

COUNCIL
21st February, 2005

PRESENT – The Mayor; Councillors Armstrong, Bristow, Copeland, Flowers, Harker, Hartley, Heaney, Holmes, Hughes, Hutchinson, Johnson, Lawton, Lewis, Lister, Long, D.A. Lyonette, J.M. Lyonette, Maddison, McEwan, Newall, Nutt, Reynolds, Richmond, Roberts, F.S. Robson, S. Robson, Ruck, Scott, Mrs. Scott, Vasey-Smith, J.C. Vasey, L. Vasey, G.B. Walker, Wallis, Williams and Wilson. (37)

APOLOGIES – Councillor Baldwin, Mrs. Brown, Burt, Dixon, Foster, Mrs. Hart, Haszeldine, B. Jones, Mrs. D. Jones, S. Jones, Lee, Maybrey, Stamford-Bewlay, Mrs. Swift and Thistlethwaite. (15)

ABSENT - Councillor Stenson. (1)

80. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – The Mayor declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in relation to Minute 81 below, as he was a Council tenant.

81. CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT – REVENUE BUDGET 2005/06 – The Director of Community Services submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting approval of the draft revenue budget, rent levels and service charges for the Council’s Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for the financial year 2005/06.

The submitted report outlined the principal factors and key elements taken into account in the draft budget; the Government’s policy on rent restructuring; the HRA subsidy determination; a review of garage rents and service charges; and the programme of repairs and maintenance detailed in the Housing Business Plan

RESOLVED – That the following, as detailed in the submitted report, be agreed:

- (a) the proposed Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2005/06;
- (b) the implementation of Rent Restructuring and formula rents be continued, as detailed in paragraphs 3 and 4;
- (c) the outcome of the review of service charges for individual sheltered housing schemes, extra care sheltered housing schemes and blocks of flats be implemented as detailed in paragraphs 7 and 10; and
- (d) the weekly service charges for extra care and sheltered schemes, garage rents and other service charges, as detailed in tables 3 and 4.

REASON – The recommendation is supported to enable the Council to deliver an appropriate level of services to Housing tenants.

THE COMMON SEAL of THE)
COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH)
OF DARLINGTON was hereunto affixed)
this Seventh day of April)
two thousand and five in the presence of :-)

Mayor

Borough Solicitor