



SUMMARY

Statement of

Accounts

2009/2010

Ribble Valley Borough Council



Summary Statement of Accounts 2009/10

Introduction

This summary of the accounts has been prepared to provide a more accessible and easier to understand version of the full Statement of Accounts which is a technically complex document.

According to the 2001 census, the population of the district is 53,960 (although it is now estimated at 58,500), living in 24,693 households, of which approximately 25% are in the town of Clitheroe.

Ribble Valley has the largest geographical area within Lancashire, covering 226 square miles (583 square kilometres), but the smallest population. Sparsity of population is therefore a key feature, with on average 94 people per square kilometre compared with an average of 380 nationally.

Any comments which you may have on this document would be welcomed.



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Director's Statement

The Council's Statement of Accounts has been prepared in accordance with the Best Value Accounting Code of Practice. For the purposes of this summary some modifications have been made to provide more meaningful information.

The Council's auditor (The Audit Commission) has audited the 2009/10 accounts and has issued an unqualified opinion of the Council's full accounts for 2009/10.

A full copy of the Council's 2009/10 audited accounts are available to view or download on the Council's website at www.ribblevalley.gov.uk and can also be inspected at the Council offices in Clitheroe.

This document can be made available in alternative formats or languages. Anyone wishing to request this document in an alternative format or language should contact the Financial Services Manager on 01200 425111 or by email at lawson.oddie@ribblevalley.gov.uk

Jane Pearson, CPFA, Director of Resources

**Ribble Valley Borough Council, Council Offices, Church Walk,
Clitheroe BB7 2RA**

Financial Performance

It is obviously very important to maintain a healthy level of balances to cover for unforeseen events and also provide a stable level of resources for future planning. This however has to be balanced against meeting the council's spending priorities and also very importantly setting a low council tax.

We budgeted to make a deficit of £246,000. The final position shows that the council has needed to take £800,000 from general fund balances. However, the Statement of Accounts shows a greatly increased £2.087m transferred to earmarked reserves in order to better prepare the council for what will undoubtedly be difficult times in the coming years.

The table below shows a summary of the movement on the council's General Fund.

	£'000
General Fund Balances: Brought forward at 1 April 2009	2,022
Taken to fund deficit on 2009/10 income and expenditure account	-800
General Fund Balances: Carried forward at 31 March 2010	1,222

Summary Statement of Accounts 2009/10

What did we spend?

The summary of our income and expenditure account below shows the cost of running the council's services between April 2009 and March 2010.

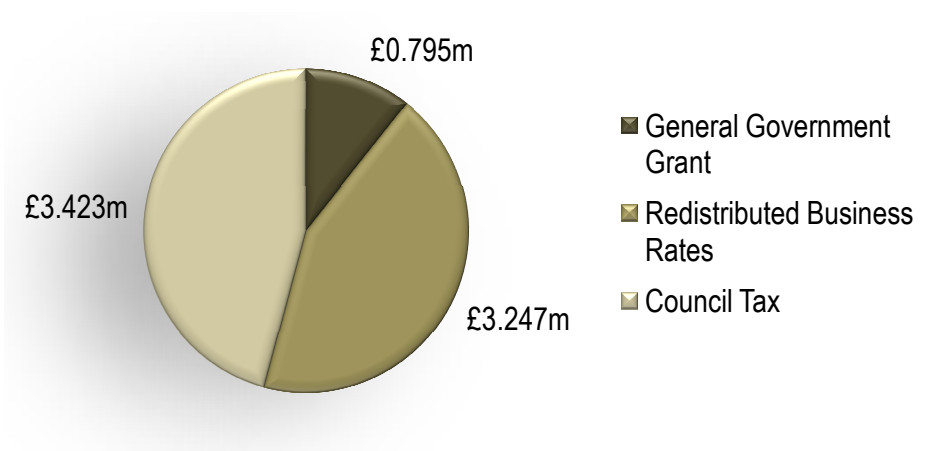
The table also shows the amount that was to be financed from the Council Tax and Government Grants.

	Net Expenditure 2009/10 £m
Central Services to the Public	0.896
Cultural, Environmental, Regulatory and Planning	5.110
Highways and Transport Services	0.564
Other Housing Services	0.371
Adult Social Care	0.023
Corporate and Democratic Core	0.256
Non Distributed Costs	0.129
Net Cost of Services	7.349
Parish Precepts	0.368
Interest Received	-0.015
Appropriations and other Internal Accounting	-0.237
Amount to be met from Government Grants and Local Taxation	7.465

How did we pay?

We spent £7.465m running services between April 2009 and March 2010. After allowing for income, shown below is how we financed these costs, and where the money came from.

	Net Expenditure 2009/10 £m
General Government Grant	0.795
Redistributed Business Rates	3.247
Council Tax	3.423
Total	7.465



Summary Statement of Accounts 2009/10

What are we worth?

The balance sheet records the Council's financial position at a point in time, in our case 31 March each year. It shows what is owned by us (assets), who we owe money to (creditors) and who owes us money (debtors), amongst other things.

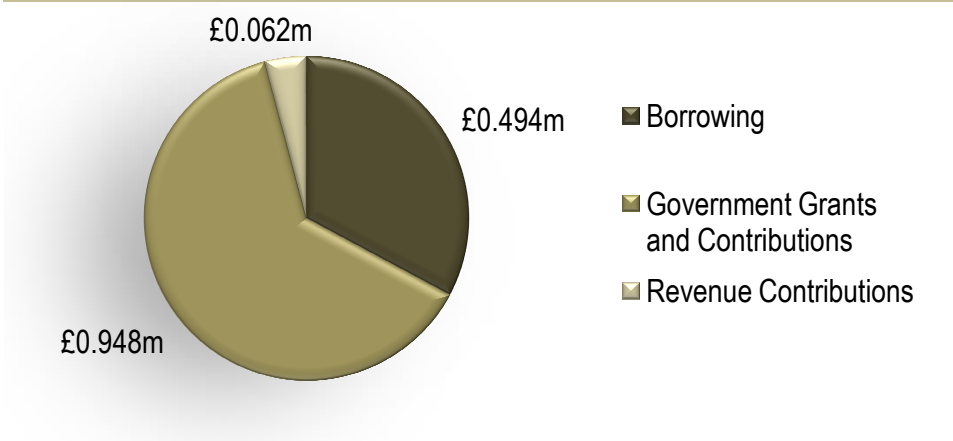
	Net Expenditure 2009/10 £m
Buildings, Land & Assets Owned by the Council	15.742
Stock	0.078
Cash Overdrawn	-0.055
Money Owed to the Council	2.824
Money Owed by the Council	-19.603
Investments	0.000
Total	-1.014
Financed by:	
Reserves	-11.11
Capital Finance & Revaluation of Assets	10.096
Total	-1.014

The above shows the council with negative equity. This position is due to the pension liability at the 31 March 2010. This liability shows the underlying commitments that the Council has in the long term to pay retirement benefits. Statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that the financial position of the authority remains healthy. The deficit will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees.

Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure represents money spent by the Council for the purchase, upgrade or improvement of assets such as buildings and vehicles. The Council spent £1.504m on its capital programme in 2009/10, primarily on vehicles and plant, housing grants and completion of the refurbishment of the Clitheroe Castle Museum. The lower table shows how this was funded.

	£m
Clitheroe Castle Museum	0.391
Community Safety	0.043
Council Premises	0.175
Housing Grants	0.420
Parks and Open Spaces	0.146
Vehicles and Plant	0.228
Other	0.101
Total	1.504



Glossary

Accounting Code of Practice: *This is based on approved standards and sets out procedures to be followed when preparing our statement of accounts such as the treatment of creditors and debtors.*

Capital Expenditure: *This type of expenditure is on items which have lasting benefits such as purchases of land and buildings.*

General Fund Balance: *This is the total of the Council's unused reserves to date. It is therefore considered when preparing our budgets for future years. Decisions are taken on the sensible level of the general fund balance to keep in hand to fund unforeseen circumstances and also enable the Council to meet any cash flow requirements.*

Income and Expenditure Account: *This is the record of the Council's annual spending on day to day items such as wages, repairs and maintenance.*

Balance Sheet: *This records the Council's financial position at a point in time, in our case the 31st March each year. It shows what is owned by the council (assets), who we owe money to (creditors) and who owes us money (debtors) amongst other things.*

If there are any other terms used within this document which you don't understand, please don't hesitate to contact us.
