

## RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Tuesday, 26 August 2014

**Decision No:** (CAB 13/14 13240)

DECISION-MAKER:	NICK CROSS, HEAD OF HOUSING SERVICES
PORTFOLIO AREA:	PEOPLE DIRECTORATE
SUBJECT:	Landlord Controlled Heating Charges
AUTHOR:	Alan Denford, Finance Manager

### THE DECISION

To agree that charges to tenants for landlord controlled heating are limited to an increase of 1.9% from 6 October 2014.

### REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The financial outturn for 2013/14 shows that the deficit on the heating account has reduced from £1,405,800 to £523,100 during the financial year, partly due to a contribution of £391,000 from HRA balances. The end of year deficit is £59,900 lower than forecast in August 2013, mainly due to a relatively mild winter. However, it is still necessary for the decision maker to agree a level of charging that aims to eliminate the deficit by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, whilst also recognising the increased pressures on residents and the ongoing effects of fuel poverty.

### DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

One alternative option is 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.

Another alternative option is not to increase charges to tenants, which would result in an increased deficit on the landlord heating account and place a potential financial burden on other tenants in the City.

### 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:

Decision Maker:

Nick Cross, Head of Housing Services

26 August 2014

Proper Officer: (DSO)

Sue Lawrence

**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

2 September 2014

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)*