course to be achieved</i>
Red 	Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain</u> that the objective will not be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the target <u>will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</i>

### Direction of Travel Indicator

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