

FC86. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT AND COUNCIL HOUSE RENTS 2016/17 – 2018/19

Council considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services presenting a draft Housing Revenue Account for the financial year 2016/17; making recommendations on the level of council house and other rents for 2016/17, and proposing indicative rent levels for the years 2017/18 to 2018/19.

Councillor C Martin, seconded by Baillie Paterson, moved that:-

Council agrees the draft Housing Revenue Account budget for 2016/17 as set out in appendix 2 of the report with the following specific recommendations:-

- (1) rent increase of 3.6% to be applied from 1 April 2016. The average fortnightly charge would therefore increase from £129.34 to £134.00, based on the 24 fortnightly periods with no rent being charged during the fortnightly periods commencing 27 June 2016 and 26 December 2016;*
- (2) lock-up garage rentals to increase from an average of £5.93 per week to £6.14 per week;*
- (3) garage site rentals to increase from £78 per annum to £79 per annum;*
- (4) Castings Hostel rentals increase from £153.10 per room per week to £158.61 per week (excluding fuel charges);*
- (5) homeless property rentals increase from an average of £177.49 per week to £183.88 per week, and*
- (6) to note the indicative budgets and rent increases for 2017/18 and 2018/19 as representing the best information available at this time.*

As an amendment, Councillor Chalmers, seconded by Councillor Meiklejohn, moved the terms of the motion with paragraph (1) substituted with:-

- (1) rent increase to be 1% applied from 1 April 2016 helping those hard pressed working families who are being hit hardest by the current Westminster's austerity agenda. The average fortnightly charges to be adjusted accordingly with the balance to be drawn from reserves and efficiency savings.*

In terms of Standing Order 22.4(i), a vote was taken by roll call, there being 30 members present with voting as undernoted:-

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

For the amendment (14) - Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Bird, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, Garner, Hughes, Jackson, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears and Turner.

Decision

Council agreed the draft Housing Revenue Account budget for 2016/17, with the following specific recommendations:-

- (1) rent increase of 3.6% to be applied from 1 April 2016. The average fortnightly charge would therefore increase from £129.34 to £134.00, based on the 24 fortnightly periods with no rent being charged during the fortnightly periods commencing 27 June 2016 and 26 December 2016;
- (2) lock-up garage rentals to increase from an average of £5.93 per week to £6.14 per week;
- (3) garage site rentals to increase from £78 per annum to £79 per annum;
- (4) Castings Hostel rentals increase from £153.10 per room per week to £158.61 per week (excluding fuel charges);
- (5) homeless property rentals increase from an average of £177.49 per week to £183.88 per week, and
- (6) to note the indicative budgets and rent increases for 2017/18 and 2018/19 as representing the best information available at this time.