

# COUNTY COUNCIL

## 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

### Housing Revenue Account Budget and Housing Rent Setting for 2016/17

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To increase the average housing rent by 2.97% (£2.27) per dwelling per week as per WG Social Housing Rents Policy (inclusive of progression for tenants below target rents) as this will produce a sustainable Business Plan and continue to achieve & maintain CHS+;
2. To continue with maximum progression permissible for rents below target, until target rents are achieved;
3. To increase garage rents to £8.75 per week (from £8.50 in 2015/16) and garage bases to £2.20 per week (from £2.15 in 2015/16);
4. Apply the service charge policy to ensure tenants who receive the benefit from specific services pay for those services;
5. To increase charges for using our sewerage treatment works by 2.97%;
6. To approve the proposed Capital Programme and applicable funding for 2016/17 and the indicative spends for 2017/18 and 2018/19 as set out in Appendix C;
7. To approve the Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2016/19 (2017/18 & 2018/19 being soft budgets) as set out in Appendix B.

#### REASONS:

To enable the Authority to set its Housing Revenue Account Budget and the Housing Rent levels for 2016/17.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted Yes

Exec Board Decision Required Yes

Council Decision Required Yes

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr David Jenkins

Directorate: Corporate Services

Name of Director: Chris Moore

Report Author: David Eldred

Designations:

Director of Corporate Services

Group Accountant

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
COUNTY COUNCIL  
23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2016**

**Housing Revenue Account Budget and Housing Rent  
Setting for 2016/17**

This report has been prepared in conjunction with officers from the Communities Department and brings together the latest proposals for the Revenue and Capital Budgets for the Housing Revenue Account 2016/2019. The report has been presented to the Community Scrutiny Committee on the 15th January 2016 as part of the budget consultation process .

The report has been prepared reflecting the latest proposals contained in the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan , which is the primary financial planning tool for delivering the Carmarthenshire Homes Standard *Plus*(CHS+) for the future. The proposed investment within the current business plan delivered the CHS by 2015 (to those homes where tenants agreed to have work undertaken), provides investment to maintain CHS+ and commences investment for our Affordable Housing Commitment.

Appendix A Summarises the CHS+ : Delivering What Matters 2016/19.

Appendix B of this report provides the proposed Revenue Account Budget for 2016/19.

Appendix C provides the proposed Capital Programme for 2016/19.

Appendix D – Scrutiny Consultation

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?**

**YES**

**IMPLICATIONS**

**I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :**

**Signed: Chris Moore**

**Head of Financial Services**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

## FINANCE

The report details the HRA proposals to be considered by Executive Board. If the proposals are agreed the budget for the HRA will be set for 2016/17 with an expenditure level of £33M. The average rent will increase from £76.46 to £78.73 (2.97%).

The proposed Capital Programme will be £13.7M for 2016/17, £15.6M for 2017/18 and £13.7M for 2018/19.

### Physical Assets

The capital programme continues the works to bring the housing properties up to/maintain the Carmarthenshire Home Standard+ as per the 30 year business plan.

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below  
Signed: Chris Moore  
Director of Corporate Services

1. Local Member(s) - Not applicable
2. Community / Town Council – Not applicable
3. Relevant Partners - Not applicable
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Not applicable

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information  
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Social Housing Rents Policy		Financial Services, County Hall, Carmarthen
30 year Housing Business Plan		Financial Services , County Hall, Carmarthen