

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

JOINT MEETING OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES – 19 JANUARY 2017

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2017-18

WARDS AFFECTED: NON SPECIFIC

Purpose/Summary of Report

- The report sets out the proposed Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy for 2017-18.
- Where changes have been made to the revised Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy for 2016-17 or to the credit criteria for selection of investment counterparties approved for 2016-17, these have been referred to and discussed below.
- This report also presents the 2017-18 Prudential Indicators for approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE JOINT MEETING OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES:

(A)	The Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy discussed in paragraphs 2.1 – 2.2 be agreed for submission to Elected Members (Audit and Governance Committee, Executive and Council).
(B)	The Prudential Indicators discussed paragraph 2.3 be agreed for submission to Elected Members and for the approval of Council.
(C)	The counterparty listing discussed in paragraph 2.4 be agreed for submission to Elected Members and for the approval of Council.

1 Background

- 1.1 Treasury management is defined as: ‘The management of the Council’s investments and cash flows, its banking arrangements, money market and capital transactions; the effective control of the

risks associated with these activities; and the pursuit of optimum returns consistent with the Council's risk management policy for treasury management.'

- 1.1 The CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) Code of Practice for Treasury Management (the Code) recommends that Members be updated on treasury management activities regularly through the Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS), Annual Investment Strategy (AIS) and mid and year end reports. This report, therefore, ensures this Council is implementing best practice in accordance with the Code.
- 1.2 The Council is required by the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice to approve a Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy each year. The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that there is adequate cash flow to fund the Council's revenue and capital aspirations in both short and longer term.
- 1.3 The Strategy sets out a risk management policy for the investment of surplus cash. The Strategy is designed to obtain the highest possible yield, contingent upon investments being secure, and there being sufficient liquidity to meet the Council's daily cash needs.
- 1.4 The Council is required by the CIPFA Prudential Code to approve each year a set of Prudential Indicators. The Indicators must be approved by Full Council before the beginning of each financial year. Their purpose is to help the Council ensure that its capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable.

2 Report

- 2.1 Please refer to the recommended Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy in **Essential Reference Paper 'B': Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy 2017-18**.
- 2.2 There have been no additional regulatory changes since those that were included in the revised Treasury Management Strategy submitted to the Audit Committee on 20 January 2016. No additional changes to the 2017-18 Strategy have been proposed.
- 2.3 Prudential Indicators are included in **Essential Reference Paper 'B': Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy 2017-18** paragraphs 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.4, 5.1.2 and 5.1.4.
- 2.4 Please refer to the recommended counterparty listing in **Essential Reference Paper 'B': Appendix 5.4. Treasury Management**

Practice (TMP1) – Credit and Counterparty Risk Management Credit Rating Tables 2017-18.

- 2.5 The Treasury Management Strategy also includes the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy. The Strategy recommends that the Council continue to have a nil MRP.
- 3.0 Implications/Consultations
- 3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers

CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (2011)

CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (2013)

Contact Member: Councillor Geoffrey Williamson, Executive Member for Finance and Support Services
Geoffrey.Williamson@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Officers: Philip Gregory, Head of Strategic Finance and Property
Contact Tel No: 01279 502050
philip.gregory@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Author: Nicola Munro, Principal Accountant
Contact Tel No: 01279 502044
nicola.munro@eastherts.gov.uk