



# Reigate and Banstead Borough Council Statement of Decisions made at a meeting of the Executive on Thursday, 1 February 2024

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The following decisions were made by the Executive at its meeting on **Thursday, 1 February 2024**. These decisions will come into force on **14 February 2024**. A decision by the Executive may be called-in (in accordance with Procedure Rule 5.14 of the Council's Constitution) by **13 February 2024**. Should you have any queries about any decision that has been made, contact should be made in the first instance to Democratic Services at [democratic@reigate-banstead.gov.uk](mailto:democratic@reigate-banstead.gov.uk). Any declaration of interest made by any member of the Executive is shown below.

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Options:	Lead officer:
5	<p><b>Housing rent review</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED – that the Executive:</b></p> <p>(i) <b>Approves a 7.7% rent increase for Council-owned social and affordable rent homes in 2024/25, being the lower of a 7.7% increase or the Local Housing Allowance rate;</b></p> <p>(ii) <b>Delegates authority to agree the annual service charge to the Head Housing in consultation with the Head of Finance; and</b></p> <p>(iii) <b>Approves the Write Off Policy for Housing Service Debts at</b></p>	<p>The Council is permitted by Government and the Regulator of Social Housing to increase rents annually. The proposed 7.7% rent increase is necessary to meet the ongoing and rising costs of management, maintenance, and improvement of Council-owned homes. The proposed Write Off Policy for Housing Service Debts (at Annex 1) is necessary to set out the circumstances in which debts are considered irrecoverable and to set the levels of authority to approve debt write-off.</p>	<p>Executive has two options regarding the proposed rent increase:</p> <p>Option 1: To approve a 7.7% rent increase for 2024/25. This is the recommended option because it ensures that rent income remains sufficient to manage and maintain Council-owned homes.</p> <p>Option 2: To not approve the 7.7% rent increase. This is not recommended as it will prevent compliance with the Council's rent setting responsibilities</p> <p>Executive has two options regarding the Write Off Policy for Housing Service Debts:</p>	<p>Head of Housing</p>

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Options:	Lead officer:
	<b>Annex 1.</b>		<p>Option 1: To approve the Write Off Policy for Housing Service Debt. This is the recommended option because it ensures Housing Debt management is transparent and is processed in line with the relevant Finance Procedure Rule in the Council's Constitution.</p> <p>Option 2: To not approve the Write Off Policy for Housing Service Debts and request Officers develop alternative proposals. This is not recommended as it will prevent compliance with the Council's debt recovery responsibilities.</p>	