

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUSINESS PLAN & HRA BUDGET 2017/18

At its meeting on 18th January 2017, the Cabinet received a report of the Executive Director, Communities providing the 2017/18 update of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan. The report also presented a 2017/18 revenue budget for the HRA.

Approval of the Housing Revenue Account is a function reserved to full Council.

The Cabinet's minute is set out below, and the Council is asked to approve the recommendations:-

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUSINESS PLAN & HRA BUDGET 2017/18

The Executive Director, Communities submitted a report providing the 2017/18 update of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan, including a number of proposals.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet recommends to the meeting of the City Council on 1st February 2017 that:-

- (a) the HRA Business Plan report for 2017/18 as set out in appendix A to the report is approved;
- (b) the HRA Revenue Budget 2017/18 as set out in appendix B to the report is approved;
- (c) rents for council dwellings, including temporary accommodation, are reduced by 1% from April 2017 in line with the requirements in the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016;
- (d) from 2017/18, garage rents will change to a single rate for garage plots and a single rate for garage sites; once implemented this will apply to new garage tenants immediately and to existing garage tenants once improvements have been made to existing sites and plots;
- (e) the community heating unit charge for tenants who receive metered heating is reduced by 10% from April 2017; community heating charges for those tenants receiving unmetered heating will remain unchanged from April 2017;
- (f) following the review of sheltered housing service charges in 2015, as approved by the Cabinet Member for Housing, and work undertaken on future charging for communal heating in sheltered schemes, as reported to the Cabinet Member, the existing weekly charge of £14.89 will be amended to £15.54 to recover the cost for communal heating in sheltered schemes;
- (g) burglar alarm charges are to remain unchanged from April 2017;

- (h) charges for furnished accommodation are to remain unchanged from April 2017; and
- (i) the Director of Housing and Neighbourhoods and Director of Finance, in consultation with the Director of Legal and Governance and the Cabinet Member for Housing, be granted delegated authority to authorise prudential borrowing as allowed under current government guidelines.

(NOTE: A copy of the report submitted to the Cabinet is attached.)

Eugene Walker
Interim Executive Director, Resources