

COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY 2017

MINUTE FOR CONFIRMATION

CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2017

89. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) - Rents and Charges 2017/18 (Minute For Confirmation)

Councillor Oliver Donachie, the Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness, and the Corporate Director, Communities and Place, submitted a joint report setting out the proposed rents, service charges, support charges for 2017/18 and the proposed Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget for 2017/18.

Resolved – That Council be recommended:

- a) That the proposed average rent for Housing Revenue Account (HRA) dwellings for 2017/18 of £80.18 per week (52 week basis), which is a decrease of 1.0%, be approved. This will be an average decrease of £0.81 per week (52 week basis). The range of decreases is shown in paragraph 3.9.
- b) That the Head of Housing Management and Community Safety be authorised to seek authority from the Secretary of State to extend the permission for the use of the Housing Revenue Account for payments to the Council's tenants under the Discretionary Housing Payments scheme, and provide a budget of £300k in 2017/18 as detailed at paragraphs 3.27.
- c) That the housing related support charges for 2017/18 and service charges for 2017/18, as outlined in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved.
- d) That Leaseholder service charges be set for 2017/18, as shown in Appendix 3 to the report.
- e) That, based on the proposals set out within this report, the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) proposed budget 2017/18, shown in Appendix 4 to the report, be approved and that the HRA Capital Budget and Funding be approved as shown in Appendix 5 to the report.
- f) That a budget of £1m is approved to acquire properties as detailed at paragraph 3.17 below, and that the Corporate Board Director, Communities and Place, in consultation with the Interim Corporate Director, Resources, be authorised to commit this expenditure.
- g) That the draft 3 year capital projects and planned maintenance programme be approved at an indicative funding level of £16.5m (2016/17 prices) for 2017/18 Appendix 6 to the report.
- h) That the reduction of rents charged on General Fund properties in line with

Government guidance on Housing Revenue Account rents by 1% for 2017/18. Service charges for General Fund properties, as shown in Appendix 7 to the report, be approved.

- i) That the increase of rents charged for plots at the Hay Lane Residential Gypsy Site by £1.00 per week (2.0%) to £51.26 per week (52 week basis) and the rents for workpens, shown in Appendix 7 to the report, be approved.
- j) That the charges for Private Sector Leased (PSL) accommodation for those accepted as homeless outlined in Appendix 7 to the report be approved.
- k) That any underspend on the 2016/17 Housing Revenue Account is added to revenue reserves.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.