

Item

## **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2017/18**



**To:**

Councillor Kevin Price, Executive Councillor for Housing

**Report by:**

Julia Hovells, Principal Accountant

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**Wards affected:**

Abbey, Arbury, Castle, Cherry Hinton, Coleridge, East Chesterton, King's Hedges, Market, Newnham, Petersfield, Queen Edith's, Romsey, Trumpington, West Chesterton

### **Key Decision**

#### **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 The Housing Revenue Account Budget Setting Report, considered and approved in January / February of each year is the long-term strategic planning document for housing landlord services provided by Cambridge City Council.
- 1.2 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Medium Term Financial Strategy provides an opportunity to review the assumptions incorporated as part of the longer-term financial planning process, recommending any changes in response to new legislative requirements, variations in external economic factors and amendments to service delivery methods, allowing incorporation into budgets and financial forecasts at the earliest opportunity.

## **2. Recommendations**

### **Recommendations to be considered under Part 1 of the Housing Scrutiny Committee Agenda:**

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

- 2.1 Approve the Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Strategy attached, to include all proposals for change in:
- Financial assumptions as detailed in Appendix B of the document.
  - 2017/18 revenue budgets as introduced in Section 5, resulting from changes in financial assumptions and the financial consequences of change, as introduced in Section 5, detailed in Appendix D of the document and summarised in Appendix G.
  - The revised Rent Setting Policy as detailed in Appendix L of the document.

### **Recommendations to be considered under Part 2 of the Housing Scrutiny Committee Agenda:**

The Executive Councillor is asked to recommend to Council:

- 2.2 To approve proposals for changes in existing housing capital budgets, as introduced in Sections 6 and 7 and detailed in Appendix E of the document, with the resulting position summarised in Appendix H, for decision at Council on 19th October 2017.

## **3. Background**

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- 3.1. The Housing Revenue Account budget was set for 2017/18 as part of 2017/18 HRA Budget Setting Report, approving a net contribution from reserves in the year of £2,317,380.

- 3.2 This figure was later amended to reflect approvals to carry forward expenditure originally anticipated to be incurred in 2016/17 into 2017/18 as part of the closedown process for 2016/17. Following these changes, the sum of £2,861,930 was anticipated to be required as a contribution from reserves for the year.
- 3.3 The HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy revisits the assumptions made as part of the HRA Budget Setting Report, and recommends both changes in these and in some areas of budgeted expenditure and income for 2017/18 and beyond.
- 3.4 The resulting financial impact for the Housing Revenue Account is explained and summarised in the attached document and appendices.

## **4. Implications**

### **(a) Financial Implications**

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The financial implications associated with the HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy are incorporated as part of the document itself and the associated appendices.

### **(b) Staffing Implications**

There are no direct staffing implications associated with this report. Any staffing implications resulting from the Housing Transformation Programme and resulting recommendations will be addressed as part of any further reports presented to Housing Scrutiny Committee.

### **(c) Equality and Poverty Implications**

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not considered to be required as part of this report.

### **(d) Environmental Implications**

There are no adverse environmental implications anticipated as a result of changes proposed in this report.

### **(e) Procurement Implications**

There are no direct procurement implications associated with this report.

## **(f) Community Safety Implications**

There are no direct community safety implications associated with the HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy.

## **5. Consultation and communication considerations**

Tenant and Leaseholder representatives are being consulted on the proposals in the HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy as part of the Housing Committee scrutiny process.

## **6. Background papers**

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- (a) Housing Revenue Account Mid-Year Financial Review (October 2016)
- (b) Housing Revenue Account Budget Setting Report (February 2017)

## **7. Appendices**

Appendix A Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Strategy

## **8. Inspection of papers**

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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