By: Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate and Traded

Services, Peter Oakford

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**Corporate Directors** 

To: Cabinet – 23 March 2020

Subject: REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING - January 2019-20

Classification: Unrestricted

#### 1. SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides the budget monitoring position up to 31 January 2019-20 for both revenue and capital budgets, including an update on key activity data for our highest risk budgets.

- 1.2 The format of this report is:
  - This covering summary report which provides a high level financial summary and highlights only the most significant issues, as determined by Corporate Directors.
  - Appendix 1 Details of the Asylum service forecast and key activity information.
  - Appendix 2 High Needs and Dedicated Schools Grant Key Indicators.
- 1.3 Cabinet is asked to note the forecast revenue and capital monitoring position. The forecast revenue underspend is -£4.135m and after roll forwards of £4.326m are taken into consideration the position is a pressure of +£0.191m. This is a reduction of -£1.400m from the last reported position in November 2019. Any overspend at the end of the year will need to be funded from reserves, impacting the reserves available in the future.
- 1.4 The Children, Young People & Education (CYPE) directorate is forecasting a pressure of +£9.2m after roll forward requests of £2.4m. The most significant pressures relate to the Special Education Needs service, Home to School & College Transport, Care Leavers Support and Looked After Children Care & Support. Section 4.2 provides explanations of the forecast pressures within the CYPE directorate.
- 1.5 The underlying pressure of +£0.2m is being masked by the underspend of -£8.7m in Financing Items; more detail is provided in section 4.5.1.
- 1.6 There is a reported variance of -£133.302m on the 2019-20 capital budget. This comprises of +£1.731m real variance and -£135.033m rephasing variance.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is asked to:

- i) **Note** the forecast revenue budget monitoring position for 2019-20 and capital budget monitoring position for 2019-20 to 2021-22, and that the forecast pressure after roll forwards on the revenue budget needs to be eliminated as we approach the end of the year.
- ii) Agree the capital budget cash limit adjustments set out in section 6.4.

#### 3. SUMMARISED REVENUE MONITORING POSITION

3.1 Overall the net projected revenue variance for the Council as reported by budget managers is an underspend of -£4.135m before roll forwards, with a pressure of £0.191m after roll forwards.

This position reflects that the Council is on track to deliver the majority of the £44.9m of savings included in the approved budget for this year.

The position by directorate is shown in table 1 below.

# 3.2 Table 1: Directorate **revenue** position

			Previous	
Directorate	Cash Limit	Variance	Variance	Movement
	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)	(£m)
Adult Social Care & Health	375.579	-0.574	-0.031	-0.543
Children, Young People & Education	254.384	6.808	8.981	-2.173
Growth, Environment & Transport	174.234	0.118	-0.266	0.384
Strategic & Corporate Services	80.151	-1.827	-1.423	-0.404
Financing Items & Unallocated	117.040	-8.659	-6.973	-1.686
Total (Excluding Schools)	1,001.388	-4.135	0.288	-4.423
Schools' Delegated Budgets	0.000	22.498	25.352	-2.854
Total (Including Schools)	1,001.388	18.363	25.640	-7.277
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Directorate		Cash Limit	Variance	Last Reported Position	Movement
		£m	£m	£m	£m
Variance from abo	ve (excl Schools)		-4.135	0.288	-4.423
Roll Forwards	- committed		0.471	0.246	0.225
	- re-phased		2.658	0.000	2.658
	- bids		1.197	1.057	0.140
Total Roll Forward I	Requirements		4.326	1.303	3.023
(-ve) Uncommitted	l balance / (+ve)		0.191	1.591	-1.400

# 3.3 Table 1b: Provisional Directorate **revenue** position after roll forwards:

	Variance	i	Revised		
Directorate		Committed	Re-phased	Bids	Variance
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adult Social Care & Health	-0.574	0.221	0.167		-0.186
Children, Young People & Education	6.808		2.391		9.199
Growth, Environment & Transport	0.118	0.250			0.368
Strategic & Corporate Services	-1.827		0.100	1.197	-0.530
Financing Items & Unallocated	-8.659				-8.659
TOTAL (Excl Schools)	-4.135	0.471	2.658	1.197	0.191

# 4. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING HEADLINES

The Directorate position by division and key service including narrative of the most significant variances against cash limit is detailed below.

# 4.1 Adult Social Care and Health

			Previous Variance	
	Cash Limit Net	Variance Net	(November) Net	Movement
	£m	£m	£m	Net £m
Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (ASCH)				
Additional Adult Social Care Allocation	-8.449	0.000	0.000	0.000
Budget & Saving Plans to be allocated	1.440	-3.070	-3.070	0.000
Strategic Management & Directorate Support (ASCH)	3.138	-0.149	0.051	-0.200
Total - Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (ASCH)	-3.871	-3.219	-3.019	-0.200
Older People & Physical Disability				
Adult Physical Disability - Community Based Services	21.385	0.949	0.954	-0.006
Adult Physical Disability - Residential Care Services	14.909	0.361	0.411	-0.049
Carer Support - Commissioned	0.567	-0.693	-0.948	0.255
Older People - Community Based Services	30.833	2.042	1.616	0.426
Older People - Residential Care Services	45.140	-1.383	-0.700	-0.683
Older People & Physical Disability - Assessment and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Services Older People & Physical Disability - In House Community Homecare	23.954	-0.730	-0.603	-0.127
Service	3.926	0.090	0.157	-0.067
Operational Budget & Savings Plans to be allocated	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total - Older People & Physical Disability	140.713	0.636	0.888	-0.251
Learning Disability 26+, Mental Health and Sensory & Autism Services				
Adult Learning Disability - Assessment Service	5.231	-0.349	-0.260	-0.089
Adult Learning Disability - Community Based Services & Support for Carers	71.935	3.170	1.299	1.871
Adult Learning Disability - Residential Care Services & Support for Carers	61.835	0.159	1.143	-0.984
Adult Mental Health - Assessment Services	9.743	-0.272	-0.190	-0.082
Adult Mental Health - Community Based Services	5.307	0.278	0.291	-0.013
Adult Mental Health - Residential Care Services	13.098	0.258	0.464	-0.206
Physical Disability 26+ Lifespan Pathway & Autism - Community Based Services	0.390	0.013	0.065	-0.052
Physical Disability 26+ Lifespan Pathway & Autism - Residential Care Services	0.460	0.013	0.003	0.002
Sensory & Autism - Assessment Service	1.828	0.229	0.203	0.026
Learning Disability 26+, Mental Health and Sensory & Autism Division Management	0.258	-0.058	-0.044	-0.014
Total - Learning Disability 26+, Mental Health and Sensory & Autism Services	170.084	3.540	3.081	0.459

			Previous Variance	
	Cash Limit	Variance	(November)	Movement
	Net	Net	Net	Net
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Partnerships & Engagement				
Community Based Preventative Services	13.108	0.236	0.230	0.006
Housing Related Support	6.991	-0.128	0.105	-0.233
Partnership Support Services	2.148	-0.251	-0.244	-0.007
Social Support for Carers	2.950	-0.228	-0.156	-0.072
Total - Partnerships & Engagement	25.197	-0.371	-0.065	-0.306
Service Provision				
Adult In House Carer Services	2.188	-0.022	-0.016	-0.006
Adult In House Community Services	7.084	-0.102	-0.098	-0.004
Adult In House Enablement Services	3.220	-0.120	-0.104	-0.017
Divisional Management	0.353	0.292	0.231	0.061
Looked After Children (with Disability) - In House Provision	2.640	0.564	0.437	0.127
Older People - In House Provision	15.568	-0.322	-0.405	0.083
Total - Service Provision	31.053	0.291	0.045	0.245
Business Delivery Unit				
Adaptive & Assistive Technology	2.972	-0.788	-0.602	-0.187
Divisional & Directorate Support	9.013	-0.513	-0.223	-0.290
Safeguarding Adults	0.418	-0.150	-0.137	-0.013
Total - Business Delivery Unit	12.404	-1.451	-0.961	-0.490
Total - Adult Social Care & Health	375.579	-0.574	-0.031	-0.543

#### 4.1.1 Adult Social Care and Health:

The overall forecast variance for the Directorate is an underspend of -£0.6m. Roll-forwards into 2020-21 of +£0.4m have been requested which would reduce the underspend for 2019-20 to -£0.2m.

This variance position reflects activity data to date in the 2019-20 financial year.

When setting the ASCH budget, estimates are made on which service lines will see demographic pressures during the year, and the funding is allocated accordingly, impacting both the gross and income budgets. This estimate is based primarily on looking at historic trends but with some judgement about current practice. As the year progresses it is likely that some of the increased activity and costs may be on different service lines, so several of the variances explained below are attributable to this.

#### 4.1.2 Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (ASCH):

Most of this variance (+£3.0m) relates to centrally held funds still to be allocated which cover pressures already recognised within the forecast position. These monies will be allocated as part of the budget realignment in 2020-21.

## 4.1.3 Older People & Physical Disability

The pressure within the Adult Social Care Services for Older People and Physical Disabilities is greater than anticipated at the time the budget was set due to higher than anticipated complexity and demand.

The Older People and Physical Disability service is increasingly succeeding in supporting people in their own homes for longer periods of time. This means that more complex care needs (which may have previously been met by a residential care placement) are being supported within the community. Pressures within community services are therefore increasing and resulting in an underspend in Older People Residential Care.

Within 'Adult Physical Disability – Community Based Services' there is a pressure of +£0.9m. Predominately this relates to Supporting Independent Living and Homecare services for clients with Physical Disabilities as a result of higher than anticipated demand.

Within 'Older People – Community Based Services' there is a net pressure of +£2.0m. This chiefly relates to non-residential income; work undertaken during the year has indicated that demographic pressures against this line were not adequately funded during the 2019-20 budget setting. The cash limit has been rebased to address this as part of 2020-21 budget setting process. There is also higher than budgeted for demand for Direct Payments.

The division is working to tackle pressures within community care services by investing in Prevention and Early Intervention services which offer Care Navigation options and Home Improvements designed to support service users before their care needs escalate. This gives people options to access the care and information which best meets their social care needs, resulting in fewer admissions to social care and lower cost support options.

Within the 'Residential' and 'Carer Support' Key Service Lines there is a net underspend of -£1.7m supporting the above. Service Users will only enter registered care settings when their complex needs cannot be met safely in the community. For service users aged 65+ this has resulted in fewer than anticipated Residential Care (-£2.2m) admissions and a pressure against Nursing Care (+£0.8m).

# 4.1.4 Learning Disability 26+, Mental Health and Sensory & Autism Services

This division is an area of increasing pressure within Adult Social Services. This is partly because younger working age adults are now more likely to maintain their independence in a supported home environment, rather than entering registered care settings. The impact of this is that the demand for Supporting Independent Living services (SIS) is increasing rapidly, along with complex care needs. This mirrors the same pressures seen for service users with physical disabilities.

Within 'Adult Learning Disability – Community Based Services & Support for Carers' there is a net pressure of +£3.2m. There is an overspend of +£4.3m against SIS which is driven by higher than anticipated demand and complexity. £0.4m of this pressure is funded by one-off income received to support the after care costs of the 'Transforming Care' programme (which provides enhanced or intense support for adults with a learning disability and/or autism who display behaviours that challenge, to enable them to live safe and well within their community). In previous months this

pressure was being funded via drawdown from reserves; however as income has now been confirmed to support higher costs in relation to the complex placements being made through the Transforming Care Programme there is no longer a requirement to use reserves.

The division is working to reduce community care pressures by investing in services such as the 'Kent Pathway Service' which works with adults with a learning disability to improve their independence by developing life skills. This improves outcomes for people with a disability, as they require different levels of support, and delivers increased independence.

Service Users who are cared for within registered care settings are increasingly receiving one to one support. There are also Continuing Healthcare improvers who are now eligible for Local Authority funded Social Care. These people have complex care needs which has resulted in an unanticipated pressure. The Residential Care Key Service Lines (for Mental Health, Learning Disability and Physical Disability 26+ Lifespan Pathway and Autism) are showing a net pressure of +£0.5m. The underlying pressure against this service is +£1.7m. +£1.1m of this pressure is funded by one-off income received to support the after-care costs of the 'Transforming Care' programme, and is negating the need to draw additional funding from reserves.

There are underspends reported against the Assessment Service Key Services due to continued slippages in recruitment.

## 4.1.5 Business Delivery Unit

There is a variance of -£0.8m reported against Adaptive & Assistive Technology as efficiencies within the procurement and running of this service which came into full effect in 2018-19 continue to deliver economies.

Underspends within 'Divisional & Directorate Support' have been requested to roll forward into 2020-21.

- There is an underspend of -£0.2m against the roll out of the new Mosaic activity system. This has been requested as a roll forward into 2020-21 to support continued staff training with the system.
- Work supported by the Domestic Abuse Grant has been rephased across two financial years therefore £0.2m has been requested as a roll forward to fund this
- KCC's element of the Kent & Medway Safeguarding Board (£0.1m) has been requested as a roll forward into 2020-21.

# 4.2 Children, Young People and Education

	Cash Limit	Variance	Previous Variance (November)	Movement
	Net £m	Net £m	Net £m	Net £m
Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (CYPE)				
Budget & Saving Plans to be allocated (CYPE)	-1.912	1.094	1.094	0.000
Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (CYPE)	4.860	-0.032	-0.134	0.102
Total - Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (CYPE)	2.948	1.062	0.960	0.102
Education Planning & Access				
Community Learning & Skills (CLS)	-0.991	0.094	0.078	0.016
Early Years Education	0.000	-0.000	0.000	-0.000
Education Services & Planning Resources Management & Division Support	1.007	0.011	-0.041	0.052
Education Services provided by EDSECO Ltd (trading as The Education People)	3.957	0.000	0.079	-0.079
Fair Access & Planning Services	0.009	0.004	0.000	0.004
Home to School & College Transport	39.232	1.563	1.874	-0.311
Other School Services	-1.094	-0.022	0.733	-0.755
Special Educational Needs & Psychology Services	6.298	1.695	1.587	0.108
Total - Education Planning & Access	48.419	3.345	4.310	-0.965
Integrated Children's Services (East & West)				
Adoption & Special Guardianship Arrangements & Service	14.382	-0.316	-0.274	-0.042
Asylum	0.056	0.000	0.000	-0.000
Care Leavers Service	5.505	1.377	1.808	-0.431
Children in Need - Care & Support	3.255	-0.001	0.012	-0.013
Children's Centres	3.448	0.171	0.015	0.157
Children's Social Work Services - Assessment & Safeguarding Service	46.545	-0.296	-0.299	0.003
Early Help & Preventative Services	7.060	-0.727	-0.727	0.000
Integrated Services (Children's) Management & Directorate Support	4.837	-0.314	-0.150	-0.164
Looked After Children - Care & Support	58.077	3.236	2.951	0.285
Pupil Referral Units & Inclusion	0.000	-0.004	0.001	-0.004
Youth Services	4.457	-1.278	0.149	-1.426
Total - Integrated Children's Services (East & West)	147.621	1.850	3.485	-1.635

	Cash Limit Net	Variance Net	Previous Variance (November) Net	Movement Net
	£m	£m	£m	£m
0-25 Disability (Lifespan Pathway)				
Adult Learning & Physical Disability Pathway - Community Based Services	23.562	-1.061	-0.722	-0.339
Adult Learning & Physical Disability Pathway - Residential Care Services				
& Support for Carers	8.624	1.919	1.422	0.497
Children in Need (Disability) - Care & Support	5.123	-0.499	-0.365	-0.133
Childrens Disability 0-18 Commissioning	1.692	-0.084	-0.061	-0.023
Disabled Children & Young People Service (0-25 LD & Complex PD) -				
Assessment Service	7.548	0.070	-0.019	0.089
Looked After Children (with Disability) - Care & Support	8.849	0.206	-0.029	0.235
Total - 0-25 Disability (Lifespan Pathway)	55.396	0.551	0.227	0.325
Total - Children, Young People & Education	254.384	6.808	8.981	-2.173

- 4.2.1 The forecast for Children, Young People and Education Directorate indicates a pressure of +£6.8m which is a movement of -£2.2m since the last monitoring report. This is predominantly due to -£2.4m of underspends which are being requested to be rolled forward into 2020-21 (see 4.2.3 and 4.2.5)
- 4.2.2 Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (CYPE)

A delay in achieving the 2019-20 MTFP savings relating to the Change for Kent Children (CFKC) programme has led to a pressure of +£1m within this line along with +£0.3m pressure reflected in Integrated Children's Services (Looked After Children). This is expected to be partially offset by one-off savings achieved elsewhere within the service (See paragraph 4.2.5: £0.4m Early Help contract and £0.3m Children Social Work staffing saving).

#### 4.2.3 Education Planning & Access

The forecast for the Special Education Needs (SEN) Service has a pressure of +£1.7m. This forecast includes £1.8m of spend relating to the SEND Statement of Written Action recently submitted to OFSTED to address the outcomes of the recent SEND inspection report. Additional funding for these activities has been agreed as part of the 2020-23 Medium Term Financial Plan. This budget should be considered in conjunction with the Schools High Needs budget pressure outlined in section 4.6 and Appendix 2 resulting from the continual rise in demand for Special Education Needs & Disability (SEND) assessment and support.

There is a reported pressure of +£1.6m within the Home to School & College Transport budget, predominantly due to the transporting of children with SEN. The number of children being transported is significantly higher than originally estimated and this can be linked to the unprecedented demand on SEN generally. There has been a slight reduction in this pressure since the last monitoring report due to pupil numbers not increasing as much as originally expected at the start of the autumn term. This pressure is expected to continue and has been addressed in 2020-23 Medium Term Financial Plan.

Other School Services is currently showing an almost breakeven position, however this is formed from a number of compensating variances. Additional expenditure on school related items including school mobiles and maintenance contracts has resulted in a £0.8m pressure which is offset by an underspend of -£0.8m on the School Improvement Grant. This underspend will be the subject of a bid to Cabinet for roll forward at year-end.

## 4.2.4 0-25 Disability (Lifespan Pathway):

Disability Services are forecasting a pressure of +£0.6m. This pressure is predominantly due to:

- +£0.9m pressure on 18-25 placement costs mainly within the residential care service where the number of placements is higher than originally budgeted. This pressure has been reduced by a planned drawdown from reserves of £0.8m. The forecast also assumes a similar level of growth as in previous years.
- -£0.3m underspend on direct payments due to the unavailability of Personal Assistants in the market.

# 4.2.5 Integrated Children's Services

The service is forecasting a pressure of +£1.9m (including roll forward requests of £1.6m) including the following significant variances:

- The Care Leavers Service is forecasting a pressure of +£1.4m due to higher than anticipated placement and additional support costs. The Division has recently invested in new floating support and accommodation services which are anticipated to deliver savings in the longer term by reducing the average cost of supporting young people. The transition period to the new service offer and resulting savings has taken longer than expected which has resulted in a pressure on this service. This has been compounded by an increasing number of looked after children transitioning to the Care Leavers service with higher cost packages of care. These pressures have been recognised in the 2020-23 Medium Term Financial Plan. (Please note this pressure includes an underspend of -£0.2m on the Controlling Migration and Rough Sleeping grants which require rolling forward into next financial year).
- The Looked After Children placement budget is forecasting a +£3.2m pressure mainly due to increases in the number of externally purchased placements, particularly with independent fostering agencies, rather than a significant increase in the numbers of looked after children. There is an increasing shortage of suitable foster carers resulting in a greater reliance on the external market. This has come at a time when other local authorities are experiencing similar problems resulting in more OLA Looked After Children being placed in the County than a year ago. A shortage of suitable placements and greater competition means providers have a greater ability to dictate prices. This forecast assumes current activity levels do not increase further during the year. This pressure was identified as a risk in the 2020-21 Budget agreed by County Council in February and work is progressing to reverse this trend but delays in delivery of savings within the CFKC fostering workstream has also added a further +£0.3m pressure in 2019-20.

- Early Help and Preventative Services is forecasting an underspend of -£0.7m, of which -£0.4m is due to the repayment of monies from 2018-19 on an Early Help contract due to underperformance by the provider. This saving is partly offsetting the pressure within the Strategic Management & Support budget discussed above.
- Children's Social Work Services Assessment & Safeguarding Service is showing an underspend of -£0.3m. This saving is due to staffing underspends, and is partly offsetting the pressure within the Strategic Management & Support budget discussed above.
- Youth Services are forecasting an underspend of -£1.3m on the Troubled Families Youth Crime grant. This underspend will be the subject of a bid to Cabinet for roll forward at year-end.

# 4.2.6 Specialist Children's Services – Asylum Seekers:

The Asylum service is forecasting a breakeven position. This forecast takes into account the recent conclusions of the Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) review where the grant rate paid for supporting 16- and 17- year olds had been increased to mirror the rate paid for under 16 year olds.

There is still a significant shortfall in funding to support Care Leavers and the forecast continues to assume the rate paid for Care Leavers will remain unchanged as there is no timescale for the completion of the Home Office funding review for Care Leavers.

The Council continues to pursue the Home Office for further funding to address the historic shortfall in funding received for asylum services in both 2017-18 and 2018-19 totalling £6.1m. (see Appendix 1).

# 4.3 Growth, Environment and Transport

Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (GET)				
Budget & Savings Plans to be allocated (GET)	-0.057	0.057	0.057	0.000
Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (GET)	1.334	-0.101	-0.096	-0.006
Total - Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (GET)	1.277	-0.044	-0.038	-0.006
Economic Development				
Arts	1.617	0.020	-0.005	0.026
Economic Development	2.960	-0.095	-0.067	-0.028
Total - Economic Development	4.577	-0.074	-0.073	-0.002
Highways, Transportation & Waste				
Concessionary Fares	17.225	0.059	0.085	-0.026
Highway Asset Management (Other)	16.866	0.091	-0.694	0.785
Highway Asset Management (Roads and Footways)	11.968	0.757	1.029	-0.272
Highway Transportation (including School Crossing Patrols)	5.416	-0.280	-0.024	-0.255
Highways, Transport & Waste Management Costs and Commercial Operations	4.955	0.149	0.277	-0.128
Residual Waste	39.878	-0.399	-0.678	0.279
Subsidised Buses and Community Transport	6.179	0.250	0.001	0.250
Waste Facilities & Recycling Centres	31.608	0.117	-0.065	0.182
Young Person's Travel Pass	8.103	-0.245	-0.001	-0.244
Total - Highways, Transportation & Waste	142.196	0.498	-0.071	0.569
Environment, Planning & Enforcement				
Environment & Planning	5.535	-0.015	-0.019	0.004
Environment, Planning & Enforcement Management Costs	0.653	0.019	0.041	-0.022
Public Protection (Enforcement)	10.520	-0.188	-0.058	-0.130
Total - Environment, Planning & Enforcement	16.708	-0.185	-0.036	-0.149
Libraries, Registration & Archives	9.477	-0.077	-0.048	-0.029
Total - Growth, Environment & Transport	174.234	0.118	-0.266	0.384

4.3.1 The overall position for the Directorate is a forecast variance of +£0.4m, once committed roll forwards of £0.3m have been reflected, with forecast pressures of +£1.5m being almost completely offset by forecast underspends of -£1.1m.

The reported position is a +£0.1m variance to cash limit and includes two underspends totalling -£0.3m that were committed in the 2018-19 outturn. These require rolling forward as they straddle two financial years. They relate to the Volunteer & Apprentice Warden pilot scheme, and the Doorstep Intelligence project.

The position has worsened by +£0.4m compared to the last forecast reported to Cabinet in January, primarily due to the response and recovery to the storms/adverse weather in the middle and latter part of 2019, as well as an increase in waste tonnages in January. The directorate has fully drawn down the Adverse Weather Reserve and has tried to deliver underspends to partly mitigate the above pressures but is unable to bring the budget fully into balance.

## 4.3.2 Highways, Transportation & Waste

The previously reported underspend within Highways Asset Management (Other) has disappeared due to considerable and sustained pressure within drainage (+£1.0m movement, overall pressure +£2.0m) following the storms and adverse weather during 2019. Savings/underspends in streetlight energy/maintenance, as well as additional street work and permit scheme income have helped to reduce the overall pressure to +£0.1m. The impact of the two most recent storms (in early 2020) is yet to be quantified and will present a further pressure on the division and the directorate.

The Highway Asset Management (Roads and Footways) pressure of +£0.8m comprises increased safety critical/other urgent works (which includes the effects of storm damage in June +£0.2m), additional staffing costs, and non-recoverable damage to the highway. This is partially offset by the division fully drawing down the Highways Adverse Weather reserve in an effort to offset the significant drainage pressure within Highways Asset Management (Other). This reserve is replenished during years of mild weather but the reserve is now fully exhausted and the service has limited financial resilience for the remainder of the year.

To help offset the above, Highway Transportation (including School Crossing Patrols) is now declaring a small variance (-£0.3m) through a combination of staff vacancies and additional income.

Subsidised Buses and Community Transport is reporting a small pressure (+£0.3m) following increased costs as a result of variations and new contracts relating to school services, This pressure is offset by an underspend (-£0.2m) against the Kent Travel Saver scheme (formerly Young Persons Travel Pass), where activity has seen a modest reduction and the forecast has been revised accordingly.

Residual Waste continues to show an underspend (-£0.4m) which has reduced since the November report, through reduced tonnage (-2,266 tonnes) and increased income from trade waste. However, tonnage in January was higher than profiled.

The Highways, Transport & Waste Management Costs and Commercial Operations pressure (+£0.1m) is made up of several smaller variances against staffing, non-staffing and income.

# 4.3.3 Environment, Planning & Enforcement

Overall the division shows an improved position with a small underspend (-£0.2m) forecast, prior to the committed rollforwards (£0.3m) referred to above. There is a pressure of +£0.1m once these are taken into account.

Within this +£0.1m is a variance of +£0.2m relating to the Gypsy and Traveller Service. This results from the costs of urgent asset maintenance, as well as a shortfall in the income target. The maintenance works are being prioritised and some may be able to be re-profiled to 2020-21 to help manage the in-year position.

The other pressure within the division relates to the Coroners service, which is forecasting a net variance (+£0.2m) where pressure continues in relation to the need to employ agency pathologists (due to a national shortage of pathologists). This has been reflected in the MTFP for 2020-23.

These are offset, in the most part, by a number of small underspends against other budgets, with a view to delivering a balanced budget by the financial year end.

4.3.4 The overall directorate position has worsened due to pressures within drainage – as a result of sustained adverse weather/storms - and an upturn in the amount of residual waste being forecast.

The directorate will continue to closely monitor the position however the volatile nature of some key budgets, including the impact of the recent storms will pose a financial challenge for the remainder of the year given the Highways Adverse Weather reserve is now fully exhausted.

Further areas of management action are being considered with a view to achieving a balanced position overall by the year end, once committed roll forwards have been allowed for, however the sustained adverse weather will mean that a call on the corporate Emergency Conditions reserve is to be explored further.

# 4.4 Strategic and Corporate Services

	Cash Limit	Variance Net	Previous Variance (November)	Movement Net
Stratagia Managament 9 Divestavata Dudgeta (SSCS)	£m -1.269	-0.160	£m -0.153	£m -0.007
Strategic Management & Directorate Budgets (S&CS)	-1.209	-0.100	-0.153	-0.007
People & Communication				
Customer Contact, Communications & Consultations	5.477	0.013	0.038	-0.025
Human Resources related services	7.635	-0.244	-0.264	0.020
Total - People & Communication	13.112	-0.232	-0.226	-0.006
Finance	9.831	-0.313	-0.278	-0.035
Governance, Law & Democracy				
Governance & Law	5.489	-0.008	-0.003	-0.005
Local Member Grants	2.549	-1.198	-1.057	-0.141
Total - Governance & Law	8.039	-1.206	-1.060	-0.146
Infrastructure				
ICT related services	16.513	0.036	-0.030	0.067
Property related services	3.171	-0.051	0.045	-0.095
Total - Infrastructure	19.685	-0.014	0.014	-0.029
Corporate Landlord	21.293	0.310	0.218	0.092
Strategic Commissioning including Public Health				
Strategic Commissioning	7.522	-0.289	-0.028	-0.261
Public Health - Advice and Other Staffing	0.000	-0.000	0.000	-0.000
Public Health - Children's Programme	0.000	0.000	-0.000	0.000
Public Health - Healthy Lifestyles	0.006	0.000	0.000	0.000
Public Health - Mental Health, Substance Misuse & Community Safety	0.042	0.000	0.000	-0.000
Public Health - Sexual Health	0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000
Total - Strategic Commissioning including Public Health	7.570	-0.289	-0.028	-0.261
Strategy, Policy, Relationships & Corporate Assurance	1.891	0.076	0.091	-0.015
Total - Strategic & Corporate Services	80.151	-1.827	-1.422	-0.405

4.4.1 The overall position for the Directorate, is a net forecast underspend of -£1.8m with forecast underspends of -£2.2m being partially offset by forecast pressures of +£0.4m.

- 4.4.2 The primary reason for underspend is in Governance, Law and Democracy division where the variance of -£1.2m relates to the forecast underspend on Local Member Grants. This underspend will be the subject of a bid to Cabinet for roll forward at year-end.
- 4.4.3 Strategic Management is forecasting an underspend of -£0.2m due to a reduction in historic premature retirement costs.
- 4.4.4 There is an underspend forecast on Strategic Commissioning of -£0.3m mainly due to staffing vacancies. Of this underspend, £0.1m will be the subject of a roll forward request to fund two projects re-phased to next financial year due to the staffing vacancies.
- 4.4.5 The Finance and People & Communications divisions are together forecasting underspends of -£0.5m due to in-year staffing vacancies.
- 4.4.6 Within Infrastructure Property Related Services, there is a net underspend of -£0.1m. This contains several offsetting variances relating to a number of areas such as Oakwood House, where there is reduced income in the lead up to its change of use from conference centre to office accommodation in 2021; reduced income on client services due to reduced take up of the service by Schools; increased capitalisation of staff costs in the capital projects and disposals team and the phasing of the procurement of condition surveys.
- 4.4.7 Corporate Landlord are forecasting an overall net pressure of +£0.3m which primarily relates to the re-phased deliverability of the Asset Utilisation savings target, where the plans for several front-line service buildings require public consultation before progression.

# 4.5 Financing Items and Unallocated

			Previous	
			Variance	
	Cash Limit	Variance	(November)	Movement
	Net	Net	Net	Net
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Financing Items & Unallocated	117.040	-8.659	-6.973	-1.686

4.5.1 An underspend of -£8.7m is forecast reflecting additional Extended Rights to Free Travel grant notified by Government since the 2019-20 budget was set (£0.1m); underspending against the net debt costs budget (£2.9m) mainly as a result of higher forecast dividends from externally managed funds and underspending against the Adult Social Care Sustainability provision due to the re-phasing to 2020-21 of the Community Supporting Independence Service retender (£3.6m).

The base budget for the impact of Intermediaries legislation has been released (£0.5m). The costs resulting from this legislation have been minimal and therefore this saving will be reflected in the draft 2020-23 MTFP and any future costs will be managed through reserves.

In addition to this, the Carbon Reduction Commitment which has now ceased (£0.6m) and the release of uncommitted non-specific price provision (£1.0m) have also been reflected in the draft 2020-21 budget.

If the revenue outturn position after roll forwards for the whole Authority reflects an underspend at year end then Cabinet will be asked to consider whether the £0.6m underspend against Carbon Reduction Commitment should be transferred to the new Climate Change Target reserve to assist with accelerating our progress on climate change.

#### 4.6 Schools delegated budgets:

The schools delegated budget reserves are currently forecast to end the financial year in surplus by £4.4m, compared to £26.9m at the start of the financial year. This is made up of a forecast surplus of £28.3m on individual maintained school balances and a deficit on the central schools' reserve of £23.9m. The table below provides the detailed movements on each reserve. Appendix 2 also provides further detail on the High Needs pressure and the history of the Dedicated Schools Grant reserve. DSG budgets held centrally are forecasting a £2.3m overspend this is predominately linked to the additional costs of supporting Special Education Needs services:

	Individual School Reserves (£m)	Central Schools Reserve (£m)	Total School Reserves (£m)
Balance bfwd	33.384	(6.500)	26.884
Forecast movement in reserves:			
Academy conversions and closing school deficits	(1.673)	0.185	(1.488)
Movement in school reserves (6-month monitoring)	(3.416)		(3.416)
School Growth		3.178	3.178
High Needs Placement Costs		(18.657)	(18.657)
Various		0.188	0.188
Overspend on Central DSG budgets		(2.304)	(2.304)
Forecast reserve balance	28.295	(23.909)	4.386

Note: a negative figure indicates a draw down from reserves/deficit

The in-year 2019-20 forecast deficit has reduced from £24.5m to £22.5m since the last reported position following the inclusion of Maintained Schools 2019-20 forecasts submitted by schools in December 2019. Individual schools' forecasts now suggest schools' reserves will reduce by £3.4m in 2019-20, rather than £5.3m, an improvement of £1.9m since last reported. This trend is not uncommon as schools have historically been very prudent with their forecasts and their final outturn position tends to be much improved.

The Government has recently published indicative DSG amounts for 2020-21, this includes a reduction of £1.4m for some of the central services currently funded from the DSG. In the short-term this has been addressed in the 2020-23 Medium Term Financial Plan without any direct impact to schools however during the next year we will be reviewing our relationship with schools in line with Government policy and funding.

# 4.7 Table 2: **Performance of our wholly owned companies**

Dividends/Contributions (£m)	Budget	Forecast	From trading surplus	from reserves
Commercial Services	4.400	4.400	4.400	
Cantium Business Solutions	1.760	1.760	1.760	

#### 5. REVENUE BUDGET VIREMENTS/CHANGES TO BUDGETS

5.1 All changes to cash limits are in accordance with the virement rules contained within the constitution, with the exception of those cash limit adjustments which are considered "technical adjustments" i.e. where there is no change in policy, including the allocation of grants and previously unallocated budgets where further information regarding allocations and spending plans has become available since the budget setting process.

#### 6. SUMMARISED CAPITAL MONITORING POSITION

6.1 There is a reported variance of -£133.302m on the 2019-20 capital budget. This is made up of +£1.731m real variance and -£135.033m rephasing variance. Headline variances are detailed below by Directorate.

#### 6.2 Table 3: Directorate **capital** position

Directorate	Working	Variance	Real	Rephasing	Last Reported Position		Movement	
	Budget		Variance	Variance				
					Real	Rephasing	Real	Rephasing
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Children, Young People & Education	108.822	-16.853	2.534	-19.387	1.705	-20.621	0.829	1.234
Adult Social Care & Health	11.730	-7.636	-1.825	-5.811	-1.685	-6.084	-0.140	0.273
Growth, Environment & Transport	194.679	-70.560	0.636	-71.196	1.483	-63.788	-0.847	-7.408
Strategic & Corporate Services	74.563	-38.253	0.386	-38.639	-0.335	-21.233	0.721	-17.406
TOTAL	389.794	-133.302	1.731	-135.033	1.168	-111.726	0.563	-23.307

# 6.3 Capital budget monitoring headlines

The real variances over £0.100m and rephasing variances over £1.000m are as follows:

Previously reported variances that are still relevant are in italic font.

# 6.3.1 Children, Young People and Education

## **New variances to report:**

- Priority School Building Programme: Real variance of +£0.799m. The majority of the real variance is due to Benenden Primary (+£0.824m). Due to an error by the design consultants the spoil mound was larger than expected and had to be removed before the school opened. It is expected that these costs will be recovered.
- Special Schools Review Phase 2: Rephasing variance of -£1.384m. This is due to a delay at Foreland Fields School due to design clarifications and archaeology issues.

- Basic Need, Basic Need Kent Commissioning Plan (KCP) 2017 and KCP 2018: Rephasing variance of -£19.085m. (Previously reported -£20.553m). This relates to delays across a large number of individual schools, due to issues including land transfers, changes to scope of projects, incorrect cost plan, ecological issues and housing development not progressing as expected.
- Priority School Build Programme: Rephasing variance of +£1.015m (Previously reported +£1.464m). The majority of this relates to Benenden Church of England Primary School (CEPS), works for which were originally planned for the next financial year.

 Annual Planned Enhancement Programme: Real variance of +£1.750m. This is due a real overspend on the Singlewell Primary roof. Funding options for this are being considered.

There is also rephasing of -£0.865m (previously reported -£1.650m) on this programme of works which relates to a number of projects.

# 6.3.2 Adult, Social Care & Health

#### **New variances to report:**

No new variances to report.

## Previously reported variances:

- Home Support Fund and Equipment: Real variance of -£0.186m (previously reported -£0.151m). This is a reactive budget, funded by revenue grant and is subject to in year fluctuations.
- Developer Funded Community Schemes: Real variance of -£1.599m. (Previously reported -£1.536m). Previously reported as rephasing, it has now been decided to only forecast identified schemes. Future projects to be funded by developer contributions will be reported as and when identified.
- Learning Disability Good Day Programme: Rephasing variance of -£2.268m. (Previously reported -£2.182m). Projects at Meadowside and Southfields are now progressing, feasibilities have been completed and the projects are now at full design stage, however progress on other projects within the programme has been slower than expected, resulting in the rephasing.
- Adult Social Care Case Management: Rephasing variance of -£1.053m. (Previously reported -£1.287m). System delivery has been delayed to ensure that all business-critical issues can be resolved, and key business processes, particularly client charging and billing, have been thoroughly tested.
- OP Strategy Specialist Care Facilities: Rephasing variance of -£1.000m. A
  business case has been drawn up for future development in Sheppey. Option
  appraisals have been completed and the consultation period has begun, however
  timing of the spend will not be in the current financial year.

#### 6.3.3 **Growth, Environment & Transport**

Highways, Transportation & Waste

# **New variances to report:**

A2 Off Slip Wincheap, Canterbury: Rephasing variance of -£2.201m. The
project's funding stream has changed due to the Highways England element of
the Growth & Housing Fund being abruptly closed. Highways England have since
raised queries with the design and alternatives are being explored. A new bid for
funding to the Homes England element of Growth & Housing Fund is currently
being prepared.

- A252 Safer Roads Fund: Rephasing of -£2.026m. Delays have occurred following changes being required to the original scheme design.
- A2500 Lower Road Improvements: Real variance of -£1.226m. The budget will be reduced by £1.226m (developer contributions) as part of the scheme will be delivered direct through the S278 agreement with the developer. (See section 5.4 cash limit adjustments to note).
- A28 Chart Road: Rephasing variance of -£1.031m. The road scheme is dependent on housing development and associated developer contributions. These are being secured/received slower than anticipated.
- Open Golf: Rephasing variance of -£0.993m (*Previously reported -£2.120m*). There is a reduction in rephasing due to acceleration of Network Rail expenditure, as good progress is now being made.
- Kent Thameside Strategic Transport: Real variance of +£0.330m and rephasing of -£5.413m (previously reported -£5.413m rephasing). The real variance reflects the expected underspends from the Rathmore Road scheme, which will be paid back into this programme once confirmed. How this additional funding is then allocated is yet to be determined.

- Thanet Parkway: Rephasing of -£8.697m. Ongoing technical discussions with, and cost estimates from, Network Rail, as well as determining the appropriate planning application route has resulted in a re-profiling of the budget. The submission of the planning application has now been completed, with planning determination due at the end of quarter 1 2020. Progress is also being made with regards to refining the cost and scope of the level crossing works. The design and build phase is now scheduled to commence towards the end of 2020-21.
- Kent Medical Campus (National Productivity Investment Fund Kent): Rephasing of -£7.038m (previously reported -£6.992m). There has been a reduction in the budget in previous months due to land being gifted for the scheme. This then led to delays to the planning application submission, tender document finalisation and land transfer arrangements. All have now been resolved and the scheme is progressing. Contract award is expected early 2020, with construction starting in April 2020.
- Maidstone Integrated Transport: Rephasing of -£3.985m (previously reported -£4.039m). This programme of schemes has been developed further, with approval in place from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership, and this has led to a minor re-profiling of the expenditure.
- Housing Infrastructure Fund: Rephasing of -£2.587m (previously reported -£1.897m). The rephasing is due to a review of the programme of works to ensure the budget matches both the level and profile of developer contributions that are currently available.

- Sturry Link Road: Rephasing variance of -£1.897m (previously reported -£1.758m). Spend for the current year has been re-profiled due to project delays in securing planning and confirmation of match funding.
- Leigh (Medway) Flood Storage Areas: Rephasing variance of -£1.500m (previously reported -£1.450m). The Leigh part of the scheme is progressing, however further discussions with the partners are required on the Yalding element, so the budget has been rephased accordingly.
- Integrated Transport Schemes: Real variance of +£1.360m. (Previously reported +£1.4661m). This relates to additional schemes and will be covered by developer contributions and external funding.
- Rathmore Road Link: Real variance of -£0.330m. (Previously reported -£0.148m).
  The project is nearing completion and final cost profiles are forecasting an
  underspend of £0.330m. Any underspend will be passed back to the Kent
  Thameside Programme.

Environment, Planning and Enforcement and Libraries, Registration and Archives

# New variances to report:

No new variances to report.

## **Previously reported variances:**

 Southborough Hub: Re-phasing of -£4.500m due to changes in administration at Southborough Town Council, which resulted in a revised start on site of November 2019.

#### **Economic Development**

#### **New variances to report:**

• Kent Empty Property Initiative – No Use Empty: Real variance of +£0.210m which reflects additional funding from Districts.

- Kent & Medway Business Fund: Re-phasing of -£13.742m (previously reported -£13.835m), in line with latest application profile.
- Turner: Rephasing variance of -£1.000m. The application for funding to the Arts Council Small Scale Capital Fund has been successful. The forecast expenditure has been re-profiled following revisions to the scheme as well as preparing for and submitting the new funding application. Phase 1 of the works is now complete, with Phases 2 & 3 scheduled for completion by quarter 4 of 2020-21.
- Javelin Way Development: Rephasing of -£4.824m. Confirmation of the successful ACE funding bid was not announced until after the budget book was approved, so forecast expenditure has been re-profiled accordingly.

- Broadband Contract 2: Rephasing of -£1.349m to reflect ongoing contract negotiations on how the scheme will be delivered.
- No Use Empty Rented Affordable Homes: Rephasing variance of -£1.041m.
   The forecast reflects the latest loans approved and repayment profile.

# 6.3.4 Strategic & Corporate Services

# **New variances to report:**

- Modernisation of Assets (MOA): Real variance of +£0.290m additional Salix funding for solar panel projects.
- Asset Utilisation: Rephasing variance of -£1.102m. As part of a wider review of the estate the budget has been rephased for wider district projects rather than various smaller, local projects.
- Property Investment Fund (PIF) and PIF2: Rephasing variance of -£11.502m.
   PIF acquisitions for the year are estimated at about £0.500m therefore the remaining budget will rephase. Spend on this project is unpredictable and depends on opportunities arising.

- Acquisition of Strategic Assets: Rephasing variance of -£8.000m. Strategic acquisitions for the current year are estimated in the region of £25m therefore the remainder will be rephased to next year.
- Dover Discovery Centre: Rephasing variance of -£2.896m (previously reported £2.696m. The construction period is now scheduled to start mid 2020-21 and the spend profile has been adjusted to reflect this.
- Asset Utilisation Oakwood House Transformation: Rephasing variance of -£5.060m (previously reported -£4.960m) due to ongoing stakeholder project board negotiations.
- Modernisation of Assets: Rephasing of -£1.156m. Projects have been delayed while the transfer of undertakings between facilities management (FM) providers are resolved.
- Business Intelligence Tool: Real overspend of +£0.224m. The project has taken longer than anticipated due to issues around producing report to replace BOXI, as well as additional project requirements. This has led to an increase in the resources needed in the delivery of the project. The overspend is to be met by a drawdown from reserves.
- MOA Plus: Rephasing variance of -£8.911m (previously reported -£3.000m).
   Projects have been delayed while the transfer of undertakings between FM providers are resolved.

# 6.4 **Cash Limit Adjustments**

## **To Note**

Directorate	Project	Year	Amount £m	Reason
GET	Live Labs	2019-20 2020-21	0.500 1.475	Grant award for this new project
GET	Public Rights of Way	2019-20	0.058	Additional developer contributions
GET	Tunbridge Wells Cultural Hub	2019-20	-6.177	£6.111m external funding and £0.066m developer contributions. Costs are now going through Tunbridge Wells Borough Council rather than KCC for the majority of this scheme.
GET	Major Schemes Preliminary Design	2019-20	0.011	Additional grant
GET	A2500 Lower Road Improvements	2019-20	-1.226	Decrease in developer contributions due to part of the scheme now being delivered by the developer.

# For Approval

Directorate	Project	Year	Amount £m	Reason
GET	Sustainable Access to Education & Employment	2019-20	0.005	Additional revenue contribution
GET	Integrated Transport Schemes	2019-20	0.003	Additional revenue contribution
GET	Public Rights of Way	2019-20	0.008	Additional revenue contribution
GET	LCMS	2019-20	0.057	Additional revenue contribution for the purchase of equipment

# 7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 It is unusual at this point in the financial year for the revenue position to show an underspend before roll forwards are taken into account and it should be kept in mind that there are significant pressures in the Children, Young People & Education directorate that are being compensated for by the underspend in Financing Items.
- 7.2 The £44.9m savings are on track to be delivered and the intention remains that where delivery proves to be unlikely, equivalent savings elsewhere within the relevant Directorate will be made as appropriate.

# 8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Cabinet is asked to:

- 8.1 **Note** the forecast revenue budget monitoring position for 2019-20 and capital budget monitoring position for 2019-20 to 2021-22, and that the forecast pressure on the revenue budget after roll forwards needs to be eliminated as we approach the end of the year.
- 8.2 **Agree** the capital budget adjustments set out in section 6.4.

# 9. CONTACT DETAILS

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