



COUNCIL MEETING

25 January 2018

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT AND HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget for 2018/19, the proposed rent changes, the proposals for fees and charges and the proposed Housing Capital Programme for the next five years.
2. The Council has a duty to prevent a debit balance on the HRA. A detailed review of fees and charges is carried out each year to ensure the HRA recovers the full costs associated with providing services to tenants. The Housing Capital Programme is a rolling programme and is funded from revenue raised from rents.
3. Considering the HRA and Housing Capital Programme together allows the Council to consider the choices necessary to maintain and enhance housing stock in the future.
4. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

5. It is recommended that Council:
 - (i) Approves the Housing Revenue Account, as set out in Appendix 2 of the attached report, including The Gateshead Housing Company management fee, the repairs and maintenance budget and savings as detailed in Appendix 3 of the attached report.
 - (ii) Approves the weekly rent reduction of 1% from 1 April 2018
 - (iii) Approves the fees and charges schedule as detailed in Appendix 4 of the attached report.
 - (iv) Approves the Housing Capital Programme for the five years 2018/19 to 2022/23 as set out in Appendix 5 of the attached report.