

INTEGRATED RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 31ST OCTOBER 2011

To: **Cabinet**

Date: **13th December 2011**

From: **LGSS: Director of Finance**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Forward Plan ref: **2011/055** *Key decision:* **Yes**

Purpose: **To present financial and performance information to assess progress in delivering the Council's Integrated Plan.**

Recommendations: **That Cabinet:**

- a) Analyses resources and performance information and notes the remedial action currently being taken and considers if any further remedial action is required.**
- b) Approves the virement of £200k from the Pressures and Developments (P&D) Reserve to Passenger Transport (ES) (see section 3.2).**
- c) Approves the virements of £3.5m and £800k from the P&D Reserve to Adult Social Care and the Library Service respectively (see section 3.2).**
- d) Approves a revised risk share arrangement for 2011/12 (only) with regard to the Older People's Pool (see section 3.2).**
- e) Approves a further non-refundable Invest to Transform loan of up to £250k to support the Library transformation project in 2011/12 (see section 3.2).**

Name: Nick Dawe	Name: Steve Count
Post: LGSS: Director of Finance	Portfolio: Resources and Performance
Email: Nicholas.Dawe@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Email: Steve.Count@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01223 699236	Tel: 01223 699172

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To present financial and performance information to assess progress in delivering the Council's Integrated Plan.

2. OVERVIEW

- 2.1 The following table provides a snapshot of the Authority's performance to date and forecast performance at year end by value, RAG (Red (R), Amber (A), Green (G)) status and direction of travel (DoT). Information on the Balance Sheet Health is updated quarterly (June, September, December and March).

Area	Measure	End of Month Status	Month DoT	Forecast Year-End Status	Year DoT
Revenue Budget	Variance (£m)	+£1.9m	A ↓	-£2.2m	G ↑
Basket Key Performance Indicators	Number at target (%)	75% (6 of 8)	A ↑	50% (2 of 4)	A ↔
Capital Programme	Number of projects to budget and time (%)	78% (135 of 173)	A ↔	78% (135 of 173)	A ↔
Balance Sheet Health	Variance of net borrowing activity from plan (£m)	-£38m (Sep)	G ↓	-£10m (Sep)	G ↔

- 2.2 The key exceptions included in the summary analysis are:

- Revenue Budget; overall the budget position is showing a forecast year-end underspend of -£2.2m (-0.5%). This is an improvement of £6.1m from last month, which is mainly due to: the deployment of £3.5m from the Pressures and Developments (P&D) Reserve to Adults Social Care, which was anticipated and built into 2011/12's Integrated Plan and is now being called upon; the transfer of £800k from the P&D Reserve to assist in funding the 21st Century Library Service that Cabinet approved on 27th September 2011; £1.1m of additional savings identified within Adults Social Care; and £0.5m of additional savings identified within Environment Services - more specifically Road Safety and the Waste Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract. This forecast includes the impact of firm and agreed action plans to address overspends. See section 3.2 for details and suggested actions.
- Key Performance Indicators; there are 13 indicators within the Council's basket. Targets are available for 8 of these indicators currently, of which 6 are on target. Of these, 4 indicators have year-end forecasts of which 2 are on target. However, please

note that further work is underway to precisely define some of the indicators. See section 4 for details and suggested actions.

- Capital Programme; at present 135 out of 173 current projects are forecast to be on time and budget. The projects not to time and budget are mainly as a result of both slippage and schemes progressing quicker than anticipated. See section 5.2 for details and suggested actions.
- Balance Sheet Health; end of quarter (September) figure shows the variance of actual net borrowing (a positive figure represents additional borrowing than what was planned). This can vary considerably due to the profile of cashflows throughout the year. There were investments of £10m at the end of the quarter (September) resulting in a projected borrowing requirement of £38m. An underspend of -£1m is currently forecast. See section 6.2 for details and suggested actions.

3. REVENUE BUDGET, ISSUES AND ACTIONS

3.1 A more detailed analysis of financial performance is tabled below:

Key to abbreviations

ES - Environment Services

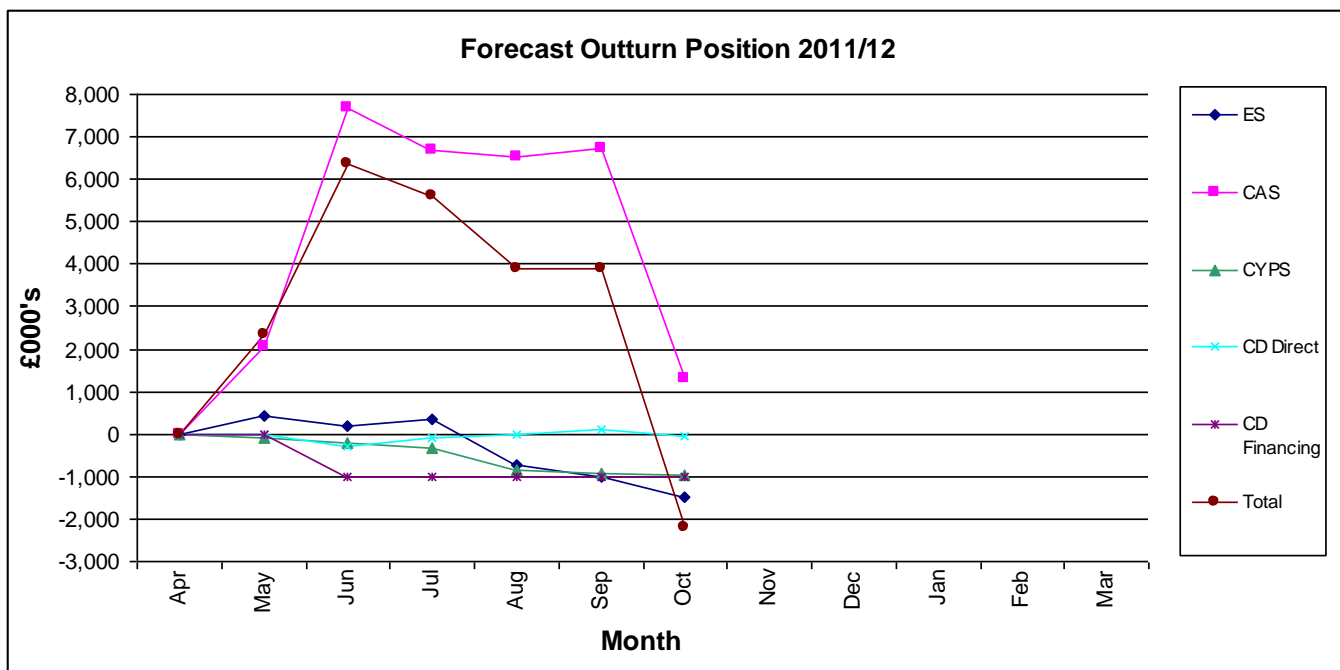
CAS - Community and Adult Services

CYPS - Children and Young People's Services

CD - Corporate Directorates (including Local Government Shared Services (LGSS) Cambridge Office)

DoT - Direction of Travel

Outturn Variance (Sep) £000	Service	Budget for 2011/12 £000	Current Variance £000	Forecast Outturn (Oct) £000	Forecast Outturn (Oct) %	Overall Status	D o T
-1,000	ES	62,097	-1,229	-1,492	-2.4%	G	↑
6,739	CAS	168,302	5,030	1,300	0.8%	A	↑
-940	CYPS	108,984	-1,155	-961	-0.9%	G	↑
107	CD Direct	31,888	-922	-50	-0.2%	G	↑
-1,000	CD Financing	33,420	209	-1,000	-3.0%	G	↔
3,906	Total Service Spending	404,691	1,933	-2,203	-0.5%	G	↑
-16	Financing Items	-5,190	-13	-16	0.3%	G	↔
3,890	Total Spending 2011/12	399,501	1,920	-2,219	-0.6%	G	↑



3.2 Key exceptions and emerging issues are identified below.

Service	Key Exceptions	Impacts and Actions
ES	<p>A total Service underspend of -£1.5m is forecast at year-end. This is an increase in the forecast underspend of -£492k from last month.</p> <p>Asset Management: £482k overspend forecast at year-end.</p>	<p>This includes the Waste Private Finance (PFI) Initiative Contract forecast underspend (-£1.5m) where specific arrangements for any under/over spend exist. Excluding this the underlying forecast outturn position for ES is -£19k underspend.</p> <p>The predicted overspend on Street Lighting has increase by £232k this month to £482k. This overspend is due to higher costs than budgeted in the first quarter, this prior to the commencement of the PFI contract in July 2012. During the Integrated Planning Process (IPP), when the budget was set, the start date was expected to be in April and the budget set accordingly. However, with the delayed start date the anticipated savings in the first quarter were therefore not achieved.</p> <p>Energy costs are also higher than expected, partly due to higher energy inflation than originally projected and also due to an increase in the number of lighting columns we manage.</p> <p><i>Suggested actions:</i></p>

Service	Key Exceptions	Impacts and Actions
	<p>Road Safety: -£400k underspend forecast at year-end.</p> <p>Passenger Transport</p> <p>Waste PFI is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£1.5m underspend) – as reported in August</p> <p>See the ES Finance and Performance Report for details of individual variances (link provided in section 8.1).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is on-going by officers to see if this predicted overspend can be reduced. <p>This is partly due to increased efficiencies gained from within the Safety Camera budget and also due to project funding not being spent, as funding is under review due to changes in the Council's priorities. The current restructuring of road safety has also had an impact on officer time.</p> <p>Cabinet is asked to approve the transfer of £200k from the Pressures and Developments Reserve to Passenger Transport to assist in funding the Cambridgeshire Future Transport initiative that was discussed at the Cabinet meeting on the 25th October 2011. The current impact of this will be reflected in 2012/13's Integrated Planning Process (IPP).</p>
CAS	<p>A total Service overspend of £1.3m is forecast at year-end. This is a decrease in the forecast overspend of -£5.4m from last month.</p>	<p>The reduction in the forecast outturn position assumes the deployment of £3.5m of funding from the Pressures and Developments Reserve to Adults Social Care, which was anticipated and built into 2011/12's Integrated Plan and is now being called upon; and also the transfer of £800k from the Pressures and Developments Reserve for the 21st Century Library Service following Cabinet approval for this programme on 27th September 2011.</p> <p>Cabinet is therefore asked to approve both the £3.5m and £800k virements from the Pressures and Developments Reserve to Adults Social Care and the Library Service respectively. The current impact of both of these will be reflected</p>

Service	Key Exceptions	Impacts and Actions
	<p data-bbox="357 1442 772 1547">Mental Health: -£400k underspend forecast at year-end.</p> <p data-bbox="357 1921 799 2027">Quality & Transformation: -£900k underspend forecast at year-end.</p>	<p data-bbox="828 230 1129 264">within 2012/13's IPP.</p> <p data-bbox="828 304 1501 633">Following discussion at Cambridgeshire Care Partnership, Cabinet is asked to approve a revised risk share arrangement for 2011/12 (only) with regard to the Older People's Pool. The risk share arrangements for the Integrated Community Equipment Service ICES and Learning Disability Pools, which are based broadly on the respective parties' contributions into them, will remain unchanged</p> <p data-bbox="828 703 1513 1361">With regard to the Older People's Pool the proposal for 2011/12 (only) is for each party to take responsibility for their own overspend. In the past few years, the contribution into the Pool by the two parties (Cambs County Council (CCC) and Cambridgeshire NHS (CNHS)) as a proportion has remained broadly consistent, but in 2011/12, because of the different budget strategies of the two organisations, this link was broken, with the Council's contribution significantly lower proportionally than that of CNHS. Because of this, it is felt that retaining the status-quo of the risk share being based on the value of contributions into the Pool is no longer appropriate and therefore a move to both parties taking responsibility for their own overspend (or potentially underspend) is considered a fairer method for 2011/12.</p> <p data-bbox="828 1442 1513 1839">It was expected that two intensive support accommodation projects costing around £250k each would begin during 2011/12. It is now anticipated that full take up will commence 2012/13. The Head of Commissioning is also looking into transitions, in particular the costs relating to those with Aspergers as well as staff restructuring costs associated with staffing changes necessary to reshape services in order to focus better on safeguarding, reviewing and moving on.</p> <p data-bbox="828 1921 1449 2027">This service funds mainstream activities (Quality Assurance), safeguarding, training, workforce development) as well as</p>

Service	Key Exceptions	Impacts and Actions
	<p data-bbox="357 562 775 819">Adult Social Care (ASC) Director of Strategy & Commissioning is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£1.4m underspend) – as reported in July.</p> <p data-bbox="357 857 775 1037">Supporting People are currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£650k underspend) – as reported in July.</p> <p data-bbox="357 1075 775 1254">Older People are currently reporting a material variance at year-end (£5.2m overspend) – as reported in June.</p> <p data-bbox="357 1292 775 1471">Learning Disability Services are currently reporting a material variance at year-end (£2.9m overspend) – as reported in May.</p> <p data-bbox="357 1509 775 1588">Libraries: £30k overspend forecast at year-end.</p>	<p data-bbox="828 230 1485 521">transformation projects. Due to the financial position Adults Social Care faces, a review of potential projects for 2011/12 was undertaken and this has identified the release of £550k. In addition, vacancies have been held and the training programme kept to what was strictly necessary, thus freeing another £350k for 11/12.</p> <p data-bbox="828 1664 1485 1989">The previously reported forecast overspend of £830k is no longer applicable (see above request for Cabinet to approve the £800k transfer from the P&D Reserve to the Library Service). The review of the future service delivery model for Libraries in Cambridgeshire is underway. Cabinet approved the new plans for Libraries on 27th September: 21st Century Library Service.</p>

Service	Key Exceptions	Impacts and Actions
	<p>See the CAS Finance and Performance Report for details of individual variances (link provided in section 8.1).</p>	<p>The Library Trust option is not being pursued and there is ongoing dialogue with the 13 community libraries under review to reflect their views in shaping the new service.</p> <p>Cabinet is asked to approve a further non-refundable Invest to Transform loan of up to £250k to support the Library transformation project in 2011/12.</p>
CYPS	<p>A total Service underspend of -£961k is forecast at year-end. This is an increase in the forecast underspend of -£21k from last month.</p> <p>Home to School Transport – Special: £483k overspend forecast at year-end.</p> <p>Learning Directorate is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£460k underspend) – as reported in August.</p> <p>Home to School Transport – Mainstream is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£475k underspend) – as reported last month.</p> <p>See the CYPS Finance and Performance Report for details of individual variances (link provided in section 8.1).</p>	<p>This is largely due to pressures brought forward from the previous year and from growth and contract changes.</p> <p><i>Suggested actions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the updated Home to School Transport policy and regular monitoring to check progress.

Service	Key Exceptions	Impacts and Actions
CD (including LGSS Cambridge Office)	<p>A total underspend of -£1.05m is forecast at year-end. This is an increase in the forecast underspend of -£157k from last month.</p> <p><u>Corporate Services</u></p> <p>There are no new exceptions to report this month.</p> <p><u>LGSS Cambridge Office</u></p> <p>Carbon Trading: -£500k underspend at year-end.</p> <p>County Offices is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (£375k overspend) – as reported last month.</p> <p><u>Financing</u></p> <p>Debt Charges is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£1m underspend) – as reported in June.</p>	<p>The forecast underspend has increased by -£120k this month to -£500k. Subsequent to the completion of the Integrated Planning Process for 2011/12 the Department for Education determined that schools should pay for their carbon reduction commitments credits directly. Cambridgeshire Schools Forum has agreed to a top-slice the Dedicated Schools Grant to meet the cost of school credits, which will be charged at year-end.</p> <p>Current provisions within the scheme are such that at present the Authority does not now expect to purchase credits in respect of Street Lighting. It is anticipated that this position will be amended in future years, but will result in a further saving to the Authority in the current financial year.</p>

Service	Key Exceptions	Impacts and Actions
	See the CD Finance and Performance Report for details of individual variances (link provided in section 8.1).	

Service	Emerging Issues	Impacts and Actions
ES	None	
CAS	None	
CYPS	Academies Funding	<p>This financial year the Local Government Finance Settlement was top-sliced by £1.7m to reflect the transfer of function to academies. Several local authorities threatened legal action as the top-slice did not reflect the actual number of schools converting to academy status. The Department for Education published a consultation in July proposing to recoup from local authorities an alternative amount based on specific lines of a budget statement prepared by each local authority (the S251 Budget Statement). If the proposals are implemented this financial year there will be an additional financial pressure to Cambridgeshire County Council of £400k. It is currently unclear if the consultation proposals will be implemented this year as the consultation states "For 2011/12, the calculation of what would be an appropriate reduction in local authority funding will not determine whether any additional reduction in local authority funding will be effected or, if so, how this should be done".</p> <p><i>Suggested actions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This position will be updated accordingly once the outcome of the consultation is known. However, at this time there is no confirmed date of when the results will be published.
CD (including	None	

Service	Emerging Issues	Impacts and Actions
Local Government Shared Services (LGSS) (Cambridge Office)		

Note: material variances are considered to be in excess of either +/- 0.5% of the Services' overall net budget plus grants or +/- 0.1% of the Council's net budget plus grants (£400k), whichever is the greater.

4. PERFORMANCE TARGETS, ISSUES AND ACTIONS

4.1 The following indicators will be reported to Cabinet annually, following this report which notes their current baseline position:

Description	Frequency	What is good?	Unit	Last data entered	Target	Actual	Status	DoT	Predicted year-end status
Overall satisfaction of users with adult social care services	Annual	High	%	31 Mar 2012	Baseline year	59%	n/a	New indicator	n/a
The proportion of minor classified roads in the county that are in good condition	Annual	High	%	31 Mar 2012	92	93	GREEN	↔	n/a
The number of bus journeys in Cambridgeshire	Annual	High	Number	31 Mar 2011	25,000,000	22,491,021	AMBER	↑	GREEN (2012)

4.2 A more detailed analysis of performance against key targets is tabled below:

Description	Frequency	What is good?	Unit	Last data entered	Target	Actual	Status	DoT	Predicted year-end status
Economy and employment									
The number of young people starting as apprentices in the county	Quarterly	High	Number	31 April 2011	1824	2268	GREEN	n/a	GREEN
The proportion of 16 - 19 year olds in education, employment or training	Monthly	High	%	30-Sep-11	See note 1	52.8	n/a	↓	n/a

The number of people completing courses to directly improve their chances of employment	Monthly	High	Number	The definition of this measure is currently under development					n/a
Local places									
The proportion of streetlights that are currently working	Monthly	High	%	30-Sep-11	97.5	97.7	GREEN	↑	AMBER
The proportion of household waste collected in the last 12 months that was sent to landfill	Monthly	Low	%	30-Sep-11	45.6	44.89	GREEN	↑	GREEN
The number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents in previous 12 months	Monthly	Low	Number	30-Sep-11	331	343	AMBER	↑	AMBER
People and prevention									
The proportion of people who are independent following short-term support to help them be self-sufficient	Monthly	High	%	30-Sep-11	50	57	GREEN	↓	n/a
The proportion of older people still at home after three months following discharge from hospital and support to regain independence	Monthly	High	%	30-Sep-11	81	83.33	GREEN	↓	n/a
The proportion of people using social care services who have chosen how their support is provided	Monthly	High	%	31-Oct-11	80	55.6	RED	n/a	n/a
The proportion of people living in Cambridgeshire who actively use a library service	Monthly	High	%	31-Oct-11	See note 3	24.4	n/a	New indicator	n/a

The number of children admitted to hospital as a result of injury, per 10,000 children	Quarterly	Low	Rate per 10,000 children	30-Jun-11	See note 2	14.7	n/a	n/a	n/a
The proportion of looked after children aged between 10 and 16 who are placed in foster care or adopted	Monthly	High	%	30-Sep-11	82	82.2	GREEN	↓	n/a
Repeat incidents of domestic violence in supported cases	Quarterly	Low	%	30-Sep-11	See note 3	35	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note 1: A target is currently being developed. The figure in the table above is the latest available figure at the time of writing this report. Data for October will be available in December. It should be noted that August, September and October data are unreliable due to the process of confirming the current situation of all 16 - 19 year olds. Until a young person's situation is confirmed they remain "unknown" and at the moment over 40% of our 16 - 19 cohort are unknown. It will take until November's data to reduce the unknowns to 3%. Weekly reports continue to go out to localities with the names of young people who are Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) to ensure regular follow up and support is in place. Increasing EET is fundamental to the success of the county strategy for raising participation.

Note 2: Work is underway with CYPS and NHS Cambridgeshire to review work and data in this area.

Note 3: A target is currently being developed.

4.3 There is one indicator that is currently RED:

- The proportion of people using social care service who have chosen how their support is provided.

This indicator is calculated by dividing the number of clients and carers who have received support in the community from Adult Social Care since 1 April 2011 by the number of clients and carers in the community who are in receipt of Self-Directed Support (SDS) in the same time frame.

From April – October 2011, 11,621 clients and carers received support in the community. 6,466 of these clients and carers are currently in receipt of self-directed support (55.6%). **So more than half of all clients receiving support in the community have chosen how their support is provided. This is very good when compared to other local authorities.**

For some groups of clients, current practice is not to offer SDS as the default option. These groups are:

- Occupational Therapy, Assistive Telecare Technology (ATT), Sensory Services (primarily equipment services which are cheaper to administer and easier for the client to receive via an arranged service).
- Hospital Discharge (it is inappropriate to set the personal budget immediately on discharge as the level of need will generally be higher than it would otherwise be. For these clients, the SDS process would normally be applied at the 6 or 12 week review stage).

These groups are usually included in this indicator, as the definition is nationally set. It is a local choice not to offer these groups SDS as a priority. The target can therefore be assumed not to apply to these groups.

Excluding these groups from the indicator gives the following result: Of 8,284 clients that would be prioritised for SDS, 6,255 of these clients do receive SDS (75.5%). **So of those clients that are prioritised for SDS, three-quarters receive it currently.**

In order to reach the target of 80% for priority groups by the end of the year, approximately 300 – 350 clients from these groups need to be put onto SDS each month. **This is approximately twice as many each month as currently.**

Areas that would benefit from more support

Teams that are under-performing compared to the priority group overall proportion (defined as being 10 or more percentage points below 75.5%):

- **Cambridge City Learning Disability Partnership** – currently 53.9%
- **Cambridgeshire Mental Health Team (CMHT)** – currently 61.7%
- **Mental Health** (Fenland, Huntingdon and South areas) – currently 25.3% (whole county rate) although rollout of SDS to mental health clients only began in April 2011, so lower performance is expected.

5. CAPITAL PROGRAMME, ISSUES AND ACTIONS

5.1 A more detailed analysis of capital performance by programme for individual schemes of £0.5m or greater is tabled below:

Service	No. of Programmes	No. on Budget	No. on Time	Target end of October	Actual end of October
ES	61	56	61	56 schemes to budget and time.	56 schemes to budget and time.
CAS	22	22	6	6 schemes to budget and time.	6 schemes to budget and time.
CYPS	63	52	62	51 schemes to budget and time.	51 schemes to budget and time.
CD	27	25	24	22 schemes to budget and time.	22 schemes to budget and time.

5.2 Key exceptions and emerging issues are identified below:

Service	Key Exceptions	Impacts and Actions
ES	<p>An underspend of -£2.3m is currently being forecast for ES' capital programme in 11/12.</p> <p>Integrated Transport is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£668k underspend) – as reported in August.</p> <p>Infrastructure Management & Operations is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£1.5m underspend) – as reported in May.</p> <p>There are no new exceptions to report this month.</p> <p>See the ES Finance and Performance Report for details of individual variances (link provided in section 8.1).</p>	
CAS	<p>An underspend of -£3m is currently being forecast for CAS' capital programme in 11/12.</p> <p>Adult Social Services: -£895k underspend forecast at year-end.</p> <p>Transformation Initiatives is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£1.2m underspend) – as reported in May.</p>	<p>An extensive review is underway, aiming to maximise the use of the various funding streams towards investing in Social Care.</p>

	See the CAS Finance and Performance Report for details of individual variances (link provided in section 8.1).	
CYPS	<p>An overspend of £359k is currently being forecast for CYPS' capital programme in 11/12.</p> <p>Primary Schools – Demographic Pressures: £1.7m overspend forecast at year-end.</p> <p>Primary School – Adaptions is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (£1.6m overspend) – as reported last month.</p> <p>Primary Schools – New Communities is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£3.1m underspend) – as reported in August.</p> <p>See the CYPS Finance and Performance Report for details of individual variances (link provided in section 8.1).</p>	<p>This was reported last month as a £1.1m forecast overspend. The increase this month is mainly as a result of design errors on Gunhild Way (£430k). A claim against the designer is being prepared and the balance of the overspend will be met from the 2012/13 forecast spend.</p>
CD (including LGSS Cambridge Office)	<p>An underspend of -£1.5m is currently being forecast for CD's capital programme in 11/12.</p> <p><u>Corporate Services</u></p> <p>There are no new exceptions</p>	

	<p>to report this month.</p> <p><u>LGSS Cambridge Office</u></p> <p>Carbon Reduction: -£505k underspend forecast at year-end.</p> <p>BUPA Fenland Project is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (£1.8m overspend) – as reported last month.</p> <p>Building Utilisation of Propoert Assets (BUPA) College of West Anglia (CoWA) Project is currently reporting a material variance at year-end (-£2.3m underspend) – as reported last month.</p> <p>See the CD Finance and Performance Report for details of individual variances (link provided in section 8.1).</p>	<p>This is subject to revision during the course of the year and does not reflect a reduction in total scheme costs.</p>
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Service	Emerging Issues	Impacts and Actions
ES	None	
CAS	None	
CYPS	None	
CD	None	

6. BALANCE SHEET, ISSUES AND ACTIONS (reported quarterly)

6.1 A more detailed analysis of balance sheet health issues is tabled below:

Measure	Target end of October	Actual end of October
Net borrowing activity from plan, £m	£352m (Sep)	£314m (Sep)
Level of debt outstanding (owed to the council) – 4-6 months, £m	£0.4m	£0.6m
Level of debt outstanding (owed to the council) – >6 months, £m	£1.0m	£0.9m
Invoices paid by due date (or sooner), %	95%	99%

6.2 Key exceptions and emerging issues are identified below:

Key exceptions	Impacts and actions
Variance of net borrowing activity from plan	Interest rates are projected to remain at 0.5% until 2013 as recent economic indicators have deteriorated. This will have a favourable effect as short-term borrowing undertaken will be cheaper than budgeted. The Debt Charges budget is currently forecast to underspend by £1m at year-end as a result of this and lower than expected interest rates on long-term borrowing.

Emerging issues	Impacts and actions
None	

7. EXTERNAL AND CONTEXTUAL ISSUES

7.1 The Government is reviewing the current funding system for local authorities as part of the Local Government Resource Review (LGRR), as reported in June. A Project Group was set up to co-ordinate and to write a joint response with Northamptonshire County Council. The paper outlining the key elements of the LGRR and the council's response, which was presented to Cabinet on the 25th October, can be located at the following link:

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/CMSWebsite/committee-document.aspx/cabinet-and-council/cabinet/2011-10-25/Reports/2889/111025-15.doc>

Following on from this consultation, DCLG have also recently consulted on the Localisation of Council Tax Benefit. The Government is proposing that support for council tax (i.e. Housing Benefit), which is due to be cut by 10% (around £500m), is localised for councils to design and administer their own scheme of support. Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) worked with its District Councils to produce a joint response to this.

Alongside this, the Government have published another consultation on the Technical Reforms of Council Tax, which closes on the 29th December 2011. This consultation addresses some technical issues to explore the modernisation of the system and looks

in particular at discounts and exemptions in relation to council tax. CCC will again be looking to submit a joint countywide response to this consultation.

Both of these schemes could significantly impact on council tax funding going forward and a project is currently underway to understand the potential financial impact to assist with planning purposes.

7.2 An initial assessment of these issues is set out below.

External and Contextual Issues; key issues, impact and suggested actions

Key issues	Impacts and actions
Localisation of Council Tax Benefit and the Technical Reforms of Council Tax consultations.	<p>These could significantly impact on council tax funding going forward. However, it is not know at this stage the level of this impact.</p> <p><i>Suggested actions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A project is currently underway to understand the potential financial impact. The findings resulting from this work will be reported once available.

8. FURTHER INFORMATION

8.1 Members requiring further information on issues raised in this report may wish to access the reporting and drill down facilities in CORVU (for performance issues) and the Oracle e-Business Suite for finance issues, or follow the links below:

CYPS Finance and Performance Report	http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/finance/spending/monthly/Children+and+Young+Peoples+Services.htm
CAS Finance and Performance Report	http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/finance/spending/monthly/Community+and+Adult+Services.htm
ES Finance and Performance Report	http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/finance/spending/monthly/Environment+Services.htm
CD Finance and Performance Report	http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/finance/spending/monthly/Corporate+Directorates.htm

9. IMPLICATIONS

Resources and Performance:

- 9.1 This report provides the latest resources and performance information for the council and so has a direct impact.

Statutory, Legal and Risk:

- 9.2 There are no significant statutory, legal and risk implications.

Equality and Diversity:

- 9.3 There are no significant equality and diversity implications.

Engagement and Consultation:

- 9.4 No public engagement or consultation is required for the purpose of this report.

SOURCE DOCUMENTS:

ES Budgetary Control Report (October) CAS Budgetary Control Report (October) CYPS Budgetary Control Report (October) CD Budgetary Control Report (October) Performance Management Report & Corporate Scorecard (October) Capital Monitoring Report (October) Aged Debt per Directorate – as at 31 st October 2011	Room 301, Shire Hall, Cambridge
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