

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Tuesday, 20 August 2013

Decision No: (CAB 13/14 11002)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	Cabinet Member for Housing and Sustainability Services
SUBJECT:	Landlord Controlled Heating Charges
AUTHOR:	Alan Denford

THE DECISION

- (i) To amend the basis for the future operation of the landlord controlled heating account as set out in paragraph 11 of the report;
- (ii) To agree a one-off contribution of £391,000 from available HRA balances in 2013/14 to reduce the current deficit on the heating account;
- (iii) To agree that charges to tenants for landlord controlled heating are limited to an increase of 2.5% from 7 October 2013; and
- (iv) To thank the Tenant Resource Group for their input to the charge setting process and to note their endorsement of the recommendations above.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The financial outturn for 2012/13 shows that the deficit on the heating account has reduced by £51,200 to £1,405,800 during the financial year. Although the level is reducing, the deficit is £103,000 higher than forecast in August 2012 due to the longer than expected cold period at the beginning of the year. It is, therefore, necessary for Cabinet to agree measures aimed at continuing to eliminate the deficit whilst also recognising the increased pressures on residents and the ongoing affects of fuel poverty.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

1 One alternative option is to continue to increase charges in line with energy inflation, which could increase levels of fuel poverty in deprived areas of the city and compound some of the impacts of welfare reform.

2 Another alternative option is not to increase charges to tenants, which would result in an increased deficit on the landlord heating account.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 20 August 2013

Decision Maker:
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:
Judy Cordell

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*