

Addendum by Liberal Democrat Group

City of Edinburgh Council

22 February 2024

Item 4.2 - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Council agrees to add the following to the Administration's Housing Revenue Account Motion:

Insert at the end of 'Council:'

Recognises the Draft Housing Emergency Action Plan identifies three key areas (Repairs Direct, HART and Recharge Officer(s)) as requiring prioritised expenditure to help facilitate staffing levels and other revenue pressures.

Notes that the differentials between property types have been left unchanged for several decades, and a holistic look may help determine both whether tenants are paying fair rents (differentiated by number of bedrooms and house vs. flat currently), and whether there are other revenue raising avenues arising from reform that are more equitable (such as Sqm or amenity in other leases of property), subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment.

Inserts at the end of 'Council therefore agrees:'

While also agreeing the below siloed funding, notes some of the roles outlined may be able to raise revenue through clawbacks and/or be partially staffed from other funding streams, and should be subject to committee's final approval of implementation.

- Additional funding (£100,000) to the Repairs Direct team to assist Draft Housing Emergency Action Plan points 1 (voids reduction), 18 (reduced time for repairs) and 19 (Improve tenant satisfaction).
- Additional funding (£100,000) to the Home Access Referral Team to assist Draft Housing Emergency Action Plan point 17 (reduced average time for tenants to move into their new homes) and 19 (Improve tenant satisfaction).

- Additional funding (£100,000) for Recharge Officer(s) for Missing Shares, identified as a priority within the 'Internal Audit Ad Hoc Repairs' report; to include additional funding for main door repairs.

Requests a report before the 2025/26 HRA Budget process to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee on how Rent Differentiation is currently spread, and proposals to make it fairer.

Moved by: Councillor Alan Beal

Seconded by: Councillor Fiona Bennett