Appendix 3

Policy on Minimum Revenue Provision for 2016/17

Revised September 2016

1. The Minimum Revenue Provision is a statutory charge that the Council is required to make from its revenue budget. This provision enables the Council to generate cash resources for the repayment of borrowing.

2. The basis for the calculation of the provision is prescribed by legislation (Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008), which states that Councils are required to "determine for the current financial year an amount of MRP that it considers to be prudent" and prepare an annual statement on their MRP calculation to their full Council.

3. One of the aims of this legislation is to ensure that the repayment of principal owed for capital expenditure is charged on a prudent basis. Central Government guidance says:

   "*the broad aim of prudent provision is to ensure that debt is repaid 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.*"

4. For Supported Borrowing, (borrowing funded by central government), the Council will charge MRP at 2% of the balance as at 31st March 2016 after the deduction of the value of adjustment A (a set value in 2004), fixed at the same cash value of that the whole debt is repaid after 50 years.

5. The Council will charge a VRP for the supported borrowing within the adjustment A value that is outstanding as at 31st March 2016 relating to transferred debt from Devon County Council fixed at the same cash value of that the whole debt is repaid after 50 years (which is similar to the supported borrowing calculation).

6 For capital expenditure funded from unsupported borrowing, less any repayment to date, the Council will make a provision based on the cumulative expenditure incurred on each asset in the previous financial years using a prudent asset life, which reflects the estimated usable life of that asset. (See table below).

7 The MRP for each asset will be calculated using the asset life method using an annuity calculation. An adjustment to the MRP calculation will be made where there is expenditure in the previous financial year, but the asset is not yet operational. MRP will be calculated on the total expenditure on that asset in the year after the asset becomes operational.

8 The Council will continue to charge services for their use of unsupported borrowing using a prudent asset life (or a shorter period) on an annuity calculation. Where possible the same asset life and borrowing interest rate will be used for both the charge to services and the calculation of the MRP.

9 To mitigate any negative impact from the changes in accounting for leases and PFI schemes the Council will include in the annual MRP charge an amount equal to the amount that has been taken to the balance sheet to reduce the balance sheet liability for a PFI scheme or a finance lease. The calculation will be based on the annuity method using the Internal Rate of Return (IRR) implicit in the PFI or lease agreement.

10 Where loans are given for capital purposes they come within the scope of the prudential controls established by the Local Government Act 2003 and the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2008.

If a loan agreement does not include contractual commitments that the funds be put towards capital expenditure no MRP will be made, if however capital contract commitments are included then an MRP will be made on a prudent basis using Asset Life Method linked to the life of the asset being funded.

The Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) will increase by the amount of the loan. Once the funds are returned to the local authority, the returned funds are classed as a capital receipt with those receipts being earmarked specifically to that loan, and the CFR and loan will reduce accordingly. If the expectation is that funds will be repaid in full at some point in the future, there is no requirement to set aside prudent provision to repay the debt liability in the interim period, so there is no MRP application. The position of each loan will be reviewed on an annual basis by Chief Finance Officer.

11 Where relevant, the suggested asset lives for certain types of capitalised expenditure as detailed in the MRP guidance issued by DCLG will be used.

Each asset life will be considered in relation the asset being constructed by the Chief Finance Officer; however as a guide the following are typical asset lives that will be used.

Asset Type	Asset Life
Freehold Land	50 years
Buildings	40 years
Investment Properties	40 years
Software	10 years
Vehicles & Equipment	7 years
Highway Network	40 years
Structural Enhancements	25 years
Infrastructure	40 years

For capital expenditure where land and buildings are not separately identified a blended asset life can be used. E.g an assumption that 30% of the value is land results in an asset life of 43 years.