EXETER CITY COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY 27 FEBRUARY 2007

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT STEWARDSHIP TO DECEMBER 2006

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To advise members of any major differences by management unit to the outturn forecast for the first nine months of the financial year up to 31 December 2006.

2. STEWARDSHIP TO 30 DECEMBER 2006

During this period the total of the variances indicates that there will be a net surplus of £317,030, of this £217,030 will be transferred to the working balance at 31 March 2007, and an additional £100,000 will be utilized to fund capital works associated with the Decent Homes Standard. The working balance will be increased to £2,971,972 at 31 March 2007.

The main variations by management unit are detailed below:

£
2006-2007 ESTIMATED TRANSFER TO THE WORKING
BALANCE
0

5A1 MANAGEMENT

There has been a saving on staffing costs within the HRA due to vacancies; in addition to this a saving is expected on legal costs and superannuation back funding. These savings have been offset by an increase in utility costs at sheltered sites, costs associated with tenant participation and a shortfall in respect of Supporting People grant income.

5A4 REPAIRS FUND CONTRIBUTION 100,000

The increase in rents receivable, as a result of the continued reduction in Right to Buy sales, has enabled an increase in the revenue contributions to capital works associated with achieving the Decent Homes Standard.

5,560

5A8 RENTS

A reduction in the estimated number of Right to Buy applications and an improvement in void turn around times has resulted in an increase in the rent collectable.

(303,500)

5B1 GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY

There is a small saving in the subsidy payable in 2006-07

(4,090)

5B2 INTEREST

It is estimated that there will be additional interest on investments as a result of an increased working balance. (15,000)

2006-2007 SECOND QUARTER FORECAST INCREASE IN WORKING BALANCE

(£217,030)

3. **RECOMMENDED:**

1) that the Scrutiny Committee – Community note this report.

DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT

S:PA/LP/Committee/207SCC21

CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) Background papers used in compiling this report:

1. None