

Environment and Urban Renewal PPB – Priority Based Monitoring Report

Reporting Period: **Quarter 3 – 1st October 2017 – 31st December 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 third 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

Sci-Tech Daresbury

- 2.2 The Joint Venture submitted a planning application for the next phase of development – a further 50,000sq ft, potentially to include the Skillsspace facility subject to SIF Skills Capital funding.
- 2.3 Occupancy at Sci-Tech has increased to 75% and Vanguard House is now 100% occupied. Techspace One continues to perform well and there is strong interest from a number of companies which could result in a significant occupancy increase.

Castlefields

- 2.4 Lakeside Phase 2 is now substantially complete with the final property sale in December. There are outstanding highways issues to be resolved and final payments according to the Development Agreement due from Keepmoat. Keepmoat Homes received planning permission for 43 new homes at Lakeside Phase 3 in October 2017. The land value has been provisionally agreed with HBC and an Executive Board Report will be put forward in Q4.

3MG

- 2.5 Alstom Transport Technology Centre and Training Academy was completed in October 2017.
- 2.6 Stobart commenced construction of the new office headquarters for Rail and Energy at Viking Park.

- 2.7 The Council agreed to sell 0.5 acres of the former Castaway site to Stoford to enable the Liberty Park development.

External Funding

- 2.7 In Quarter 3 2017-18 the External Funding Team received 23 new enquiries about funding support, bringing the total for the year to 93 (the total at this point last year was 96).
- 2.8 The Team helped to secure 8 grants totalling £852,799.
- 2.9 We are supporting around 18 bids with a value of £8.9 million.
- 2.10 We are currently monitoring 12 bids worth £19.8 million.

Investment Enquiries

- 2.11 The Business Improvement and Growth (BIG) Team managed 56 commercial property/inward investment enquiries in Quarter III 2017/18. The cumulative inward investment enquiries total (Quarter 1 – 4) is, therefore, 166 (64.4%) against a target of 250. 2 inward investment enquiries were ‘converted’ (inward investment enquiries ‘converted’ into actual investment projects) in Quarter 3. The cumulative conversions total (Quarter 1 + Quarter 3) is, therefore, 4% against a target of 10%.

Liverpool City Region Business Growth Programme

- 2.12 To date the Halton Business Growth Programme has engaged with 191 businesses. There are currently 113 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 89 businesses have been assisted and 25 jobs created.

Business Growth Hub Brokerage Service

- 2.13 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 III 2017 - 2018

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

	Total
Unique Company Engagements	572
Total Engagements	1,469

Figure 2: Growth Hub Engagement: Current Quarter (October 2017 – December 2017 inclusive)

	Total
Unique Company Engagements	70
Total Engagements	101

Business Improvement District (BID) Programme

- 2.1 Halton Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise, as the BID Proposer, issued formal notification to Halton Borough Council in September 2017 to proceed with a re-ballot of all eligible businesses in Halebank and Astmoor to secure a further five year BID term.
- 2.15 The Council appointed Electoral Reform Services (ERS) to manage the ballot process.

2.16 The timetable for the ballot is as follows:

- 12th January 2018: BID3 Proposals mailed to all eligible businesses
- Week commencing 15th January 2018: 42 Day ‘Notification of Intention to Ballot’ by Halton Borough Council issued to all eligible businesses and DCLG by ERS
- Week commencing 22nd January 2018: Ballot Packs, including voting papers, issued by ERS to all eligible businesses. Ballots packs to be received by 28th January 2018
- 1st February 2018: Voting commences
- 28th February 2018: Voting closed
- 1st March 2018: Results announced.

Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement

Design and Development

2.17 The Peel House Cemetery enabling works first phase (earthworks) was completed in December 2017 and the second phase (drainage) was tendered in November 2017. Work will begin on the drainage in Q4.

2.18 The Thomas Mottershead Statue was completed by the artist/foundry, delivered and installed at Victoria Park at the end of October 2017. An unveiling ceremony will take place in Q4.

2.19 The Runcorn Town Hall Boston Avenue boundary improvements (Pillars and railings) were completed in December 2017.

2.20 New railings were installed at Runcorn Hill Park, Highlands Road in December 2017.

2.21 Prescot Road car park, boundary and changing room area improvement works commenced in November 2017.

Highways, Transportation & Logistics and Physical Environment

Planning and Development

2.22 Local Plan

Preparation is underway to commence public consultation on the draft Local Plan (the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan) from 4th January to 15 February 2018. Press adverts will be placed and copies of the document will be available on the website and in libraries and HDLs.

Development Management

2.23 The council has been successful in its legal action over the Gypsy site at Ponderosa in Daresbury. Residential use of the site has ceased.

2.24 Planning fees will be increased nationally on the 17 Jan 18 by 20%.

2.25 Planning Application Statistics

Total Applications Received: 124 (Includes Those Withdrawn And Returned)			
Applications Decided	157	Applications On-Hand (Undecided)	139
Pre-Applications Received	17	Pre-Applications Closed	21

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.

The Major applications determined in Q3 are shown in Appendix 7.

Traffic Division

- 2.26 The LED street lighting conversion programme 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.
- 2.27 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).
- 2.28 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.
- 2.29 The Runcorn Site COMAH Operators Exercise took place in April 2017 and went well.
- 2.30 A new Contract for the Maintenance of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), which includes traffic signals, variable message signs (VMS), etc. will be commencing on 1st April 2018 and is for an initial period of 6 years with options to extend with four 1 year extensions. Halton was the lead procurement authority for the tender, which covers all the Liverpool City Region authorities.

Highway Development

- 2.31 Work is on-going on Major planning applications and site supervision for the Lead Local Flood Authority/Highways, and feeding into the Planning Authority's Delivery and Allocations Local Plan.
- 2.32 M56 junction 11A. Highways England have appointed new consultants. HBC are continuing to liaise/assist.
- 2.33 Work is ongoing on the feasibility for future delivery of West Bank – Widnes Loops link road – consultants have been commissioned by the Council to examine this further. Due to the need to develop some additional options due to traffic capacity concerns draft options are expected by February 2018.
- 2.34 Surveys of Highway Assets have been completed for this year for LTP PI16 and results are awaited. Self-Assessment Questionnaire for Highways Incentive fund has been submitted to DfT. Halton are a strong level 2 and working towards level 3. 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.
- 2.35 Preliminary Flood Risk assessment has now been published by the Environment Agency (EA) in December 2017. Work is ongoing to prepare design and business case to deliver on next year's (2018/19) EA Flood Risk funding allocation at Windmill Hill, Runcorn.
- 2.36 Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan (joint Liverpool City Region document) consultation has now ended and a PPB report will follow in due course.

- 2.37 Halton are still working with both the Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester Authorities 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.
- 2.38 Whilst it was reported last quarter that funding has recently been secured for a Prescot to Widnes cycle links, under LCR 'SUD' funding, this scheme is likely to be enhanced by LCR wide European Funding bid.

Schemes & Maintenance

- 2.39 Confirmation has been received granting Lottery Grant Funding (LGF) 3 funding for schemes at Widnes Fiddlers Ferry Rd gyratory, and design work has commenced on the gyratory element to ensure delivery.
- 2.40 LCR wide highways design guide and specification for new developments is in the process of being agreed for joint adoption by LCR authorities.
- 2.41 An agency senior engineer joined the team at the beginning of October 2018 with the purpose of assisting with the design of the capital improvement and maintenance programme.

Structures

- 2.42 The temporary closure of the Silver Jubilee Bridge (SJB) came into effect on 14th October 2017, at the same time as the Mersey Gateway opening. Since then, the Council's contractor, Balvac, has set up their site accommodation and commenced scaffolding works for the project to paint the SJB's steel arch superstructure. Part-time closures of the SJB footbridge (necessitated by the scaffolding works) have been in place since 6th November 2017, with a shuttle bus service enabling pedestrians and cyclists to cross the river via the new bridge.
- 2.43 On 8th December 2017 confirmation was received that the LCR CA Board had given final approval to the award of £2.2m to the project to paint the SJB arch superstructure under a variation to the Council's Year 2 LCR programme of major maintenance to SJB.
- 2.44 HBC Executive Board approval was given in December 2017 for the implementation of a programme of works for the de-linking of the Runcorn approaches to SJB, and the associated conversion of the Runcorn Approach Viaduct to 2-way traffic together with its connection to Bridgewater Expressway via a new roundabout.
- 2.45 The team has been in discussion with officers at Knowsley MBC regarding the transfer (at nominal cost) of a footbridge to Halton. The bridge has been earmarked to a development site off Norlands Lane. It is anticipated that the bridge will become available for installation during Q4.

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 3.1 Business Growth Programme and Place Marketing, Inward Investment Extension

- The LCR Combined Authority (CA) has indicated that a new Call under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Programme Priority 3 (Business Support) will be issued in March 2018.
- The Call will seek partners to deliver a range of business support services across the Liverpool City Region (LCR) for a period of two years.
- Given the LCR Local Authorities and Chambers of Commerce currently deliver the ‘Business Growth Programme’ and ‘Place Marketing, Inward Investment’ projects under Priority 3 a collective decision needs to be made as to whether to develop new or modified projects or simply seek extensions of the current projects for a further two years.
- Halton Borough Council has undertaken detailed scenario planning with respect to the viability of the Borough Council continuing to participate in the projects for a further two year. That scenario planning has focused upon the likely outputs (jobs created) that can be realised from an extended programme balanced against the level of cash match the Council would have to contribute to the projects.

3.3 Growth Hub

- The government’s ‘Growth Hub’ business brokerage service in Halton is currently delivered by Halton Borough Council and Halton Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise in partnership
- The contract for the current programme (administered by LCR LEP) expires in March 2018.
- While the LCR LEP has yet to receive confirmation from government regarding the level of funding for the next phase of Growth Hub it intends to issue an Invitation to Tender (ITT) in February 2018 and will award contracts ‘subject to funding’
- Halton Borough Council and Halton Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise are currently discussing the response to that ITT and specifically potential modifications to the delivery model in Halton.

Highways, Transportation & Logistics and Physical Environment

Highway Development

- 3.4 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

- 3.5 The various projects planned for implementation on the SJB complex over the next 12-15 months will need significant co-ordination and management. The main works comprise painting the steel arch superstructure, reconfiguration to the carriageway on SJB and the Runcorn Approach Viaduct (RAV), replacement of a hanger cable on SJB, repairs to the RAV concrete deck, cycle upgrades to the SJB approaches and the associated parapets upgrades, demolition of structures including RAV West, and the installation of a new parapet detail at the interface of RAV and RAV West.

Traffic Division

- 3.6 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 February.
- 3.7 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.

Planning and Development

- 3.8 Government will be consulting on new policy measures alongside a draft of the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) early next year. Full guidance will be published at the same time that the revised NPPF is published before the end of the summer 2018.
- 3.9 Regulations under the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 were laid before Parliament on 13 December 2017, and, subject to parliamentary procedures will be brought into force in 2018. These will require all authorities to have up to date plans (and Statements of Community Involvement) and commence the statutory duty for authorities to identify their strategic priorities and the policies to address them. Additional powers are also provided for the Secretary of State to intervene in plan-making where authorities are not planning effectively for the needs of communities. Attention is drawn in particular to the following regulations:
- 3.10 Introduction of a requirement for review of Local Development Documents every five years, coming into force on 6 April. The regulations introduce a requirement to review Local Plans/ Statements of Community Involvement at least every 5 years from adoption. To comply with this authorities must, every five years from the adoption of the plan, carry out an assessment of whether it remains relevant and effectively addresses the needs of the local community, or whether policies need updating. Having carried out this assessment authorities must decide:
- that one or more policies do need updating, and update their Local Development Scheme to set out the timetable for updating their plan, and then update their plan; or
 - that their policies do not need updating, and publish their reasons for this decision.
- 3.11 Requirement to update content of Statements of Community Involvement (commencement regulations to be made January). The regulations also require authorities to set out in their Statements of Community Involvement their policies for giving advice or assistance to neighbourhood planning groups and their policies involving communities and other interested parties in the preliminary stages of plan-making: specifically in the exercise of their functions under sections 13 (survey) and 15 (Local Development Scheme) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Housing Delivery Test

- 3.12 The Housing White Paper announced the Government's intention to introduce a new Housing Delivery Test (HDT). The Department will publish an illustrative HDT measurement covering the years 2014-15 to 2016-17 next year. To ensure we have an up-to-date record of local plan figures to measure delivery against, we will ask you in the first week of January 2018 to check our records through the Department's new web-based data collection system, DELTA.

Local Plan Interventions

- 3.13 On Thursday 16 November the Secretary of State commenced the formal Local Plan intervention process with 15 local authorities that have recently either failed the duty to cooperate or failed to meet the deadlines set out in their Local Development Schemes, the public timetable that all local planning authorities are required to put in place. The remaining authorities who are not making progress on their plan-making and fail to publish a plan for consultation, submit a plan to examination or to keep policies in plans up to date should be aware that this is an approach that Ministers have determined will be followed in future.

Permitted development rights

- 3.14 The permitted development right for the change of use from light industrial (B1 (c)) to residential use (C3) came into effect on 1 October 2017. The right allows for the change of use of buildings up to 500sq m, subject to prior approval by the local planning authority. Applications for prior approval must be made on or before 30 September 2020, and the change of use must be completed within three years of the date of prior approval. Details of the legislation can be found [here](#).

Brownfield land registers and permission in principle

- 3.15 The statutory deadline for LAs to publish their brownfield land register was 31 December. Halton published its draft register in December.

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

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	Q3 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.	
PPT 04	Continue to maintain the Highway Authorities statutory duties in accordance with Section 41 and 58 of the Highways Act.	
PPT 05	Consult on the draft Delivery and Site Allocations Local Plan (DALP) November 2017	
PPT 06	Ensure that at least one exercise is carried out each financial to test the COMAH plans March 2018	

Supporting

PPT 01

Most tasks have progressed and been completed on programme, but a delay of several weeks to the site phase of Task 28 (hanger cable replacement on SJB) is anticipated in Q4 due to the demands of the specialist design and procurement processes.

PPT 02

Design work is nearing completion on works to improve Parking at Runcorn East Station. With the main body of construction planned for summer 2018.

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 with construction works planned to commence in the next quarter.

Design work is progressing on improvements to walking and cycling access to businesses along Astmoor busway including upgrading existing traffic signal junction equipment.

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

Design work is advancing on a project to improve walking and cycling on the route alongside Bridgewater canal from Runcorn Town centre to Murdishaw Marina and links to Runcorn East Station.

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

PPT 03

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.

Footway reconstruction programme is progressing well with works programmed to be completed in Q4.

Site investigation work was undertaken in the period and this information is being used to develop the carriageway reconstruction and resurfacing programme going forward.

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.

PPT 04

Salt stocks at present stand at 1250t in readiness for the winter period. Funding bid has been submitted to enable a Salt Barn to be built at Depot at Picow Farm Road. 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 1oC. Route is currently being finalised for use later in Q4.

City and Guilds Lantra training has been completed in the period for Highway Safety inspection.

PPT 05

Public consultation has been delayed until 4th Jan – 15th Feb 18 due to delays with document production and approval.

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	Q3 Actual	Q3 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

Ref	Measure	16 / 17 Actual	17 / 18 Target	Q3 Actual	Q3 Progress	Direction of travel
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% 90.47% 89.60%	  	  
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% (Draft)		N / A
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
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	100%		

Ref	Measure	16 / 17 Actual	17 / 18 Target	Q3 Actual	Q3 Progress	Direction of travel
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	5		
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	29		
PPT LI 15	% of network where structural maintenance should be considered:					
	A) Principal Roads	1.00%	2.00%	N / A	N / A	N / A
	B) Non-Principal Roads	1.00%	4.00%	N / A	N / A	N / A
	C) Unclassified Roads	3.00%	9.00%	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%		
	b) Percentage of buses on time at intermediate timing points	86.52%	95.00%	87.00%		
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	126,987		
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	4,066		

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 & 03

Figures are reported annually.

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. Minor applications determined on time shows an increase over the previous quarter and other applications determined on time shows little variance. All remain above target.

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

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

Collision data is used to both monitor performance locally, in comparison with neighbouring Authorities and against nationally set targets. We also use this data to prioritise both engineering work, traffic regulation orders and road safety education programmes.

PPT LI 12

Figures confirmed via monthly KPI results from Contractor.

PPT LI 13

Street lighting contractor repair time on track is currently performing as well as at the same period last year.

PPT LI 14

Scottish Power maintaining performance on fault 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 show an improvement on last year's figures. It is anticipated that the performance will continue to improve through Q4 towards achieving the 2017/18 target.

PPT LI 17

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

PPT LI 18

There has been a significant reduction in the number of passenger journeys which is thought to be due to the Christmas period and a general downturn in community groups accessing the service.

PPT LI 19

It is anticipated that the target for the current financial year will not be met due to the reduction in funding allocation. 74% of bus stops will be completed by year end.

PPT LI 20

During Q3 industrial action by staff at one operator had a significant effect on passenger numbers. It is also suggested that this will also have a negative effect on the year-end outturn.

Open Spaces and Waste and Environmental Improvement

Key Objectives / milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
CE 03	Manage greenspace areas as per the agreed specification - March 2018.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 - March 2018.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CE 04b	Undertake a review of the Council's Waste Management Strategy and associated Policies and update as necessary - March 2018.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CE 05a	Review, assess the effectiveness of, and update as necessary the Council's Environmental Enforcement Plans and Policies - March 2018.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CE 05b	Work in partnership with external organisations and enforcement agencies and deliver joint initiatives to tackle environmental crime and anti-social behaviour - March 2018.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Supporting Commentary

CE 03

The mowing season commenced on 20th 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 Environmental Enforcement Plans and Policies has commenced and will remain on-going. Members will be provided with updates throughout the year.

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	Q3 Actual	Q3 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 Q3 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	Q3 Progress
EEP 01a	Develop Halton Inward Investment Prospectus – April 2017	
EEP 01b	Produce Local Economic Assessment – September 2018	
EEP 01c	Deliver Youth Employment Gateway – December 2017	
EEP 03a	Completion of Phase 1 of Alstom development – November 2017	
EEP 03b	Completion of Phase 1 of Crosville Development – April 2017	
EEP 03c	Completion of Phase 2 of Crosville Development – June 2017	
EEP 03d	Completion of Castlefields Lakeside Phase 2 – September 2017	
EEP 03e	(In partnership with JV) Development of Sci-Tech Daresbury Masterplan – September 2017	
EEP 03f	Commence remediation of Gorsey Point – September 2017	

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

A progress report was taken to ELS PPB on 25th September 2017 with details of timescales and likely outcomes. Interim findings will be reported to EEP PPB in February 2018.

EEP 01c

The Youth Employment Gateway contract ended 31st December 2017. All KPI's were exceeded/met in year 2 of the programme.

EEP 03a

Phase 1 completed in October 2017.

EEP 03b

Marston's pub opened on schedule.

EEP 03c

Practical completion October 2017. Snagging works on going and to be completed before final account is agreed.

EEP 03d

Final sale completed. Highways works still outstanding before final completion of scheme.

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.

DCLG have asked for an updated Implementation Plan and this will be undertaken in the next quarter.

EEP 03f

Planning permission secured 9th November 17 and site works started shortly afterwards.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	16 / 17 Actual	17 / 18 Target	Q3 Actual	Q3 Progress	Direction of travel
EEP LI 02	Occupancy of HBC industrial Units	88%	90%	88.00%		N / A
EEP LI 03	Occupancy of Widnes Market Hall	84%	84%	82.00%		N / A
EEP LI 13	Number of Businesses Supported	N / A	TBC	689		N / A
EEP LI 14	Number of inward investment enquiries per annum.	221	250	166		
EEP LI 15	Inward investment enquiry conversion rate per annum (%)	9%	10%	4.00%		

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

The business assists figure cited in the Q3 report was incorrect and has been revised accordingly. In total there have been 689 business assists in 2017/18, with 70 achieved in Q3.

EEP LI 14

Cumulative total at Q3 2017/18 is 166

EEP LI 15

Cumulative conversion rate at Q3 2017/18 is 4%

Housing Strategy

Ref	Milestones	Q3 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 is underway and a further consultation event is scheduled for February 2018. 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 ongoing. A five year strategy document report 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	Q3 Actual	Q3 Progress	Direction of travel
ASC 16	Number of households living in Temporary Accommodation.	1	17	2		
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%	0.94%		

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 Q3 2017 / 2018 are as follows:

REFVAL	PROPOSAL
16/00320/OUT	Outline Application (with access reserved for future consideration) for a development comprising 30 bed hotel with function room and restaurant at
16/00475/FUL	Proposed erection of retail foodstore (Use Class A1), vehicular parking, servicing areas, access roads, landscaping and associated infrastructure at
17/00202/COU	Proposed Change of Use to a sports ground including the provision of a new grassed playing field, two tennis courts, a 3G football pitch and associated works at
17/00304/FUL	Proposed development of 45 no. dwellings together with associated access, landscaping and infrastructure at
17/00353/FUL	Proposed erection of one industrial unit with use Classes B1c, B2 and B8 at
17/00376/FULEIA	Retrospective application for rebuilding of facility to house a third alumina fibre production line with associated electrical switch room and process plant
17/00386/REM	Reserved matters application for approval of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for outline application 14/00071/OUT for proposed lorry park, petrol filling station and cafe at

8.0 Financial Statement

ECONOMY ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2017

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance to Date (Overspend) £'000
Employees	4,620	3,389	3,398	(9)
Repairs & Maintenance	2,294	1,412	1,380	32
Premises	43	43	42	1
Energy & Water Costs	658	424	347	77
NNDR	538	522	500	22
Rents	353	311	305	6
Economic Regeneration Activities	42	2	2	0
Supplies & Services	2,192	1,527	1,510	17
Grant to Non Vol Organisations	87	47	47	0
Agency Related	1	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	10,828	7,677	7,531	146
<i>Income</i>				
Fees & Charges	-289	-171	-169	(2)
Rent – Markets	-789	-591	-588	(3)
Rent – Investment Properties	-161	-122	-102	(20)
Rent – Commercial Properties	-879	-536	-528	(8)
Government Grant	-2,641	-1,197	-1,197	0
Reim & Other Income	-185	-147	-160	13
Recharges to Capital	-163	-76	-76	0
Transfer from Reserves	-447	-305	-305	0
Schools SLA Income	-535	-493	-491	(2)
Total Income	-6,089	-3,638	-3,616	(22)
Net Operational Expenditure	4,739	4,039	3,915	124
<i>Recharges</i>				
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 Income	-2,412	-1,206	-1,206	0
Accommodation Recharge Income	-2,624	-1,312	-1,312	0
Central Support Service Recharge Income	-1,890	-945	-945	0
Net Total Recharges	-3,288	-1,620	-1,620	0
Net Department Expenditure	1,451	2,419	2,295	124

Comments on the above figures

Economy Enterprise & Property Departmental budget is projected to be 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 2 due to the Department delaying the recruitment of vacant positions. However the targets against staff turnover savings are still not being met due to the low number of vacancies held within the Department.

Delays in repair and maintenance work have resulted in the repairs and maintenance expenditure being lower than budget profile at Quarter 3.

Following reconciliation by the energy providers, we have 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.

Every effort has been made to ensure that expenditure on controllable budgets is kept to a minimum within the Department and this is reflected in the Supplies and Services budget in Quarter 3.

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 term 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.

It is forecast net spend at year end will be below the annual budget.

Capital Projects as at 31st December 2017

Capital Expenditure	2017/18 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation to Date £'000	Actual Spend £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
3MG	4,966	4,496	4,496	470
Sci Tech Daresbury – EZ Grant	483	0	0	483
Johnsons Lane Infrastructure	66	0	0	66
Decontamination of Land	50	4	4	46
Venture Fields	6,000	5,959	5,959	41
Former Crossville Site	1,150	926	926	224
Signage at The Hive	87	87	87	0
Widnes Market Refurbishment	100	80	80	20
Equality Act Improvement Works	120	107	107	13
Linnets Club House	1,173	1,126	1,126	47
Milton Road (Former Simms Cross Caretakers House)	14	7	7	7
Widnes Road Car Park, 29-31 Moor Lane & Land at Halebank	235	235	235	0
The Croft	30	0	0	30
Solar Farm – Golf Course	60	1	1	59
Broseley House	690	0	0	690
Murdishaw Regeneration	46	0	0	46
Total Capital Expenditure	15,270	13,028	13,028	2,242

Comments on the above figures.

3MG - Alstom's landscape contractor has completed tree planting on site. Some small scale works are continuing in and around the HBC Field in line with a tenancy agreement and to maintain an area of land for sky larks and barn owls.

Solar Panels – Golf Course - The procurement progress for a planning consultant is now complete and the contract has been awarded. A detailed planning application is expected by the end of January.

Sci Tech Daresbury 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.

Johnsons Lane – Project reached practical completion Autumn 17.

Decontamination of Land – Phase 2 sampling due to commence February 2018 to allow validation of design.

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2017

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance to Date (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	13,240	10,285	10,625	(340)
Other Premises	1,965	1,526	1,521	5
Supplies & Services	1,651	1,254	1,128	126
Book Fund	167	125	121	4
Hired & Contracted Services	1,193	870	861	9
Food Provisions	548	425	479	(54)
School Meals Food	1,983	1,223	1,215	8
Transport	55	45	32	13
Other Agency Costs	442	235	217	18
Waste Disposal Contracts	5,775	3,449	3,541	(92)
Grants To Voluntary Organisations	67	35	2	33
Grant To Norton Priory	172	172	174	(2)
Rolling Projects	55	53	53	0
Capital Financing	77	7	7	0
Total Expenditure	27,390	19,704	19,976	(272)
<u>Income</u>				
Sales Income	-2,105	-1,654	-1,551	(103)
School Meals Sales	-2,324	-1,510	-1,543	33
Fees & Charges Income	-5,363	-4,161	-4,034	(127)
Rents Income	-297	-190	-87	(103)
Government Grant Income	-1,246	-1,227	-1,227	0
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-716	-595	-595	0
Schools SLA Income	-99	-92	-91	(1)
Internal Fees Income	-191	-117	-95	(22)
School Meals Other Income	-2,096	-1,741	-1,723	(18)
Catering Fees	-179	-134	-57	(77)
Capital Salaries	-123	-61	-61	0
Rolling Projects Income	-55	62	62	0
Transfers From Reserves	-173	-175	-175	0
Total Income	-14,967	-11,595	-11,177	(418)
Net Operational Expenditure	12,423	8,109	8,799	(690)
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Support	1,760	1,320	1,320	0
Transport Recharges	2,072	1,433	1,406	27
Departmental Support Services	9	0	0	0
Central Support Services	3,467	2,616	2,616	0
Asset Charges	85	0	0	0
HBC Support Costs Income	-449	-369	-369	0
Net Total Recharges	6,944	5,000	4,973	27
Net Department Expenditure	19,367	13,109	13,772	(663)

Comments on the above figures

The net Department spend is £663,000 over budget profile at the end of the third quarter of the 2017/18 financial year.

Employee spend is over budget mainly due to staff turnover saving targets not being achieved as well as casual and some agency usage. Casual staff spending is higher than the budget to date by £177,000, and is £35,000 higher than at the same point last year. Agency spend has reduced this year and is £64,000 less than the same stage last year.

Food and bar provisions are currently overspent by £54,000 to date. This is mainly due to spend at stadium catering and bars related to events which took place over the summer months.

The new waste contracts have now started and it is expected costs will increase estimated on Halton's share of overall waste across the city region. It has the potential to affect the outturn position on a large scale pending a reconciliation of Halton's share of overall waste.

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.

Sales income had a better performance in quarter three though is still considerably short of the target to date by £103,000. This is mainly food and drink related and evident within Commercial Catering and the Stadium.

Fees and charges are still struggling to meet increased targets and the cancellation of the Vintage Rally has impacted in quarter three. Currently this heading is underachieved by £127,000 across the Department. The main items causing this are burials, architect fees, Open Spaces chargeable works, stadium pitch bookings, events income and fines for depositing litter.

Rental incomes are under budget target so far mainly due to shortfall in income at the Stadium. Catering and internal fees actual income is also below the budget target to date and this is expected to be the case for the outturn position. These budgets have been reviewed in terms of setting the 2018/19 base budget and have been realigned to expected actual income levels.

Capital Projects as at 31st December 2017

	2017-18 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation to Date £'000	Actual Spend £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
Stadium Works	30	10	10	20
Peel House Cemetery Works	383	150	110	273
Runcorn Cemetery Extension	9	9	11	-2
Open Space Schemes	602	400	315	287
Childrens Playground Equipment	100	50	77	23
Playground – The Glen	25	0	0	25
Playground – Runcorn Hill Park	233	100	106	127
Playground – Crow Wood Park	450	150	21	429
Landfill Tax Credit Scheme	160	20	5	155
Phoenix Park	110	10	2	108
Sandymoor Playing Fields	600	300	102	498
Victoria Park Glass House	150	0	0	0
Widnes Recreation	0	0	10	-10
Litter Bins	20	10	10	10
Norton Priory Project	455	100	65	390
Brindley Café Extension	80	0	0	80
Total	3,407	1,309	844	2,413

Comments on the above figures.

The Runcorn Hill project has committed another 130k of works to be completed before the end of March in line with the agreement we have with the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Other parks projects have completed the tendering stage and have begun and are expected to be fully spent by year end.

The Glasshouse and Brindley Café projects are expected to start during quarter 4 of 17/18.

Policy, Planning & Transportation

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2017

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance to Date (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	4,303	3,227	3,194	33
Other Premises	171	109	71	38
Contracted Services	244	183	107	76
Supplies & Services	172	145	160	(15)
Street Lighting	1,608	1,184	1,184	0
Highways Maintenance	2,365	1,216	1,216	0
Fleet Transport	1,071	716	716	0
Lease Car Contracts	40	30	31	(1)
Bus Support	639	480	517	(37)
Finance Charges	83	47	47	0
Grants to Vol. Organisations	68	68	68	0
LCR Levy	754	566	566	0
NRA Levy	63	63	63	0
Contribution to Reserves	500	500	500	0
Total Expenditure	12,081	8,534	8,440	94
<u>Income</u>				
Sales	-316	-237	-223	-14
Planning Fees	-562	-422	-440	18
Building Control Fees	-209	-157	-107	-50
Other Fees & Charges	-592	-454	-476	22
Rent	-8	-6	0	-6
Grants & Reimbursements	-230	-153	-188	35
Government Grant Income	-129	-72	-72	0
Efficiency Savings	-60	0	0	0
Schools SLAs	-42	-42	-44	2
Capital Salaries	-317	-25	-23	-2
LCR Levy Reimbursement	-754	-566	-566	0
Transfers from Reserves	-566	0	0	0
Total Income	-3,785	-2,134	-2,139	5
Net Operational Expenditure	8,296	6,400	6,301	99
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Recharges	579	435	435	0
Transport Recharges	484	363	301	62
Asset Charges	358	77	77	0
Central Recharges	1,333	1,000	1,000	0
Transport Recharge Income	-2,736	-2,052	-1,892	(160)
Central Recharge Income	-1,391	-1,044	-1,044	0
Net Total Recharges	-1,373	-1,221	-1,123	(98)
Net Department Expenditure	6,923	5,179	5,178	1

Comments on the above figures

In overall terms revenue spending at the end of quarter 1 is just within budget, due to a number of expenditure and income budget areas.

Salaries are currently underspent due to vacancies within the building control area this expected to continue until the end of the financial year.

Other premises and contracted services are currently underspent due to tighter control from managers within the department. Supplies are currently overspent but this expected to be brought within budget by the year end.

Street lighting expenditure is expected to be close to budget by the end of the year due to surplus budget being given up as savings in previous years.

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

Planning is now in a better position than the beginning of the year, this is down to some high value applications the council has received it is envisioned to be just over the income target by year end. Building control continues to be a problem generating income this trend is not likely to recover by the end of quarter 4.

Capital salaries will not achieve its target by the end of the year, although the capital programme of works is increasing for the highways area, agency staff are being employed to fulfil the works due to staff cuts in recent in years.

Transport recharge income appears to be underachieving due to the actual transport recharge budgets being lower than anticipated. Savings that may be generated in the logistics area relating to procurement of transport contracts and consumables will be used to fund the fleet replacement capital scheme and its associated financing costs.

Capital Projects as at 31st December 2017

Capital Expenditure	2017/18 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation to Date £'000	Actual Spend £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
Local Transport Plan				
Bridges & Highway Maintenance				
Bridge Assess, Strength & Maintenance	3,917	800	863	3,054
Road Maintenance	1,596	350	336	1,260
Total Bridge & Highway Maintenance	5,513	1,150	1,199	4,314
Integrated Transport	460	200	165	295
STEP Schemes	978	350	353	625
SJB MM – Arch Painting	2,440	800	763	1,677
Total Local Transport Plan	9,931	2,500	2,480	6,911
Halton Borough Council				
Street Lighting	200	50	45	155
Lighting Upgrades	300	100	64	236
Risk Management	155	20	17	138
Fleet Vehicles	1,500	500	339	1,161
Total Halton Borough Council	2,155	670	465	1,690
Total Capital Expenditure	11,546	3,170	2,945	8,601

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 4 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 painting programme has commenced on the SJB and now ad-hoc issues (such as the weight of the platforms for the cranes) have been resolved the works are expected to continue with no further delays. The Council has been successful in securing another £1.277m to be used in the final quarter of 17/18 with another 1.114m during 18/19 from the LCR. Some works that were to be funded from DfT monies are now to be reallocated to the LCR stream of grant.

Works have commenced for the lighting upgrade programme and is expected to fully spent by the end of the year.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2017

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget To Date £'000	Actual To Date £'000	Variance To Date (Overspend) £'000
<i>Expenditure</i>				
Employees	13,862	10,300	10,059	241
Other Premises	354	250	253	(3)
Supplies & Services	1,249	896	895	1
Aids & Adaptations	113	67	64	3
Transport	201	132	128	4
Food Provision	195	126	106	20
Contracts & SLAs	495	383	388	(5)
Emergency Duty Team	95	71	74	(3)
Other Agency	624	450	449	1
Payments To Providers	1,443	1,164	1,177	(13)
Contribution to Complex Care Pool	20,646	11,459	12,420	(961)
Total Expenditure	39,277	25,298	26,013	(715)
<i>Income</i>				
Sales & Rents Income	-307	-260	-284	24
Fees & Charges	-741	-555	-483	(72)
Reimbursements & Grant Income	-1,102	-558	-553	(5)
Transfer From Reserves	-631	0	0	0
Capitalised Salaries	-111	-83	-83	0
Government Grant Income	-854	-801	-811	10
Total Income	-3,746	-2,257	-2,214	(43)
Net Operational Expenditure	35,531	23,041	23,799	(758)
Recharges				
Premises Support	517	388	388	0
Asset Charges	83	0	0	0
Central Support Services	3,352	2,424	2,424	0
Internal Recharge Income	-1,795	-1,255	-1,255	0
Transport Recharges	497	282	282	0
Net Total Recharges	2,654	1,839	1,839	0
Net Department Expenditure	38,185	24,880	25,638	(758)

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms, the Net Department Expenditure for the third quarter of the financial year is £203,000 under budget profile, excluding the Complex Care Pool.

Employee costs are currently £241,000 below budget profile. This is due to savings being made on vacancies within the department. The bulk of the staff savings are currently being made in the Care Management and Initial Assessment teams. These services have undergone a review, and a permanent savings target of £100,000 resulting from the deletion of a number of currently vacant posts has been agreed for the 2018/19 budget.

Fees & Charges income will struggle to achieve agreed budgets for the year. This is due to the Community Meals income target applied in 2016/17, and built into the 2017-18 base budget, which is not projected to be achieved. Estimates based on the third quarter's income indicate a net shortfall in the region of £90,000 for the full year. The impact of the shortfall in budgeted income has been reviewed as part of the process in setting the 2018/19 base budget position.

The above figures exclude the revenue budgets and costs for the recently purchased residential care homes, Madeline McKenna (purchased November 2017) and Millbrow (purchased December 2017). Funding has been identified to cover costs for the remainder of this financial year, and work is ongoing to ensure that the revenue costs are correctly budgeted for from the 2018/19 financial year onwards.

Capital Projects as at 31st December 2017

	2017-18 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Total Allocation Remaining £'000
Upgrade PNC	6	6	6	0
ALD Bungalows	199	0	0	199
Bredon Reconfiguration	56	56	56	0
Vine Street Development	100	10	9	91
Purchase of 2 Adapted Properties	520	0	0	520
Total	881	72	71	810

Comments on the above figures:

The £6,000 funding relating to the upgrading of the PNC represents the unspent capital allocation carried forward from the previous financial year to enable the scheme's completion. The scheme has now completed, with residual payments to match this allocation.

Building work on the ALD Bungalows is expected to be completed within the 2017/18 budget year with spend to match allocation.

The Bredon Reconfiguration project is funded from previous year's Adult Social Care capital grant. The scheme, which commenced in 2016/17 with a total project budget of £343,000 has now been completed. The final cost was £34,000 below the budget allocation. This saving has been used as a contribution towards the capital costs of the purchase of Millbrow residential home

The Vine Street Development project relates to the adaptation of the Mental Health Resource Centre in Widnes in order to better meet service user's needs. Construction is currently underway, with completion expected within the current financial year.

The £520,000 capital allocation for the purchase of 2 adapted properties relates to funding received from the Department Of Health under the Housing & Technology for People with Learning Disabilities Capital Fund. The funding is to be used for the purchase and adaptation of two properties to meet the particularly complex and unique needs of two service users. The scheme is anticipated to be completed in the final quarter of this financial year.

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.
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.
Red		Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain</u> that the objective will not be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.

Direction of Travel Indicator

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