

## **FC81. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT & COUNCIL HOUSE RENTS 2014/15 – 2016/17**

Council considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services and the Chief Finance Officer (a) presenting a draft Housing Revenue Account for the financial year 2014/15; (b) making recommendations on the level of council house and other rents for 2014/15, and (c) proposing indicative rent levels for the years 2015/16 to 2016/17.

Councillor G Goldie, seconded by Councillor MacDonald, moved that Council approves the draft Housing Revenue Account budget for 2014/15, with the following specific recommendations:-

- (1) a rent increase of 3.6% to be applied from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. The average fortnightly charge would therefore increase from £120.16 to £124.47, based on the 24 fortnightly periods with no rent being charged during the fortnightly periods commencing 30 June 2014 and 29 December 2014;
- (2) lock-up garage rentals to increase from an average of £5.52 per week to £5.72 per week;
- (3) garage site rentals to increase from £76 per annum to £77 per annum;
- (4) Castings Hostel rentals to increase from £142.65 per room per week to £147.78 per week (excluding fuel charges);
- (5) Homeless property rentals to increase from an average of £165.37 per week to £171.32 per week, and
- (6) to note the indicative budgets and rent increases for 2015/16 and 2016/17 as representing the best information available at this time.

By way of an amendment Councillor Carleschi, seconded by Councillor Meiklejohn, moved the following in substitution for the recommendations:-

“Council agrees an inflation only increase of 2% in rents with the balance, £750,000, from the recommended HRA budget being drawn from reserves and efficiency savings.

Adjust figures all the way down accordingly”.

In terms of Standing Order 22.4(i) a vote was taken by roll call, there being 31 members present voting as undernoted.

For the motion (16) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick; Baillies Buchanan and Paterson; Councillors Black, Blackwood, G Goldie, Gow, MacDonald, McLuckie, Mahoney, Martin, Dr CR Martin, Murray, Nicol and Nimmo.

For the amendment (15) – Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Bird, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, McCabe, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears and Turner.

## Decision

Council approved the draft Housing Revenue Account budget for 2014/15, with the following specific recommendations:-

- (1) a rent increase of 3.6% to be applied from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. The average fortnightly charge would therefore increase from £120.16 to £124.47, based on the 24 fortnightly periods with no rent being charged during the fortnightly periods commencing 30 June 2014 and 29 December 2014;
- (2) lock-up garage rentals to increase from an average of £5.52 per week to £5.72 per week;
- (3) garage site rentals to increase from £76 per annum to £77 per annum;
- (4) Castings Hostel rentals to increase from £142.65 per room per week to £147.78 per week (excluding fuel charges);
- (5) homeless property rentals to increase from an average of £165.37 per week to £171.32 per week, and
- (6) to note the indicative budgets and rent increases for 2015/16 and 2016/17 as representing the best information available at this time.