

CABINET MINUTES

11 FEBRUARY 2010

Chairman: * Councillor David Ashton

Councillors:

* Marilyn Ashton	* Jean Lammiman
* Miss Christine Bednell	* Barry Macleod-Cullinane
* Tony Ferrari	* Paul Osborn
* Susan Hall	* Mrs Anjana Patel

* Denotes Member present

RECOMMENDED ITEMS

761. Key Decision - Housing Revenue Account 2010/11 - 2012/13

Cabinet received a joint report of the Corporate Director Finance and the Interim Divisional Director Housing, which set out the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget for 2010/11 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2010/11 to 2012/13.

The Corporate Director Finance stated that the report had altered since its Cabinet considered the draft HRA report in December 2009. The position on the annual HRA subsidy had been determined and the Council was expected to pay back approximately £6.2m in negative subsidy to the government. The Corporate Director outlined the areas where charges were expected to rise and those areas where they would be frozen, such as in service charges to leaseholders where a detailed review would be undertaken. She drew attention to the comments received from the Tenants' and Leaseholders' Consultative Forum and clarified that Tenants' Associations in Harrow were allowed to hire of community halls on Mondays to Fridays free of charge.

Members noted the feedback received from the Tenants' and Leaseholders' Consultative Forum, which had approved the draft HRA.

Resolved to RECOMMEND: (to Council) That the Housing Revenue Account for 2010/11 at appendix 2 to the minutes be approved together with the following:

- (a) increase rents by 2.85% on average from 1 April 2010;
- (b) increase service charges for tenants by 2.85% and freeze charges for leaseholders pending a review of the service and charging methodology from 1 April 2010;
- (c) increase garage and car parking rents by 2% from 1 April 2010;
- (d) increase energy (heating) charges by 2% from 1 April 2010;
- (e) increase Community Centre charges by 2% from 1 April 2010.

Reason for Decision: To publish the final HRA budget proposals and set Council rents and other charges for 2010/11.