

## MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION STATEMENT 2023/24

### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Where the Authority finances capital expenditure by debt, it must put aside resources to repay that debt in later years. The amount charged to the revenue budget for the repayment of debt is known as Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), although there has been no statutory minimum since 2008. The Local Government Act 2003 requires the Authority to have regard to the former Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision (the MHCLG Guidance) most recently issued in 2018.
- 1.2 The broad aim of the MHCLG Guidance is to ensure that capital expenditure is financed over a period that is either reasonably commensurate with that over which the capital expenditure provides benefits, or, in the case of borrowing supported by Government Revenue Support Grant, reasonably commensurate with the period implicit in the determination of that grant.
- 1.3 The MHCLG Guidance requires the Council to approve an Annual MRP Statement and recommends a number of options for calculating a prudent amount of MRP.
- 1.4 The Council has a number of MRP policies reflecting the range of capital financing options required for different service scenarios.

### 2.0 MRP Policy - General

- 2.1 The following statement incorporates options recommended in the Guidance;
- 2.2 The actual Policy is:
- i. For capital expenditure incurred after 31st March 2008, MRP will be determined by charging the expenditure over the expected useful life of the relevant assets as the principal repayment on an annuity with an annual interest rate based on PWLB borrowing rates, starting in the year after the asset becomes operational. MRP on purchases of freehold land will be charged over 50 years. MRP on expenditure not related to fixed assets but which has been capitalised by regulation or direction will be charged over 20 years.
  - ii. For assets acquired by finance leases or the Private Finance Initiative, MRP will be determined as being equal to the element of the rent or charge that goes to write down the balance sheet liability.
  - iii. Where former operating leases have been brought onto the balance sheet on 1st April 2022 due to the adoption of the IFRS 16 Leases accounting standard, and the asset values have been adjusted for accruals, prepayments, premiums and/or discounts, then the annual MRP charges will be adjusted so that the total charge to revenue remains unaffected by

the new standard.

### **3.0 MRP Policy - Loans to Organisations**

3.1 The aim of the policy is to facilitate the provision of finance (for asset creation purposes) to organisations, with the Council sourcing the finance from third parties, but to ensure that the incidence of debt finance is directly neutralized within the Councils balance sheet.

3.2 The policy is:

For capital expenditure loans to third parties that are repaid in annual or more frequent instalments of principal, the Council will make nil MRP, but will instead apply the capital receipts arising from principal repayments to reduce the capital financing requirement instead. In years where there is no principal repayment, MRP will be charged in accordance with the MRP policy for the assets funded by the loan, including where appropriate, delaying MRP until the year after the assets become operational. While this is not one of the options in the MHCLG Guidance, it is thought to be a prudent approach since it ensures that the capital expenditure incurred on the loan is fully funded over the life of the assets.

Capital expenditure incurred during 2023/24 will not be subject to a MRP charge until 2024/25.