

2026 Cost Change Draft Decision

13 August 2026

2026 Cost Change Draft Decision supports fundamentals

1

Draft Decision in line with expectations

- Draft Decision gives allowances of £975 million¹
- Ofwat support the majority of UU's first AMP8 submission – 97% of scope
- On track to deliver c.£2.5bn through AMP8 re-opener process

2

Supportive regulatory backdrop

- New regulatory approach enabling annual submissions
- Enabling economic growth across the North West
- Discussions ongoing in relation to the funding of industrial growth projects

3

AMP8 guidance reiterated

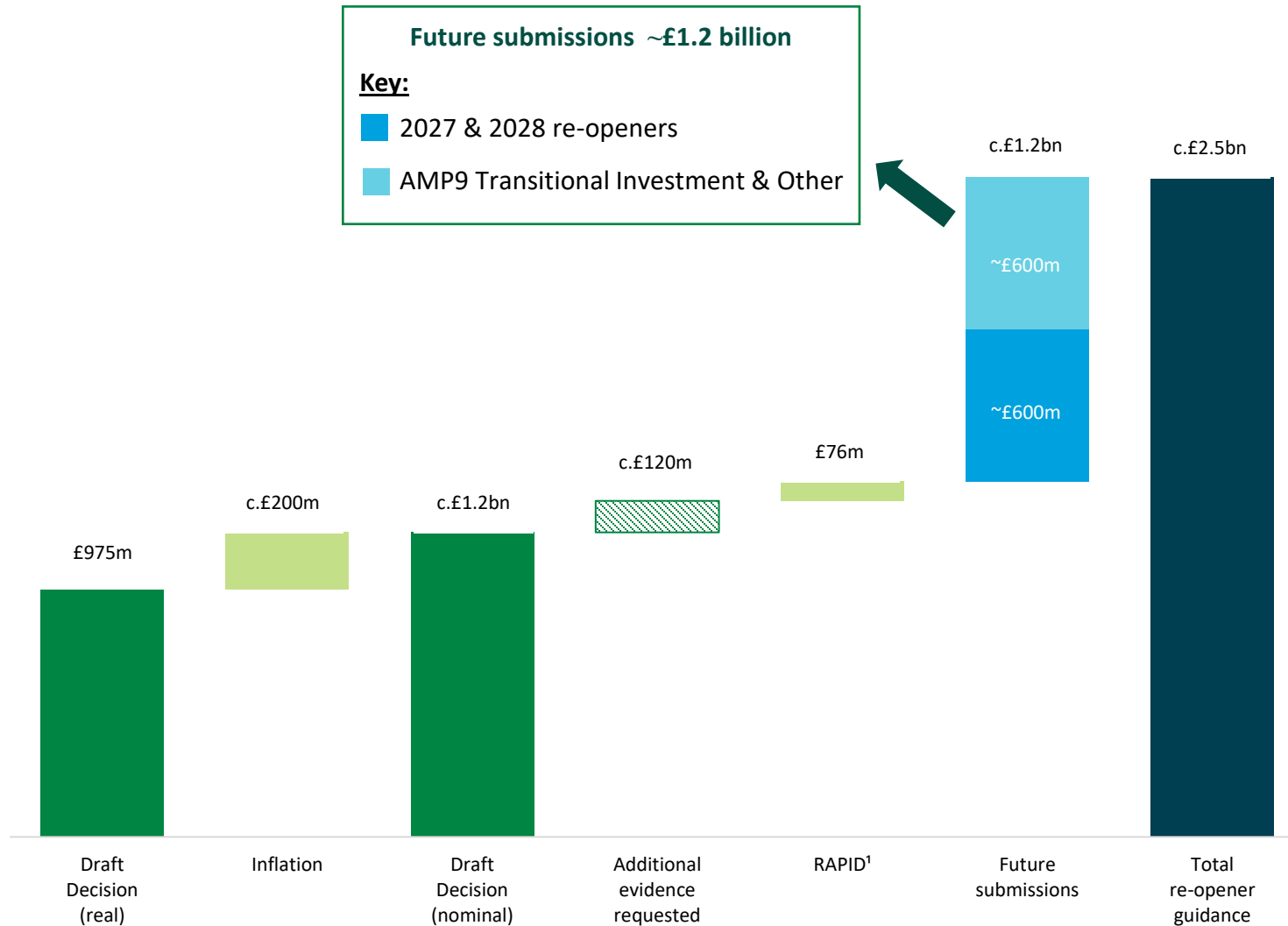
- Capital investment of ~£11.5bn
- Asset base growing to £25bn by 2030, equating to ~10% CAGR³
- Delivering regulatory returns^{2,3} of 10-11%

1. [United Utilities 2026 Cost Change Draft Decision](#)

2. Regulatory return is the average expectation for AMP8 of the return on regulatory equity comprising the base return, outperformance and inflation as per Table 1F of the Ofwat Annual Performance Report

3. Assumes inflation of c.3.0% on average in AMP8

2026 re-opener: supporting growth, strategic projects and resilience



£975m totex approved²

The Draft Decision includes allowances of £975m (real), or c.£1.2bn after inflation.



Additional evidence required

Ofwat has requested specific additional evidence on a small number of projects



Future submissions

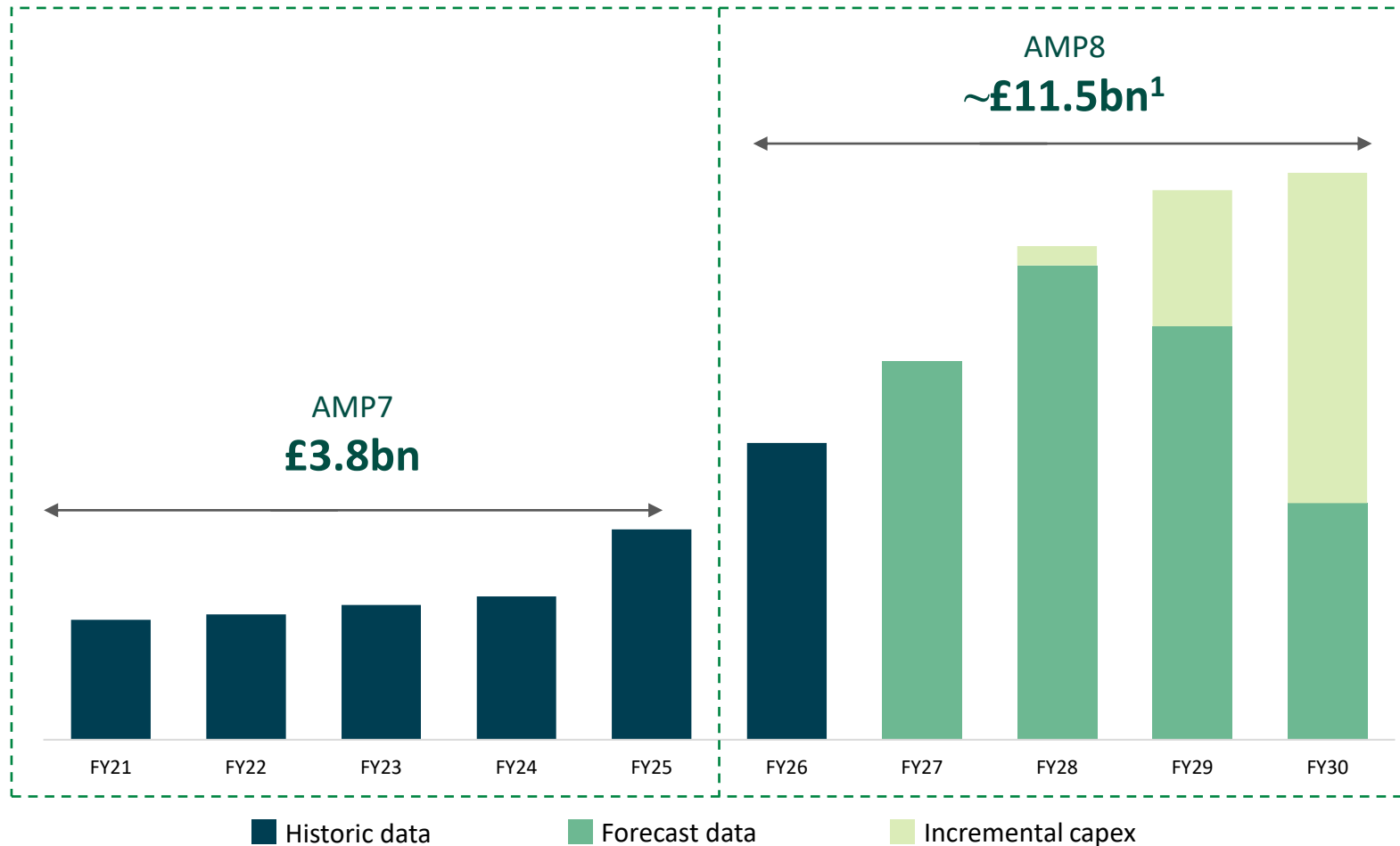
Future submissions of c.£1.2bn make up the majority of the balance to our £2.5bn re-opener capex

1. Strategic water resources will be considered as part of Ofwat's Regulators' Alliance for Progressing Infrastructure Development (RAPID) process and is not included within the 2026 Cost Change Draft Decision

2. [United Utilities 2026 Cost Change Draft Decision](#)

Multi-decade growth opportunity underpinned by long-term drivers

Nominal capital investment (£bn)



1. Expectation of additional capital investment, to be determined through Ofwat re-openers, comprising Ofwat's 2026 Cost Change Process, Ofwat's 2027 Cost Change process, Ofwat's 2028 Cost Change Process and Transitional Investment

Additional growth drivers



Growth to support defence

Water and wastewater infrastructure to support defence sector expansion in North West



Proactive asset replacement

Proactively managing priority risks and accelerated mains replacement



Strategic priorities

Investment to drive place-based economic growth



Cyber security

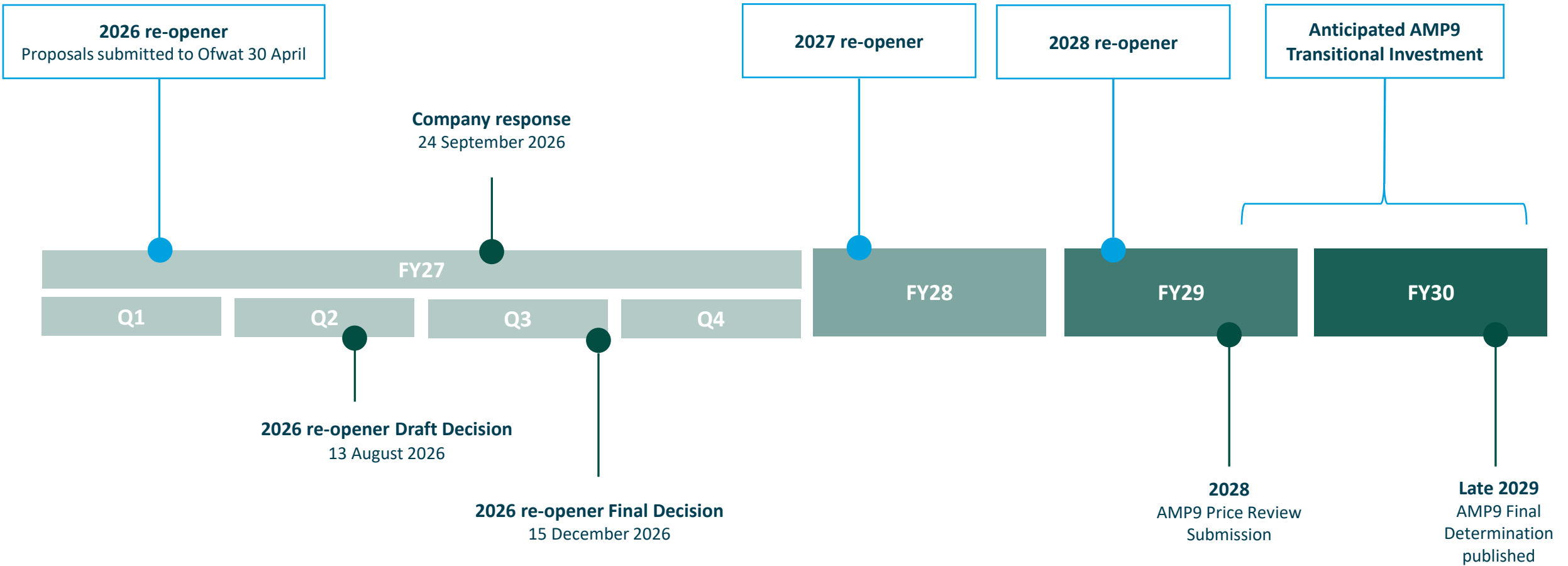
Additional cyber security resilience



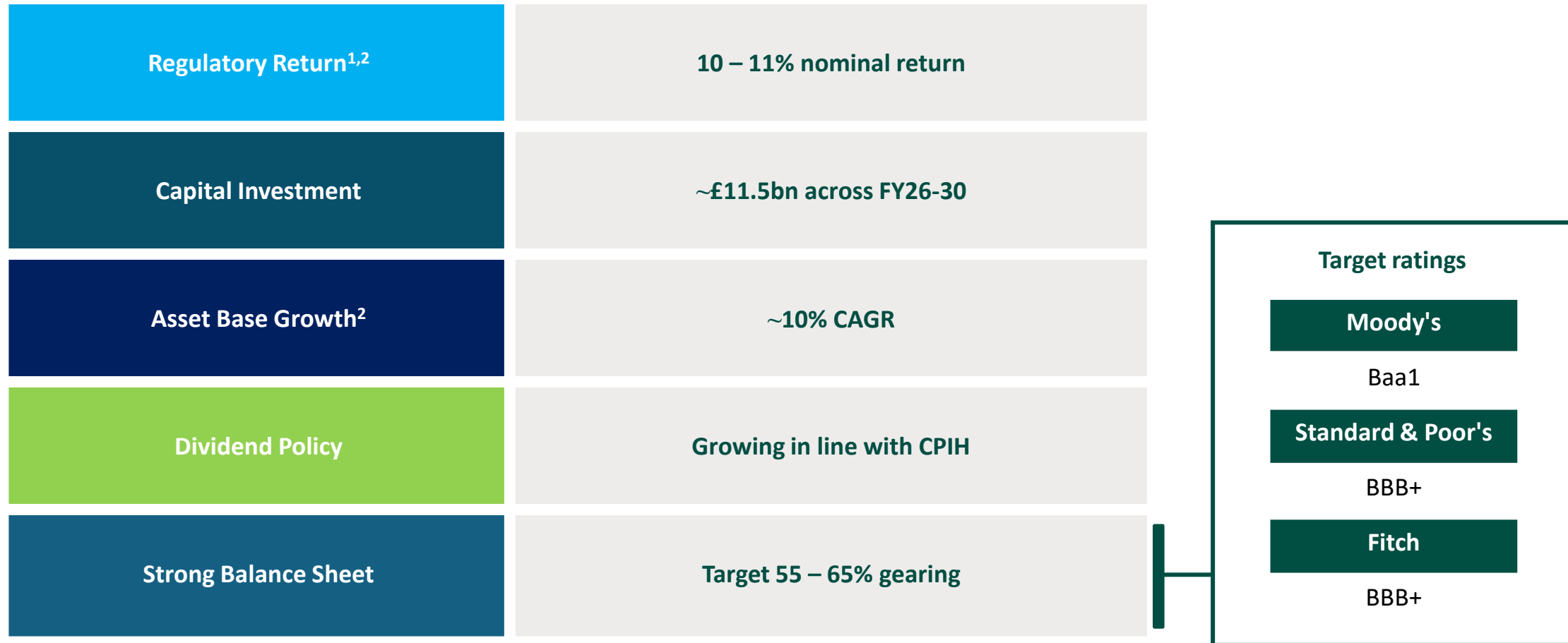
Maintaining momentum into AMP9

Maintaining pace of storm overflows programme

Targeted annualised process accelerating investment



Financial framework reiterated



1. Regulatory return is the average expectation for AMP8 of the return on regulatory equity comprising the base return, outperformance and inflation as per Table 1F of the Ofwat Annual Performance Report.
2. Assumes inflation of c.3.0% on average in AMP8



Any questions?