

Scrutiny Panel 3rd February 2020 Item 7b – Quarterly Finance Update	Item No 7b
---	----------------------

Outline

The finance reports attached cover:

- Council's Monthly Overall Financial Position (OFP) Report
- Capital Programme report

The reports above provide the following:

1. The Overall Financial Position (OFP) report is the sixth report for 2019/20 and is based on detailed November 2019 provisional outturn monitoring data from directorates. The Council is forecasting an overspend of £6,202k at year end. An explanation of each directorate's forecast outturn position is detailed in the directorate commentaries in the report.

The projected overspend primarily reflects reductions in external funding over time and increasing cost pressures in services, including social care, homelessness and special educational needs (SEN). Despite the publication of the 2019 Spending Review, significant uncertainty still remains about local government future funding and in particular, its sustainability. There is some clarity about the funding position for 2020/21, although allocations for funding this year will not be finalised until early February and it is unlikely that the funding levels for 2021/22 will be known until December.

2. The Capital programme report updates Members on the current position of the Capital Programme. Approval by Cabinet of the schemes, as set out in section 9 of this report, will enable officers to proceed with the delivery of the schemes.

In addition to the main reports are:

- Appendix 1 – Capital Update Report - Key Decision No. FCR Q43
- Verbal Update on Local Government Finance.

Attending for this item will be:

Michael Honeysett, Director Financial Management

Action

The Commission is requested to give consideration to the reports and ask questions.