

**BUSINESS PLAN MONITORING STATEMENT FOR THE FINANCE DIRECTORATE
FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2006**

1. KEY MESSAGES

In this quarter of the year, the emphasis of the Directorates work has been:

- Preparation for the 2007/08 Budget.
- Tendering the Council's insurance covers and contributing towards the stock transfer process.
- Finalising the arrangements in relation to the outsourcing of Property Services.
- Making progress on the Financial Shared Services feasibility study with South Ribble Borough Council.
- Releasing the new self service and mobile working technology solutions.

The above list represents a significant programme of work, but I am pleased to report that all the projects listed above have been or are on track to be delivered.

Summary of KPI performance as follows:

	CURRENT POSITION	FORECAST OUTTURN
Number of green KPI's	8	11
Number of blue KPI's	4	1
Number of red KPI's	0	0
Number of KPI's not yet measured	0	0

The table shows that good progress is being made on all targets with no KPI's having unsatisfactory performance in terms of a red triangle and more details are provided in paragraph 4. Since the last report one BVPI has moved categories into a blue circle, in relation to the number of fraud investigations.

2. BUDGET UPDATE

	£'000
Cash budget	1,366
Forecast Outturn	1,366
Forecast overspend/(underspend)	0

The table shows that it is anticipated that the Directorates current cash budget will be met by the end of the financial year.

3. SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS

The key service development are listed in paragraph 1, in relation to those items the current position is as follows:

- Draft budget approved December 2006.
- Specification to tenderer sent out prior to Christmas in line with expected timetable, responses awaited.
- Property outsourcing awaiting confirmation of pensions admission agencies for staff.
- For the shared services project, data/services gathering still in progress.
- Mobile technology and self service solutions launched and working well, takeup campaign now being planned.

4. PERFORMANCE VARIATION

Indicator Description	Target	Performance 31/12/06	Comments
% invoices processed on time	96.5	92.1	Blue Circle
% finance budget spend – year end forecast	100	100	Green Star This figure relates to the Finance Directorate only.
Ave time to process new benefit claims	25	19.3	Green Star
% benefit calculations correct	99.0	99.5	Green Star
% Council Tax collected	86.9	86.85	Blue Circle
% NNDR collected	74.25	87.9	Green Star
Finance Sickness Absence	6.75	5.27	Green Star
Number of claimants visited	200	265	Green Star
Number of fraud investigations	40	50	Blue Circle
Number of prosecutions/sanctions	9	11.5	Green Star

5. **CONCLUSION**

The quarter again has proven to be a good one, with performance in the main continuing to be on track. The draft budget was issued earlier than ever, benefits performance continue to be good and a number of key corporate projects has been successfully supported.

In areas where performance is slightly below target, positive action will be taken to try and bring performance back to target level. As previously stated however, the target for corporate invoice processing will not be met. However, to put this into context, performance compared with last year has improved by 10%, but clearly there is more work still to be done in this area.

Signature: _____

GARY HALL
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE