

# Agenda Item 6

13/14 Budget Process - Policy Changes

Sheet 7

## HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Item No		BC Ref	Proposal/(Existing Budget)	Implications	Budget Change	Budget Change	Budget Change	Budget Change	Budget Change
					13/14 £'000	14/15 £'000	15/16 £'000	16/17 £'000	17/18 £'000
HRA1	SAV		Potential savings from the responsive repairs contract arising from retendering & revised work practices	Budget saving	(500.0)				
	CORP		Revenue Contribution to Capital Spend	It is considered that this saving should be used in capital schemes to support regeneration of deprived areas and allow acquisition of land / property	500.0				
HRA2	CORP		To increase funding to a 3rd Sector organisation from £5k to £10k p.a.	To ensure access to legal borrowing, saving thereby assisting financial inclusion	5.0				
HRA3	CORP		Funding to deal with the impact of Welfare Benefit Reform (WBR) to maintain rent collection levels	To allow: a) Applications to be made online through internet access at hubs (£15k); b) Increased collection costs (£46k); c) Use of smart readers for tenant visits (£10k)	70.0				
HRA4	OTHER		To ensure that the Council is able to maintain the same level of service for sheltered housing tenants that are affected by the proposed cuts in supporting people funding as well as the community alarm service element, which is sub contracted to WELbeing	It was highlighted to Members in April 2012 that a 20% cut in Supporting people grant funding was to be imposed with effect from April 2012 which equated to a £42K reduction of income. In addition to this there are now planned changes to the administration of the contract so that the grant funding is effectively capped (based on the average utilisation of the amount of funding available) which exposes the council to the risk of a further £8k loss of funding (total circa of £50k)	50.0				
HRA5	CORP		The increase is to fund additional capacity to cover policy development and implementation	Estimated costs to be built into the budget setting process are to cover: a) Welfare reform and cost benefit analysis of outsourcing direct debits b) Legal support and work around service charges c) Implementation of flexible tenancies d) Costs associated with external peer assessment and review in the context of localism e) Continued work with consultants on sheltered housing facilitation and procurement	30.0				
HRA6	CORP		General Contingency	Ensure contingency available to meet unplanned issues & current challenges introducing additional uncertainty- eg impact of WBR	100.0				
HRA7	CORP		Resulting impact from review of recharges - Chief Executive / Street Wardens / Democratic Services	Additional recharge to HRA from GF	167.0				
HRA8	STAT		Rent Income	Inclusion of 53 week rent year income	(345.0)	345.0			
HRA9	CORP		Contribution to Reserve	To provide funds for future redevelopment schemes			400.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Total New Items / Amendments</b>					<b>77.0</b>	<b>345.0</b>	<b>400.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*No staffing implications arising from these proposals are reported

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